

## Key

National Holiday   Regional Holiday   Not a Public Holiday

### List of national and regional Bank holidays of United Kingdom

Date	Holiday	Comments
January 01	New Years Day	First Monday if 1st is Saturday or Sunday
January 02	Day after New Years Day	Scotland Only
January 02	New Years Day (observed)	Except Scotland
January 03	New Years Day (in lieu)	Scotland Only
February 28	Pancake Tuesday	Shrove Tuesday. Not a Public Holiday
March 01	St Davids Day	Wales Only. Not a public holiday
March 17	St Patricks Day	Northern Ireland Only
March 26	Mothering Sunday	Not a National Holiday
April 14	Good Friday	Friday before Easter Sunday
April 17	Easter Monday	Except Scotland
April 23	St Georges Day	England Only. Not a National holiday
May 01	Early May Bank Holiday	First Monday in May
May 29	Spring Bank Holiday	Last Monday in May
June 18	Father's Day	3rd Sunday in June. Not a public holiday
July 12	Battle of the Boyne	Northern Ireland Only
August 07	August Bank Holiday	Scotland Only. First Monday in August
August 28	August Bank Holiday	Last Monday in August (except Scotland)
November 05	Guy Fawkes Night	England Only. Not a National holiday
November 12	Remembrance Sunday	Not a public holiday. Sunday closest to 11 November
November 30	St Andrews Day	Scotland Only. If November 30 falls on a weekend, the next Monday is a bank holiday instead
December 25	Christmas Day	
December 26	Boxing Day	

### List of national public holidays of Ireland

Date	Holiday	Comments
January 01	New Years Day	
January 02	New Years Holiday	Public Holiday as New Years Day falls on a Sunday
March 17	St Patricks Day	
March 26	Mother's Day	Not a National Holiday
April 14	Good Friday	Banks are closed. Some schools and businesses may close
April 17	Easter Monday	Monday after Easter Sunday
May 01	May Bank Holiday	first Monday in May
June 05	June Bank Holiday	first Monday in June
June 18	Father's Day	third Sunday in June. Not a public holiday
August 07	August Bank Holiday	first Monday in August
October 30	October Holiday (Halloween)	last Monday in October
December 25	Christmas Day	
December 26	St Stephens Day	
December 27	Bank Holiday	Banks closed. Not a public holiday

### List of National and regional Public holidays of India

Tuesday	January 26	Republic Day	Commemorates the establishment of the Constitution of India
Monday	August 15	Independence Day	
Sunday	October 02	Mahatma Gandhi Birthday	Gandhi Jayanti

## List of Federal Public Holidays of USA

Date	Year	Holiday	Comments
January 01	2017	New Years Day	
January 02	2017	New Years Day Holiday	
January 16	2017	Marlin Luther King Day	3rd Monday in January
February 20	2017	Presidents' Day	3rd Monday in February. Not all states
April 17	2017	Emancipation Day	Washington DC Only. Weekday closest to April 16th
May 14	2017	Mother's Day	2nd Sunday in May. Not a public holiday
May 29	2017	Memorial Day	Last Monday in May
June 18	2017	Father's Day	3rd Sunday in June. Not a public holiday
July 04	2017	Independence Day	
September 04	2017	Labor Day	1st Monday in September
October 09	2017	Columbus Day	2nd Monday in October
November 10	2017	Veterans Day (observed)	
November 23	2017	Thanksgiving	4th Thursday in November

N	Date	Holiday	Comments
D	January 01	New Years Day	
	January 26	Australia Day	26 January or, if that day falls on weekend, the following Monday

## List of National and Regional Public holidays of Australia

March 25	Good Friday	Friday before Easter Sunday
March 26	Easter Saturday	Public Holiday in all states exc. Tasmania and WA
March 27	Easter Sunday	Public Holiday in ACT, NSW, VIC
March 28	Easter Monday	Monday after Easter Sunday
March 29	Easter Tuesday	Tasmania. Government only
April 25	ANZAC Day	

## List of National Public holidays of South Africa

Date	Holiday	Comments
January 01	New Years Day	
March 21	Human Rights Day	
March 25	Good Friday	Catholic or protestant
March 28	Family Day	Easter Monday
April 27	Freedom Day	National Day. April 27
May 01	Labour Day	Workers Day
May 02	Public Holiday	Observed as holiday as Workers Day is on Sunday
June 16	Youth Day	Previously known as Soweto Day
August 03	Public Holiday	For municipal elections
August 09	National Womens Day	
September 24	Heritage Day	
December 16	Day of Reconciliation	
December 25	Christmas Day	Catholic or protestant
December 26	Day of Good Will	Boxing Day prior to 1980
December 27	Public Holiday	

December 25	Christmas Day	
December 26	Boxing Day	Known as Proclamation Day in SA
December 27	Christmas Day (in lieu)	Next working day after December 25

Source : <http://www.officeholidays.com>

**December 25<sup>th</sup> – Christmas.** Most people celebrate Christmas, even if they are not religious. There will be Christmas trees, presents, carol singing ! The traditional Christmas dinner in the UK is a whole roast turkey with roast potatoes, vegetables, gravy and Christmas pudding for dessert (a steamed sponge pudding with dried fruit) – but each family has its own variations. In the USA, the traditional meal for Western European families is turkey or ham with cranberry sauce.

**December 26<sup>th</sup> – Boxing Day.** The day after Christmas is called Boxing Day, and is a bank holiday in the UK. It's believed to have been named after the 'Christmas box' of money or gifts which employers used to give to servants. Nowadays, there are no particular Boxing Day celebration but most people spend the day with their families, going for a walk, watching sports or eating the Christmas leftovers.

**January 1<sup>st</sup> – New Year's Day.** On New Year's Eve (31 December), it is traditional to celebrate midnight with your friends or family. The party can last well into New Year's Day! Many people make 'New Year's resolutions', promising to achieve a goal or break a bad habit in the coming year.

In Scotland, the celebration of the New Year is called Hogmanay. There are big parties across the country – expect lots of music, dancing, food and fireworks

**March 17<sup>th</sup> – St Patrick's Day.** The Feast of St Patrick is a national holiday in Ireland, and is now celebrated by Irish communities all around the world. Many people go out with friends, wearing green or a shamrock symbol (the lucky clover) and drinking Guinness, the Irish dark beer.

**April on Friday & Monday before & after Easter Sunday – Good Friday & Easter Monday.**

Good Friday commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus Christ and is a public holiday in the United Kingdom. It falls just before Easter Sunday, which is the first Sunday after the first full moon on or after the March equinox. People who regularly attend church will probably attend a special church service on Good Friday. For other people, it is a day off work in the spring. Some people use the day to work in their gardens, while others take advantage of the long Easter weekend and the school holidays at this time of year to take a short vacation.

For many people, Easter Monday is the last day in a four day weekend. If people have been on a short vacation or have visited family or friends, who live some distance away, they often travel back on this day. In some places, there are egg rolling competitions or egg-hunting activities.

**April 25<sup>th</sup> – ANZAC DAY.** ANZAC (Australian and New Zealand Army Corps) Day is the anniversary of the landing of troops from Australia and New Zealand on the Gallipoli Peninsula, Turkey, in World War I on April 25, 1915. The bravery of all military personnel who participated in this campaign and the lives of those who died in all military actions are remembered.

**May 1<sup>st</sup> but also sometimes first Monday in May – MAY DAY or LABOR DAY** It is a public holiday in many countries worldwide. It usually occurs around May 1st, but the date varies across countries. It is associated the start of spring as well as the celebration of workers. A particularly widespread tradition is that of maypole dancing. Children, particularly girls, dance around a tall pole, from which ribbons are suspended.

**May last Monday – LATE MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY.** As we had May Day called Early May bank holiday, British people also celebrate the spring bank holiday, also known as the late May bank holiday, as a day off work or school. Have you ever seen cheese races? People race down a steep hill following a large round cheese.

**Memorial Day** is a federal holiday in the United States for remembering the people who died while serving in the country's armed forces. Many people visit cemeteries and memorials, particularly to honor those who have died in military service. Many volunteers place an American flag on each grave in national cemeteries.

**July 4<sup>th</sup>, US INDEPENDENCE DAY.** Independence Day is annually celebrated on July 4<sup>th</sup> and is often known as "the Fourth of July". It is the anniversary of the publication of the declaration of independence from Great Britain in 1776. Patriotic displays and family events are organized throughout the United States.

**July 12<sup>th</sup>, Orangemen's Day.** People in Northern Ireland have a bank holiday on or after July 12 to commemorate the Battle of Boyne, which occurred on Ireland's east coast in 1690. It's also known as "Orangemen's Day", "Orange Day", "the Glorious Twelfth" or just "the Twelfth".

**August 15<sup>th</sup>, Indian INDEPENDENCE DAY.** India's Independence Day, one of the three national holidays in India (the other two being the Republic Day on 26 January and Mahatma Gandhi's birthday on 2 October), is observed in all Indian states and union territories. On the eve of Independence Day, the President of India delivers the "Address to the Nation". On 15 August, the prime minister hoists the Indian flag on the ramparts of the historical site Red Fort in Delhi. Twenty-one gun shots are fired in honour of the solemn occasion.

**August last Monday, SUMMER BANK HOLIDAY & NOTTING HILL CARNIVAL.** In England, Wales and Northern Ireland, the summer bank holiday is on the last Monday of August. In Scotland it is on the first Monday of August. This day marks the end of the summer holidays for many people who return to work or school in the autumn. In London the Notting Hill Carnival takes place. This street festival is best known for its exuberant costumes, dancing and music played by steel drum bands. The festival has been held every year since 1965 and was originally organized by immigrants from the Caribbean, particularly Trinidad. It started as a protest against the racism, poor working and housing conditions that they suffered. Today, the Notting Hill Carnival is a multicultural celebration, attracting over two million people. It is thought to be the second largest street carnival in the world.

**September first Monday, LABOR DAY.** Labor Day is a day of rest or the last chance for many people to go on trips before the summer ends. For students, it is the last chance to organize parties before school starts again. In some neighborhoods, people organize fireworks displays, barbecues and public arts or sports events. The American football season starts on or around Labor Day and many teams play their first game of the season during Labor Day weekend.

**October 2<sup>nd</sup>, GANDHI JAYANTI or the celebration of Mahatma Gandhi's birthday.** Gandhi was a major political and spiritual leader in India. He believed in resistance to tyranny with mass civil disobedience, and non-violence. The movement led India to independence and his efforts have since inspired movements for civil rights and freedom across the world.

**October 31<sup>st</sup>, HALLOWEEN.** Halloween is annually celebrated on October 31<sup>st</sup>. Some people hold Halloween parties on or around this date, where the hosts and guests often dress up as skeletons, ghosts or other scary figures. Common symbols of Halloween include pumpkins, bats and spiders.

**November 11<sup>th</sup>, VETERANS DAY.** In the USA, Veterans Day annually falls on November 11. This day is the anniversary of the signing of the armistice, which ended the World War I hostilities between the Allied nations and Germany in 1918. Veterans are thanked for their services to the United States on Veterans Day.

**November fourth Thursday, THANKSGIVING.** Thanksgiving Day is traditionally a day for families and friends to get together for a special meal. The meal often includes a turkey, stuffing, potatoes, cranberry sauce, gravy, pumpkin pie, and vegetables. Thanksgiving Day is a time for many people to give thanks for what they have. Some parades or festivities also mark the opening of the Christmas shopping season like the Macy's Parades. A little about history : in 1621, the Plymouth colonists and Wampanoag Indians shared an autumn harvest feast thanking gods and nature for not having died of hunger.



