



#WeStandTogether

Celebrating Diversity
Challenging Hatred
For a Stronger & Safer UK



WORLD ALZHEIMERS DAY

21 SEPTEMBER





January 2026

Holocaust Memorial Day
27 January



January 2026

Special dates this month

World Braille Day
4 January

World Religion Day
18 January

Martin Luther King Day
19 January

International Day of Education
24 January

Holocaust Memorial Day
27 January

January						
Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

* Begins at sunset on previous day

Faith/Cultural Days in January

1	New Year's Day (BANK HOLIDAY)
1	Gantan-sai (Shinto) - Shinto New Year
3	Mahayana New Year - Buddhist
5	Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh (Sikh)
6	Epiphany (Christian)
7	Christmas Day (Orthodox Christian)
13	Maghi – Harvest Festival and commemoration of the martyrdom of 40 Sikhs who died fighting the Mughal Empire army in 1705 (Sikh)
13	Lohri – Harvest Festival (Sikh)
16*	Lailat al Miraj – Islam
23	Vasant Panchami (Hindu) - Festival that welcomes spring
27	Holocaust Memorial Day
31	Birthday of Guru Har Rai – Sikh



**International Day of
Women and Girls in Science**
11 February



February 2026

LGBTQ+ History Month

World Hijab Day
1 February

World Interfaith Harmony Week
1–7 February

GM Hate Crime Awareness Week
2-6 February

Sexual Abuse and Sexual Violence Awareness Week
2-8 February

Race Equality Week
5-11 February

Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation
6 February

National Apprenticeship Week
9-15 February

International Day of Women and Girls in Science
11 February

World Day of Social Justice
20 February

Stand Up to Bullying Day
27 February

February						
Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
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Ramadan

People may want to rearrange their working day to accommodate the timing of the fast.

Faith/Cultural Days in February

2*	Tu B'Shevat (Jewish) - The Jewish New Year for trees
3	Rissun (Setsubun) (Shinto) - Spring festival marking the end of Winter and beginning of Spring
3*	Lailat al Bara'a (Islam) - The Night of Forgiveness
15	Nirvana day (Buddhist) - Festival marking the anniversary of Buddha's death
15	Shivaratri (Hindu) - Day and night fast in honour of Lord Shiva
17	Chinese New Year (Confucian, Daoist, Buddhist)
18*	Ramadan (start) (Muslim) - Ramadan is the Muslim month of fasting (ends 18 March)
18	Ash Wednesday (Christian) - The first day of Lent.



March 2026

Gender Equality Month

March 2026

Women’s History Month

Gender Equality Month

Bisexual Awareness Month

World Hearing Day
3 March

International Women's Day
8 March

Neurodiversity Celebration Week
16-22 March

Down Syndrome Awareness Week
16-22 March

Global Recycling Day
18 March

World Down Syndrome Day
21 March

Elimination of Racial Discrimination Day
21 March

Remembrance Day for the Victims of
Slavery and Transatlantic Slave Trade
25 March

Transgender Day of Visibility
31 March

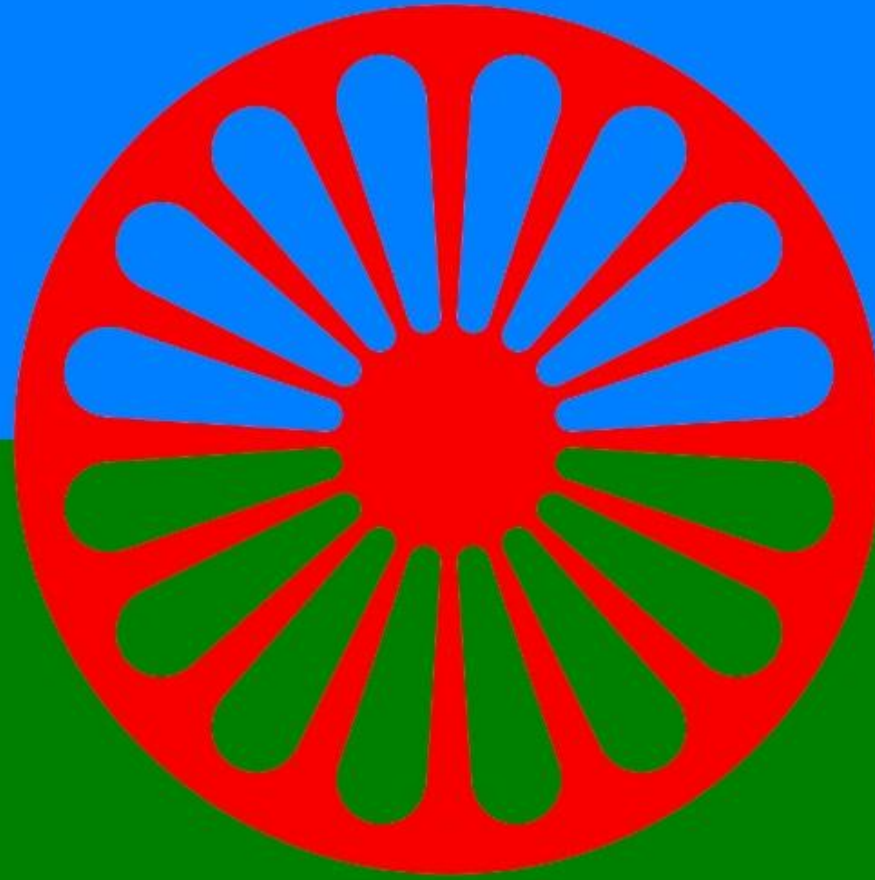
March						
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30	31					

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Faith/Cultural Days in March

1	Nineteen Day Fast (start) (Bahai) Baha'is go without food or drink from sunrise to sunset (ends 20 March)
3	Magha Puja (Buddhist)
3*	Purim (Jewish) - Commemorates when Jewish people were saved by Esther.
4	Holi (Hindu) - Spring Festival Hola Mohalla (Sikh)
16*	Laylat al Qadr (Muslim) - The holiest night in the Islamic calendar.
19	Bali/Ugadi - Hindu New Year
20*	Eid-UI-Fitr (Muslim) - End of Ramadan. Muslims celebrate the end of fasting
21*	Naw-Ruz (Bahai, Zoroastrian) - New Year
26	Khordad Sal - Birthday of Zoroaster
26	Rama Navami (Hindu) - Hindus celebrate the birth of Lord Rama
29	Palm Sunday - Beginning of Holy Week
31	Mahavir Jayanti (Jain) - The most important religious holiday for Jains

INTERNATIONAL ROMANI DAY



8TH APRIL

April 2026

International Romani Day
8 April

April 2026

Autism Acceptance Month

Stress Awareness Month

Autism Acceptance Day

2 April

World Book Day

2 April

World Health Day

7 April

International Romani day

8 April

**International Day for
Spirituality and Service**

16 April

Lesbian Visibility Week

20–26 April

Stephen Lawrence Day

22 April

St George's Day

23 April

Day for Health and Safety at Work

28 April

April						
Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
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27	28	29	30			

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Passover

Working is not permitted on the first 2 days nor the final 2 days of Passover

Faith/Cultural Days in April

2*	Passover (1st day) (Jewish) (ends 9 April)
3	Good Friday (BANK HOLIDAY)
5	Easter Sunday (Christian) - Christians celebrate the Resurrection of Christ
6	Easter Monday (BANK HOLIDAY)
7	Birthday Guru Tegh Bahadur – Sikh
9	Birthday of Guru Angad Dev (Sikh)
13	Theravada (Buddhist) New Year
14	Vaisakhi – Sikh New Year
14	Bengali New Year (Pôhela Boishakh)
18	Birthday of Guru Angad Dev (Sikh)
19	Akshaya Tritiya (Hindus and Jains) - Spring time festival
21*	Ridvan - first day (Bahai) (ends 2 May)
29*	Ridvan - ninth Day (Bahai)
30	Birthday of Guru Amar Das (Sikh)

#WeStandTogether

**Celebrating Diversity
Challenging Hatred
For a Stronger & Safer UK**

May 2026

#WeStandTogether Month



May 2026

#WeStandTogether Month

Mental Health Awareness Month

International Workers' Day

1 May

Maternal Mental Health Week

4–10 May

Deaf Awareness Week

4-10 May

Mental Health Awareness Week

11-17 May

Vascular Birthmark Day

15 May

**International Day Against
Homophobia, Biphobia and
Transphobia (IDAHOBIT)**

17 May

**World Day for Cultural Diversity
Dialogue and Development**

21 May

Accessibility Awareness Day

21 May

May						
Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
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Faith/Cultural Days in May

1	Vesak (Buddha day) (Buddhist) - The most important Buddhist festival.
2	Birthday of Guru Arjan Dev (Sikh)
2*	Ridvan – Twelfth Day (Bahai)
4	May Day - Early May BANK HOLIDAY
14	Ascension Day (Christian) – marks the last earthly appearance of Christ after his resurrection.
22*	Shavuot (Jewish) - Shavuot marks the time that the first harvest was taken to the Temple (ends 23 May)
24*	Declaration of the Bab (Bahai) - Bab was the Forerunner of Baha'u'llah, founder of the Baha'i faith.
24	Pentecost - Whitsun (Christian) – The birth of the Christian Church.
25	Spring BANK HOLIDAY
27*	Eid-UI-Adha (Islam) - Festival of Sacrifice, the most important day in the Hajj ritual.
29*	Ascension of Baha'u'llah (Bahai)



June 2026

Pride Month



June 2026

LGBTQ+ Pride Month

Gypsy, Roma & Travellers

History Month

Volunteers Week

1-7 June

Carers Week

8-14 June

Race Unity Day

14 June

Refugee Week

15-21 June

Learning Disabilities Week

15-21 June

**International Day of
Countering Hate Speech**

18 June

World Refugee Day

20 June

Windrush Day

22 June

School Diversity Week

22-26 June

June						
Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
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29	30					

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Faith/Cultural Days in June

4*	Eid al-Ghadir (Islam) - Shi'a festival celebrating the appointment of Ali ibn Abi Talib, as the Prophet's successor
16	Martyrdom of Guru Arjan Dev (Sikh) - fifth Sikh Guru and first Sikh martyr.
16*	Al-Hjira - Muharram (Islam) - New Year. Marks the migration of the Prophet from Mecca to Medina
21	Summer Solstice - Litha (Pagan) - Longest day of the year
26*	Ashura (Islam) - Marks the martyrdom of the Prophet's grandson, Hussein.
29	St Peter and St Paul's Day (Christian) - The martyrdoms of both are observed on this day



South Asian
HERITAGE
Month

July 2026

South Asian
Heritage Month



**Leicestershire
County Council**

July 2026

South Asian Heritage Month

World Population Day
11 July

Non-Binary People's Day
14 July

Disability Awareness Day
14 July

World Youth Skills Day
15 July

Nelson Mandela Day
18 July

International Friendship Day
30 July

World Youth Day
30 July

World Day against Human Trafficking
30 July

July						
Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
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Faith/Cultural Days in July

5	Birthday Guru Hargobind Singh (Sikh)
10	Martyrdom of the Bab (Bahai) - Anniversary of the Bab's execution in 1850 in Tabriz, Iran.
23*	Tisha B'Av (Jewish)- A solemn day that commemorates a series of tragedies that have befallen the Jewish people over the years,
23	Birthday of Guru Har Krishan Singh (Sikh)
23	Birthday of Haile Selassie I (Rastafari) - Emperor of Ethiopia.
29	Asalha Puja (Dharma Day) (Buddhist) -The anniversary of the start of Buddha's teaching - his first sermon, "The Wheel of Truth", after his enlightenment.



August 2026

Leicester Pride Event
29 August



August 2026

**International Day of the World's
Indigenous Peoples**
9 August

International Youth Day
12 August

World Humanitarian Day
19 August

**International Day for the
Remembrance of the Slave Trade
and its Abolition**
23 August

Women's Equality Day
26 August

Leicester Pride Event
29 August

**International Day for People
of African Descent**
31 August

August						
Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
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31						

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Faith/Cultural Days in August

13	Obon - Ullambana (Buddhist, Shinto) – “Ghost Festival,” during which people celebrate their dead loved ones
15	Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Christian) - A Roman Catholic festival celebrating their belief that Mary, was taken body and soul into heaven.
25*	Milad un Nabi (Sunni Muslim) - Birthday of the Prophet Muhammad
28	Raksha Bandhan (Hindu) - celebrates the relationship between brothers and sisters.
31	Summer BANK HOLIDAY



WORLD ALZHEIMERS DAY

21 SEPTEMBER

September 2026

World Alzheimer's Day

21 September



September 2026

East and South Asian Heritage Month

World Sexual Health Day
4 September

Suicide Prevention Day
10 September

National Inclusion Week
14-20 September

International Equal Pay Day
18 September

World Alzheimer’s Day
21 September

International Day of Peace
21 September

Bi Visibility Day
23 September

World Day of Sign Languages
23 September

National Teaching Assistants’ Day
25 September

September						
Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

* Begins at sunset on previous day

Rosh Hashanah

Work is not permitted on the two days of Rosh Hashanah

Yom Kippur

Work is not permitted

Sukkot

Work is not permitted on first and last two days

Faith/Cultural Days in September	
1	Installation of Guru Granth Sahib (Sikh) the central holy religious script of Sikhism
4	Krishna Janmashtami (Hindu) – Celebration of the birth of Krishna
8	Paryushan – (Jain) The most important festival of the year (ends 15 Sep)
8	Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Christian) - Roman Catholic and Anglican churches celebrate the birth of Mary, mother of Jesus.
12*	Rosh Hashanah (1st day) (Jewish) - Jewish New Year (ends 13 September)
14	Ganesh Chaturthi - Hindus celebrates the birth of Ganesh, god of wisdom and prosperity.
21*	Yom Kippur (Jewish) - Day of Atonement - the most solemn day of the Jewish year.
26*	Sukkot (Jewish) - commemorates the years Jews spent in the desert on their way to the Promised Land (ends 2 Oct)



October 2026

Black History Month



October 2026

Black History Month

**Breast Cancer
Awareness Month**

ADHD Awareness Month

International Day of Older People

1 October

Day of Non-Violence

2 October

World Mental Health Day

10 October

National Coming Out Day

11 October

Anti-Slavery Day

18 October

World Menopause Day

18 October

ACE Week

25 - 31 October

October						
Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
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Faith/Cultural Days in October

9	Birthday of Guru Ramdas (Sikh) - The fourth of the Sikh Gurus.
11	Navaratri (start) (Hindu) - Navaratri symbolises the triumph of good over evil and marks the start of autumn (ends 19 October)
20	Dasara (Hindu) - Celebrates Lord Rama's victory over the evil Ravana.
22	Birth of the Bab (Bahai) - Celebrates the birth of the precursor of the founder of the Baha'i faith.
23	Guru Granth Sahib Guryai Diwas - a celebration of the sacred hymns in the Guru Granth Sahib



November 2026

Remembrance Day
11 November



November 2026

Islamophobia Awareness Month

Disability History Month

Men's Health Awareness Month

Intersex Day of Solidarity
8 November

Inter-Faith Week
8-15 November

Anti-Bullying Week
9-15 November

Remembrance Day
11 November

Transgender Awareness week
13-19 November

International Day of Tolerance
16 November

**Elimination of
Violence against Women Day
(White Ribbon Day)**
25 November

November						
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Faith/Cultural Days in November

2	Coronation of Emperor Haile Selassie I (Rastafari) - Haile Selassie was the Emperor of Ethiopia.
8	Diwali (Hindu, Sikh, Jainism) - the festival of lights
10*	Birth of the Báb, predecessor of Baha'u'llah (Bahai)
11*	Birth of Baha'u'llah (Bahai) - This day celebrates the birth in 1817 of the founder of the Baha'i faith.
24	Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur (Sikh) - Guru Tegh Bahadur was the ninth Sikh Guru
24	Birthday of Guru Nanak Dev Ji Sahib (Sikh) - Founder of the Sikh religion
29	Advent Sunday (Christian) - The beginning of the ecclesiastical year



December 2026

Christmas
25 December

December 2026

Special dates this month

World AIDS Day
1 December

**International Day for the
Abolition of Slavery**
2 December

**International Day of
Persons with Disabilities**
3 December

Pansexual Pride Day
8 December

Human Rights Day
10 December

International Migrants Day
18 December

December						
Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
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7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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28	29	30	31			

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Faith/Cultural Days in December

5*	Hanukkah (Jewish) - Hanukkah is the Festival of Lights and marks the restoration of the temple (ends 12 Dec)
8	Bodhi Day (Buddhist) - Buddhists celebrate Gautama's attainment of enlightenment under the Bodhi tree at Bodhgaya, India.
8	Feast of the Immaculate Conception (Catholic) - Celebrated by Roman Catholics who remember Mary's conception as being without sin
25	Christmas Day (Christian). Birth of Jesus Christ. BANK HOLIDAY.
26	Zarathosht Diso - Zoroastrians remember the death of their prophet, Zoroaster.
28	BANK HOLIDAY (Boxing Day)



Equality and Diversity UK
www.equalityanddiversity.co.uk

Equality and Diversity UK are a specialist training company focusing on equality and diversity in the private, public and voluntary sectors.

We provide training courses, seminars, resources and the Equality and Diversity Network

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