



FAITHS CALENDAR 2011

This calendar of the major religious festivals has been produced by the East of England Faiths Council based on information from representatives of the nine faiths currently in membership. The faiths involved have selected the dates and other information they wish to share, with the purpose of assisting the planning of meetings and consultations. The practice of no-work days varies within faiths and from culture to culture.



Baha'i

Commerce is suspended on the following days: the three holy days of the Festival of Ridvan, Naw Ruz, Birth of the Bab, Declaration of the Bab, Martyrdom of the Bab, Birth of Baha'u'llah, and Ascension of Baha'u'llah.



Buddhism

The nearest Sunday to each of the five main festivals is a no-work day. Differing Buddhist traditions may use alternative days from those shown here.



Christian

Good Friday, Easter Sunday and Christmas Day are no-work days. Sunday is the most important day for worship; acts of worship can also take place on other days of the week.



Hindu

Most Hindus will make the following no-work days: Janmashtami, Diwali and Hindu New Year .



Islam

Believers are expected to observe sacred days of Eid al Fitr and Eid al Adha. Friday is the day for services of prayer and instruction – usually at about noon. The beginning of each Islamic month is subject to confirmation of successful sighting of the new moon.



Judaism

No work is to be done on the Shabbat, which begins at dusk on Friday and ends after dark on Saturday, or on major holidays, which begin at dusk the evening before and end after dark on the day. The major holidays are the first two and last two days of Pesach, Shavuot, Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, the first two days of Sukkot, Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah.



Sikh

There are no specific no-work days but most Sikhs will take a day off on the birthday of Guru Nanak.



Zoroastrian

Most Zoroastrians would make the following no work days: Jamsheedi NoRuz and Shahenshai Navroze and some Zoroastrians would also take time off for Muktads.

JANUARY 2011

5	Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh	Sikh
6	Epiphany	Christian
13	Maghi	Sikh
14	Makar Sankrant	Hindu
16	World Religion Day	
18	Week of Prayer for Christian Unity	Christian
19	Shahrevar roj Parab	Zoroastrian
19-21	Mahayana New Year	Buddhist
20	Tu Bishvat	Jewish
27	Holocaust Memorial Day	
30	Jashn-e Sadeh	Zoroastrian
31	Birthday of Guru Har Rai	Sikh

FEBRUARY 2011

8	Parinirvana – Nirvana Day	Buddhist
	Vasant Panchami	Hindu
15	Nirvana Day (alternative date)	Buddhist
	Milad un Nabi (Prophet's Birthday)	Islam
18	Magha Puja	Buddhist
20	Milad un Nabi (Shia)	Islam
Feb 26-Mar 1	Intercalary Days (Preparation for Fast)	Baha'i

MARCH 2011

2	Meher roj Parab	Zoroastrian
2-20	Fasting Period	Baha'i
3	Mahashivratri	Hindu
5	Losar (3 days)	Buddhist
9	Ash Wednesday	Christian
13	Lent	Christian
17	Fast of Esther	Jewish
19	Magha Puja (Sangha Day)	Ther Buddhist
	Holi	Hindu
20	Hola Mohalla	Sikh
	Purim	Jewish
	Hamaspahmaedaya	Zoroastrian
21	Naw-Ruz (New Year)	Baha'i
	Sushan Purim	Jewish
	Jamsheedi NoRuz	Zoroastrian
26	Aadinath Jayanti	Jain
	Khordad Sal	Zoroastrian
	Ava roj Parab	Zoroastrian

APRIL 2011			AUGUST 2011		
3	Mothering Sunday	Christian	9	Tisha B'Av	Jewish
4	Bikarami Samvat – Varsha Pratipada	Hindu	9-18	Muktads	Zoroastrian
12	Rama Navami	Hindu	13	Raksha Bandhan	Hindu
	Swaminarayan Jayanti	Hindu	15	Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Christian
13	Vaisakhi (Baisakhi)	Sikh	19	Shahenshai Navroze	Zoroastrian
16	Mahavira Jayanti	Jain	22	Janmashtami (Krishna Janma)	Hindu
17	Palm Sunday	Christian	24	Khordad Sal	Zoroastrian
18	Theravada New Year	Buddhist	26	Lailatul-Qadr	Islam
	Hanuman Jayanti	Hindu		Digambara Paryushan (10 days)	Jain
	First night of Passover (Fast of the Firstborn)	Jewish	30	Eid-UI-Fitr (End of Ramadan)	Islam
	Birthday of Guru Angad Dev	Sikh	SEPTEMBER 2011		
	Birthday of Guru Tegh Bahadur	Sikh	1	Ganesh Chaturthi	Hindu
19-20	First and Second Day of Pesach (Passover)	Jewish	6	Fravardin roj Parab	Zoroastrian
21-24	Intermediate Days of Pesach	Jewish	20	Ardibehest roj Parab	Zoroastrian
21	First Day of Ridvan (12 day Festival)	Baha'i	28	Navaratri (9 nights)	Hindu
	Maundy Thursday	Christian	29-30	Rosh Hashanah	Jewish
22	Good Friday	Christian	OCTOBER 2011		
24	Easter Sunday	Christian	1	Fast of Gedaliah	Jewish
	Adar roj Parab	Zoroastrian		Jashn-e Mehergan	Zoroastrian
25-26	Seventh and Eighth Days of Pesach (Passover)	Jewish	3	Saraswati Puja	Hindu
29	Ninth Day of Ridvan	Baha'i	6	Dussera	Hindu
MAY 2011			8	Yom Kippur	Jewish
1	Yom Hashoah	Jewish	9	Birthday of Guru Ram Das	Sikh
2	Last Day of Ridvan	Baha'i	13-14	First and Second Days of Sukkot	Jewish
	Birthday of Guru Arjan Dev	Sikh	15-19	Intermediate Days of Sukkot	Jewish
6	Akhatrij (Akshay Tritiya)	Jain	20	Birth of the Bab	Baha'i
9	Yom HaZikaron	Jewish		Shemini Atzeret	Jewish
10	Yom Ha'Atzma'ut	Jewish		Guru Granth Sahibji	Sikh
16	Dae Mah Roj Hormazd	Zoroastrian	21	Simchat Torah	Jewish
17	Vesak or Buddha Day	Buddhist	23	Khordad roj Parab	Zoroastrian
22	Lag B'Omer	Jewish	26	Diwali	Hindu
23	Declaration of the Bab	Baha'i		Diwali	Jain
	Birthday of Guru Amar Das	Sikh		Diwali	Sikh
26	Zarthosht-no-Diso	Zoroastrian	27	New Year Day	Hindu
29	Ascension of Baha'u'llah	Baha'i		New Year Day	Jain
JUNE 2011			31	Gyan-Panchami (Laabh Pancham)	Jain
1	Yom Yerushalayim	Jewish	NOVEMBER 2011		
2	Ascension of Christ	Christian	1	All Saints' Day	Christian
8-9	Shavuot	Jewish	2	All Souls' Day	Christian
12	Pentecost – Whit Sunday	Christian	5	Hajj	Islam
16	Martyrdom of Guru Arjan Dev	Sikh	6	Eid-UI-Adha	Islam
	Bahman roj Parab	Zoroastrian	10	Kartiki Poonam – Patta Darsham	Jain
19	Trinity Sunday	Christian		Birthday of Guru Nanak	Sikh
28	Lailat al Miraj	Islam	12	Birth of Baha'u'llah	Baha'i
JULY 2011			24	Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur	Sikh
1	Jashn-e Tirgan	Zoroastrian	26	Day of the Covenant	Baha'i
5	Birthday of Guru Hargobind	Sikh		Al-Hijira (Islamic New Year)	Islam
9	Martyrdom of the Bab	Baha'i	27	Advent Sunday	Christian
15	Asala – Dharma Day	Buddhist	28	Ascension of Abdu'l-Baha	Baha'i
	Lailatul-Bara'at	Islam	29	Tir roj Parab	Zoroastrian
19	Fast of Tammuz	Jewish	DECEMBER 2011		
	Aspandarmad roj Parab	Zoroastrian	5	Ashura	Islam
20	Qadimi Navroze	Zoroastrian	8	Bodhi Day	Buddhist
23	Birthday of Guru Har Krishen	Sikh	13	Fast of Ten of Tevet	Jewish
25	Khordad Sal (Qadimi)	Zoroastrian	20	Shab-e Yalda	Zoroastrian
31	Ramadan (start)	Islam	21	First Day of Hanukkah	Jewish
			23	Amardad Parab	Zoroastrian
			25	Christmas Day	Christian
			26	Zarthost-no-Diso	Zoroastrian