**Religious Observances**

The calendar below is a month-by-month listing of religious observances in 2019. This list includes the dates for some of the most important religious celebrations of the major religions. Some of these holy days include fasting or abstaining from specific food or drink for specified periods ranging from a month to more than a day (25 hours) to daylight hours (sunrise to sundown). Absence from work or classes is also common observance for some major holy days.

This list is by no means meant to be comprehensive. For additional holy day listings and descriptions, please consult the following link <http://www.interfaith-calendar.org/2019.htm>

*Please note that some holy days (\*) start at sundown of the evening of the listed start date and end at sundown or nightfall of the concluding listed date.*

*Major Religious Holidays January 2019 – December 2019*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary | Christian | Jan. 1 | Tuesday |
| Christmas (Feast of the Epiphany) | Eastern Orthodox | Jan. 6 | Sunday |
| Feast of the Nativity | Orthodox Christian | Jan 7 | Monday |
| Imbolc | Wicca/Pagan | Feb 2 | Saturday |
| Asian Lunar New Year  | Confucian/Taoist /Buddhist | Feb. 5 | Tuesday |
| Ash Wednesday (Protestant and Roman Catholic Lenten season Mar 6- Apr 20) | Christian   | Mar 6 | Wed |
| Orthodox Great Lent  | Eastern Orthodox | Mar 11-Apr 28  | Mon-Sun |
| Ostara | Wicca/Pagan | March 20 | Wed |
| Holi  | Hindu  | March 20-21 | Wed-Thurs |
| Purim  | Jewish  | March 20-21\* | Wed-Thurs |
| Norooz (New Year) | Persian/Zoroastrian | March 21 | Thursday |
| Laylat al Miraj | Islam | April 2-3\*# | Tues-Wed |
| Palm Sunday | Christian | April 14 | Sunday |
|  Vaisakhi  | Hindu/Sikh/Buddhist  |  April 14 |  Sun |
| Mahavir Jayanti | Jain | April 17 | Wed |
| Maundy Thursday | Christian | April 18 | Thursday |
| Good Friday | Christian  | April 19 | Friday  |
| Passover (Pesach – 8 days) | Jewish  | Apr 19-27\* | Fri-Sat |
| Easter | Christian | April 21 | Sunday |
| Ridvan | Baha’i | April 21  | Sun |
| Pascha  | Orthodox Easter | April 28 | Sunday |
| Beltane | Wicca/Pagan | May 1 | Wed |
| Ramadan (30 days) | Islamic | May 5-June 4\*#  | Sun-Tues |
| Vesak (Buddha Day) | Buddhist | May 18 | Saturday |
| Buddah’s Birthday | Buddhist | May 22 | Tuesday |
| Declaration of the Báb | Bahá'i | May 23\* | Thursday |
| Ascension of Baha’ullah | Bahá'i |  May 29 | Wed |
| Eid al Fitr  | Islamic  | June 4-6\*# | Tues-Thurs |
| Shavuot | Jewish | June 8-10 | Sat-Mon |
| Feast of Pentecost | Christian | June 9 | Sun |
| Litha-Yule (Solstice) | Wicca-Pagan | June 21 | Friday |
| Eid al Adha | Islamic | Aug. 11-Aug 12\*# | Sun-Mon |
| Lughnassad-Imbolc | Wicca-Pagan | Aug 1 | Thursday |
| First of Muharram | Islamic | Aug. 31-Sept 1\* | Sat-Sun |
| Ganesh Chaturthi | Hindu | Sept. 2 | Mon |
| Paryushana Parva | Jain | Sept 3 | Tuesday |
| Ashura | Islamic | Sept. 9-10\*# | Mon-Tues |
| Mabon | Wicca/Pagan | Sept. 23 | Monday  |
| Rosh Hashanah [New Year]  | Jewish  | Sept. 29-Oct 1\*  | Sun-Tues |
| Navratri | Hindu | Sept 28-Oct 7 | Sat-Mon |
| Yom Kippur [Day of Atonement]  | Jewish  | Oct 8-9\* | Tues-Wed |
| Sukkot [Feast of Tabernacles-7 days]  | Jewish  | Oct 13--20\*  | Sun-Sun |
| Birth of the Bab | Bahai’i | Oct. 20\* | Sunday |
| Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah | Jewish | Oct. 20-22\* | Sun-Tues |
| Diwali  | Jain/Sikh/Hindu  | Oct. 27 | Sunday |
| Samhain | Wicca/Pagan | Oct 31-Nov. 1\* | Thurs-Fri |
| All Saints Day/Day of the Dead | Christian/Latinx | Nov. 1 | Friday |
| Guru Nanak Gurpurab | Sikh | Nov. 12 | Tuesday |
| Advent  | Christian | Dec. 1-24 | Sun-Tues |
| Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary/Feast of the Immaculate Conception | Christian | Dec. 8 | Sunday |
| Bodhi Day (Rohatsu)  | Buddhist  | Dec. 8 | Sunday |
| Our Lady of Guadalupe | Christian | Dec. 12 | Thursday |
| Chanukah [8-days] | Jewish  | Dec. 22-Dec 30\*  | Sun-Mon |
| Christmas  | Christian  | Dec. 25  | Wednesday |
| Feast of the Holy Family | Christian | Dec. 29 | Sunday |
| Kwanzaa  | African-American  | Dec. 26–Jan. 1  | Thurs-Wed |

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*# Some of these dates are not fixed to a calendar but based on the actual sighting of the moon and therefore there may be some variance by a day.*

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