



Buddhism

8th Feb - Parinirvana
(Nirvana Day)
Commemorating the death and enlightenment of Buddha.

17th May - Vesakha
(Buddha Day)
Buddhist holiest day, celebrating the birth, enlightenment and death of Buddha.

15th Jul - Asalha Puja
(Dharma Day) Celebration of *Gantama Buddha's* first teaching.

8th Dec - Rohatsu
(Bodhi Day) Celebrates *Buddha's* Enlightenment

Chinese

3rd Feb - Yuan Tan
(Chinese New Year)
The beginning of the New Lunar Year. 2011 is the Year of the Rabbit.

6th Jun - Tuen Ng
(Dragon Boat Festival)
Festival commemorating the suicide of the minister of state: *Qu Yuan* who died in 288 BC. The dragon boat races symbolize the vain attempts of those who raced to save him.

12th Sep - Zhong Qiu
(Moon Festival) A mid-autumn festival that has become interwoven with ancient legends about the moon. Traditionally a time for poets and lovers.

Christianity

9th Mar - Ash Wednesday
First day of *Lenten Fast* (Lent), preceded by *Shrove Tuesday* (Pancake Day).

22nd Apr - Good Friday
Commemorating the crucifixion of *Jesus Christ*.

24th Apr - Easter Sunday
Celebrating the resurrection of *Jesus Christ*.

25th Dec - Christmas Day
Celebrating the birth of *Jesus Christ*.

Hinduism

20th Mar - Holi
(Festival of Colours)
Spring festival celebrating creation and renewal.

4th Apr - Ramanavami
Start of an 8-day celebration of the birth of *Lord Rama*.

22nd Aug - Janmashtami
Celebration of the appearance on earth of *Lord Krishna*.

28th Sep - Navaratri
A 9-day festival to celebrate the triumph of good over evil.

26th Oct - Diwali
(Festival of Lights)
Celebration of good over evil. Victory of *Lord Rama* over the demon *Ravana* and end of over 14 years of exile.

January

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31						
1	New Year's Day					
27	Holocaust Memorial Day					

February

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28						
	LGBT History Month					
25	Work your proper hrs day					

March

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28	29	30	31			
8	Int. Women's Day					
17	St. Patrick's Day					

Islam

15th Feb - Milad-un-Nabi
Celebrating the birth of the Prophet *Muhammad* in 570ce.

1st Aug - Ramadan Begins
Islamic month of fasting from dawn to sunset, for 30 days ending with *Eid-ul-Fitr* on 31st Sep.

6th Nov - Eid-ul-Adha
(Festival of Sacrifice) Festival marking the end of Hajj and celebrating *Ibrahim's* offer to sacrifice his own son, *Isma'il*.

26th Nov - Al Hijra
Islamic New Year. Celebrates the migration of the Prophet *Muhammad* to Medina in 622ce.

April

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8	International Roma Day					
23	St. Georges Day					

May

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8	Deaf Awareness Week					
15	Christian Aid Week					

June

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13	Men's Health Week					
21	Deaf Blind Awareness Week					

Judaism

19th Apr - Pesach
(Passover) An eight-day celebration of the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt.

8th & 9th Jun - Shavuot
(Feast of the Weeks) A two-day celebration of the revelation of the 10 Commandments to Moses on Mount Sinai.

29th & 30th Sep - Rosh Hashana
(New Year, Feast of Trumpets) Celebrating the creation of the world, beginning ten-days of repentance and self examination.

8th Oct - Yom Kippur
(Day of Atonement) A 25 hour fast marking the last day of Rosh Hashana and the holiest day of the year.

13th- 21st Oct - Sukkot
(Feast of Tabernacles) A commemoration of the 40 years the Jews spent in the wilderness on the way to freedom in the Promised Land.

21st Dec - Hanukkah
(Festival of Lights) An eight-day celebration of the miracle of the oil

July

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17	Justice Day					
24	Parents Day					

August

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13	UK Black Pride Day					
15	World Youth Day					

September

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2	Older Persons Month					
21	International Day of Peace					

October

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	Black History Month					
10	World Mental Health Day					

November

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15	Anti-Bullying Week					
25	Int. Against violence to Women					

December

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1	World Aids Day					
3	Int. Day for Disabled People					

Sikhism

5th Jan - Guru Gobind Singh's Birthday
Honouring the birth of the tenth and last human Guru (1769-1539ce).

13th Apr - Vaisakhi
(Baisakhi/New Year) Founding of the *Khalsa order of the Guru*.

26th Oct - Diwali
(Festival of Lights) Celebration of good over evil.

10th Nov - Guru Nanak's Birthday
Honouring the birth of the founder of Sikhism. This is the holiest festival, celebrated over three days.

Joint Learning's calendar called 'celebrate' has been developed to celebrate the diverse nature of its community. The calendar can be passed to your employers and learners, also to ensure that visits are not planned around key dates as learners may not be able to participate in visits during these times.

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Bank Holidays

3rd Jan Bank Holiday
22nd Apr Good Friday
25th Apr Easter Monday
2nd May May Day
30th May Spring Holiday
29th Aug Summer Holiday
26th Dec Bank Holiday
27th Dec Bank Holiday