

# LET'S CELEBRATE 2021-2022

MAGNARD

## SEPTEMBER



**10<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> Jane Austen Festival**  
Jane Austen (1775-1817) is a famous English author. She wrote romantic fictions like *Pride and Prejudice*. In Bath, every year, there is a festival with fantastic celebrations: promenades with costumes of the epoch, balls, music, dance and fun!



**11<sup>th</sup> Patriot Day (us) 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**  
In memory of the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center (New York) and the Pentagon (Washington, D.C.) on September 11, 2001.

## OCTOBER



**1<sup>st</sup> 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Walt Disney World**  
The Walt Disney World Resort, including Magic Kingdom, officially opened to the public for the first time in 1971. For this special occasion there will be many surprises!



**11<sup>th</sup> Columbus Day (us)**  
Christopher Columbus arrived in America on October 12, 1492. Americans commemorate, but some people do not: they believe it marks the beginning of the destruction of Native American culture. A few states replace this day with "Native American Day" in honour of the first inhabitants of America.



**31<sup>st</sup> Halloween**  
Ancient Celts believed that the dead visited us. Today, children in disguises go from house to house and say "Trick or treat?" to have sweets. We decorate pumpkins called "jack-o'-lanterns". It's spooky and fun!

## NOVEMBER



**4<sup>th</sup> Diwali (India)**  
The "Festival of Lights" is the most important festival in India. Indian communities in the UK celebrate, too! There are family parties, beautiful Diwali pottery lamps and coloured lights on houses, fireworks, flowers and sweets!



**11<sup>th</sup> Remembrance Day**  
Every year, on this day, people remember the soldiers who died for their countries during WW1. It is called Veterans Day in the US and Poppy Day in the UK because people wear red poppies there.



**25<sup>th</sup> Thanksgiving (US)**  
This celebration is to remember Native Americans who offered food to the first Europeans to arrive in America. American families eat a big dinner with turkey, sweet potatoes and pumpkin pie.

## DECEMBER



**19<sup>th</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the first 'The Lord of the Rings' movie**  
Based on the best-selling novel by J.R.R. Tolkien, the film tells the story of Frodo Baggins who embarks on a journey to destroy the "One" ring in the fires of Mount Doom.



**25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Day**  
People have Christmas decorations and Christmas trees in their houses. Children receive presents from Father Christmas in a type of big sock called a stocking. Christmas dinner is at 1 p.m. and there is Christmas pudding for dessert. Yum!



**26<sup>th</sup> Boxing Day**  
In old times, presents in boxes were offered to poor people. Today, it's a discount shopping day.



**31<sup>st</sup> New Year's Eve Hogmanay (Scotland)**  
This is a particularly important Scottish celebration. But people in many countries also celebrate the commencement of the new year with parties and music!



**26<sup>th</sup>-1<sup>st</sup> Kwanzaa (us)**  
African Americans remember their ancestors and heritage: for seven days they light candles representing "the seven principles of Kwanzaa". There are songs, storytelling, and traditional food, too!

## JANUARY



**1<sup>st</sup> New Year's Day**  
The first day of a new year and a day for new resolutions. In Scotland people practise "first footing": the first person (first foot) to enter the house represents good fortune.



**17<sup>th</sup> Martin Luther King Day (us)**  
Martin Luther King, Jr. (15<sup>th</sup> Jan. 1929 - 4<sup>th</sup> April 1968) is a hero: he defended the right to equality between Blacks and Whites in the USA. His speech "I Have a Dream" is remembered.



**25<sup>th</sup> Burns Night (Scotland)**  
Robert Burns (1759-1776) was a Scottish poet. To celebrate him, people recite his poems and have special dinners and parties. They eat traditional "haggis" - meat with spices in a "bag" made from a sheep's stomach!



**26<sup>th</sup> Australia Day**  
Europeans arrived in Australia in 1778. Today, they celebrate their culture and history. And there are ceremonies to welcome new immigrants. But Aboriginal Australians were the first inhabitants: they arrived approximately 40,000 years ago.

## FEBRUARY



**4<sup>th</sup> Rosa Parks Day**  
On December 1, 1955, Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat to white passengers. She was arrested and fined. Her act of resistance helped spark the civil rights movement.



**6<sup>th</sup> Super Bowl Sunday (us)**  
Millions of Americans will watch the two best teams play American football in Los Angeles, California.



**Waitangi Day (NZ)**  
In 1840, representatives of the British Crown and over 500 Māori chiefs signed what is often considered to be New Zealand's founding document. It has been a public holiday since 1974.

## MARCH



**1<sup>st</sup> Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day)**  
It's the last day before "Lent" (fasting) before Easter. People eat pancakes! In the UK, there are pancake races. It's carnival time!



**Mardi Gras (us)**  
New Orleans' carnival is known around the world. People wear costumes, there is bead-tossing, elaborate floats and excellent food.



**17<sup>th</sup> St Patrick's Day (Ireland)**  
A celebration of the Patron Saint of Ireland and Irish culture. The Irish love to have fun and they celebrate with parades: they dance, sing, and wear green clothes (green is the national colour). The rivers are coloured green, too!



**18<sup>th</sup> Holi, Festival of Colours (India)**  
To celebrate this spring festival, Indians have fun throwing coloured powder and coloured water on friends! There is dancing and singing, too. Now it is celebrated in the UK, too.

## APRIL



**1<sup>st</sup> April Fool's Day**  
Today you can play a trick on your friends. Change the salt to sugar or attach a funny sign on your friend's back... Keep it harmless!



**17<sup>th</sup> Easter**  
Easter is a religious celebration. And it's also time for fun! There are chocolate Easter eggs and rabbits (bunnies)! Children search for the eggs in Easter egg hunts.



**22<sup>nd</sup> Earth Day**  
This day is celebrated all over the world by more than a billion people. Their goal is to encourage people to change their behaviour and protect the environment.



**23<sup>rd</sup> St George's Day**  
This is England's national day. A symbol of England is the Tudor rose. People wear red roses, dance and play music to celebrate.



**Shakespeare Day**  
It is also the anniversary of William Shakespeare's death in 1616 (406 years ago).

## MAY



**1<sup>st</sup> May Day**  
"Maypole Dancing" is an ancient European tradition. Dancers turn around a pole decorated with flowers. In some parts of the UK people continue to dance around the village maypole on May Day.



**Workers' Day**  
May Day is also the day we celebrate and pay respects to workers around the world (in the US, workers are celebrated on Labour Day, in September).



**4<sup>th</sup> Star Wars Day**  
This day celebrates George Lucas' Star Wars movies. The date was chosen for the pun on the catchphrase "May the Force be with you" as "May the Fourth be with you".



**6<sup>th</sup> SpaceX's 20<sup>th</sup> Birthday**  
Founded by Elon Musk in 2002, SpaceX's ultimate goal is to colonise Mars.

## JUNE



**2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> The Queen's Platinum Jubilee**  
Can you believe it? It is the longest-reigning monarch in British history! A special four-day bank holiday weekend is scheduled to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.



**17<sup>th</sup> Trooping the Colour (Queen's Birthday Parade)**  
Queen Elizabeth's real birthday is on April 21<sup>st</sup> but this is her official birthday. Trooping the Colour marks this day and it is a major UK royal event. At Buckingham Palace, the Queen and her family watch as her Foot Guards and a troop of Horse Guards march to Westminster, and then return.



**21<sup>st</sup> Aboriginal Day (Canada)**  
Canada celebrates its First Nations people. It is estimated that the Inuit have lived in Canada for approximately 5,000 years. On this day there are traditional concerts, songs, and dances that demonstrate and respect the rich culture of the First Nations.



**26<sup>th</sup> 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the first Harry Potter novel**  
British author J.K. Rowling published her first *Harry Potter* novel 25 years ago: *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*. And on July 27, it will be 15 years since the saga ended with *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*.

## JULY



**1<sup>st</sup> Canada Day**  
On July 1, 1867, the country of Canada was officially born. There are parades, carnivals, festivals, barbecues, air shows, and fireworks! On this day, Canada also welcomes its new immigrants.



**4<sup>th</sup> American Independence Day (us)**  
America's national day celebrates the signature of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. America was no longer part of the British Empire. Americans celebrate with fantastic parades, picnics, barbecues, and fireworks. It's a great day to be with family!



**14<sup>th</sup> Emmeline Pankhurst Day**  
E. Pankhurst (July 14, 1858-June 14, 1929) was the leader of women activists in the fight for British women's right to vote. Thanks to E. Pankhurst and many women activists, British women won the right to vote in 1928.



**18<sup>th</sup> Nelson Mandela International Day**  
He was a Black activist fighting for equality for South African Blacks. He opposed apartheid, a system that separated Blacks and Whites. He was in prison for 27 years. Later, he was elected president of South Africa. South Africans pay homage to Mandela every year on this day, known as Nelson Mandela International Day.

Nouveautés 2021



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