

INTERNATIONAL HOLIDAYS AND CELEBRATIONS



NOVEMBER 2010

11.1—**Revolution Day**; Algeria

Commemorates the beginning of the revolution against the French in 1954, which led to independence in 1962

11.1—**El Dia de Los Ninos** (Children's Day); Panama

A day to celebrate the country's children

11.1—**D.Hamilton Jackson Day/Liberty Day**; US Virgin Islands

Commemorates the contributions of David Hamilton Jackson to the advancement of his fellow people and the Virgin Islands

11.1—**Independence Day**; Antigua & Barbuda

Commemorates independence from the United Kingdom in 1981

11.1—**Puno Jubilee Week**; Peru

Celebrates the founding of Puno by the Spaniards

11.1—**Day of the Leaders of the Bulgarian National Revival**; Bulgaria

A period when Bulgarians gathered spiritual and intellectual strength to establish their right of independence political and social existence, and their own culture and education

11.1—**Remembrance Day**; Slovenia

Formerly called "Day of the Dead", a commemoration of the departed

11.1—**All Saints Day**; International

Celebrated in honor of all the saints. Also known as All Hallows

11.2—**Dzyady** (Remembrance Day); Belarus

An age-old Belarusian tradition originating out of Pagan times and later adopted into Christianity. A special plate and glass is set at dinner in remembrance of deceased relatives

11.2—**Dia de los Muertos** (Day of the Dead); Mexico

A celebration that blends Christian and Aztec traditions. Departed souls are remembered with a spirit of friendliness and good humor instead of mourning

11.2—**Commemoration of the Dead**; San Marino

11.2—**Senor de la Buena Muerte** (Lord of the Good Death); Peru

11.2—**All Souls Day**; International

A day to remember friends, family, and loved ones who have died

11.2—**Finados**; Brazil

A day to remember friends, family, and loved ones who have died

11.3—**Independence Day** (Separation Day); Panama

One of two Independence Day celebrations this month. This one honors independence from Colombia in 1903

11.3—Bunka-no-Hi (Culture Day); Japan

A holiday to promote the love of freedom, peace, and cultural development

11.3—Festivity of San Martin de Porres; Peru

Held on the date of San Martin's death to commemorate his life and service. St. Martin was a brother of the Dominican Order

11.3—Independence Day; Dominica

One of two Independence Day celebrations. This one honors the day in which independence was gained from the United Kingdom in 1978. A day to celebrate the unique Creole culture

11.3—Independence of Cuenca Day; Ecuador

In 1820 Cuenca, the third largest city in Ecuador and the capital of the Azuay province, gained its independence from Spain. The day is celebrated with processions through the streets, dancing, and cultural performances and activities

11.3—Victory Day; Maldives

Celebrates the victory of Maldives over the terrorist group of Sri Lanka

11.3—FSM Independence Day; Micronesia

Marks the day on which the Federated States of Micronesia gained independence as a sovereign nation in 1986

11.4—Citizenship Day; Northern Marianas

To commemorate the day in 1986 that the covenant to establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in political union with the United States of America went into effect

11.4—Community Service Day; Dominica

11.4—Constitution Day; Tonga

Anniversary of the passage of the Tongan Constitution, enacted by King George Tupou, in 1875

11.4—Flag Day; Panama

Celebrated the day after Panama declared its independence from Colombia in 1903

11.4—National Unity Day; Italy

Commemorates the victory over Austria-Hungary in 1918

11.4—Unity Day; Russia

Commemorates the popular uprising which expelled the Polish-Lithuanian occupation from Moscow in November, 1612

11.4—St. Carlos Borromeo; Andorra

The feast day of St. Carlos Borromeo, an Italian saint responsible for many significant reforms during the period of Counter-Reformation

11.4—Thanksgiving Day; Liberia

Observed the first Thursday of November

11.5—Guy Fawkes Night (Bonfire Night); United Kingdom

Celebrates the foiling of the Gunpowder Plot in 1605 in which a number of catholic conspirators, including Guy Fawkes, attempted to blow up the Houses of Parliament in London

11.5—Cry of Independence Day; El Salvador

Marks the day in 1811 in which Jose Matias Delgado, a Salvadoran priest, doctor, and leader of the independence movement, rung the bells of the Church of La Merced, as a public cry for liberty and independence from Spain

11.5—Diwali; Hindu

Festival of lights marking the beginning of the New Year and one of the most important festivals. Lights, bonfires, and fireworks welcome gods, ancestors, family, and friends

11.5—Arbor Day; Samoa

A holiday in which individuals and groups are encouraged to plant and care for trees. Observed the first Friday of November

11.6—Constitution Day; Dominican Republic

Commemorates the day in 1844 that the first constitution was adopted after gaining independence from Haiti

11.6—Green Day March; Morocco

Commemorate the day in 1975 when 350,000 unarmed Moroccan civilians, including both men and women, marched into the Western Sahara area to reclaim it for Morocco from Spain

11.7—Accord & Reconciliation Day; Russia

Marks the anniversary of the October Revolution, which led to the downfall of the tsarist government in 1917

11.7—New Era Day; Tunisia

Also known as New Era Day, this day commemorates the accession of President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, who took power in 1987 after a bloodless coup which ousted President Habib Bourguiba

11.7—October Revolution Day; Belarus

Marks the anniversary of the October Revolution, which led to the downfall of the tsarist government in 1917 and awakened oppressed nations to unite for a free and equal society

11.7—Revolution Day; Bangladesh

Marks the sepoy-people uprising in 1975 which installed Chief Justice Abusadet Mohammed Sayem as the new President

11.8—Mitrovdan; Bosnia Herzegovina & Serbia

Celebration of the feast day of the Holy Great Martyr St. Dmitri

11.8—Queen's Birthday; Nepal

Commemorates the birthday of Queen Aishworya

11.8—World Town Planning Day; International

A day to give special recognition to the ideals of community planning. It is celebrated to draw attention to the aims, objectives, and progress of urban and regional planning

11.8—Father's Day; Finland, Norway, & Sweden

Celebrated the second Sunday of November

11.9—Independence Day; Cambodia

Observes independence from French rule in 1953

11.9—Allama Muhammad Iqbal Day; Pakistan

Commemorates the birthday of Sir Muhammad Iqbal, Muslim poet, philosopher, and politician, considered to be the greatest 20th-century poet to write in Urdu. His vision of an independent state for Muslims of British India inspired the creation of Pakistan

11.9—Berlin Wall Opening Day; Germany

Marks the day in 1989 when East Berliners were allowed to cross into West Berlin. Within weeks of this event communist regimes began to crumble across Eastern Europe

11.9—Virgen de la Almudena; Spain

A day to honor the patron saint of Madrid

11.10—Anniversary of 1st Call for Independence in Los Santos; Panama

Marks the day in 1821 when the town of Los Santos revolted for freedom against Spain thus beginning the fight for Panamanian independence

11.10—Militsiya Day; Russia

A day to pay tribute to police officers in Russia

11.11—Independence Day; Poland

Commemorates the restoration of independence in 1918

11.11—Armistice Day; Belgium, France, French Polynesia, Guadeloupe, New Caledonia, St. Martin, & Switzerland

Marks the anniversary of the symbolic end of World War I. Commemorates the armistice signed between the Allies and Germany. A day to honor members of the armed forces killed during war

11.11—Remembrance Day; Canada

Commemorates the sacrifices of members of the armed forces and of civilians in times of war

11.11—Concordia Day; St. Martin

A national public holiday celebrating the arrival of Columbus to the island in 1493. Also a celebration of the French and Dutch concordant to establish a harmonious and peaceful coexistence of both countries together on one island

11.11—Gansabhauet (Cutting of the Goose in Sursee); Switzerland

An archaic tradition celebrated in Sursee on St. Martin's Day. The tradition comes from the Middle Ages when interests and taxes were due on Martini day and farmers had to deliver 10% of their crops in town

11.11—St. Martin’s Day (Martinstag, Morten’s Day, Martinmas); United Kingdom, Scotland, Denmark, Celebrates the life of Martin of Tours, a Roman soldier turned monk

11.11—Independence Day; Angola

Commemorates independence from Portugal in 1975

11.11—Lacplesa Day; Latvia

Commemorates the victory over the Bermontians at the battle of Riga in 1919

11.12—Dr. Sun Yat-sen’s Birthday; Taiwan

Celebrates the life of Dr. Sun Yat-sen, forerunner of China’s democratic revolution. He dedicated his life to independence, reunification, prosperity, human rights, freedom, democracy and livelihood. He was born on this day in 1866

11.12—Santa Cruz Massacre; East Timor

Remembered in East Timor as one of the bloodiest days in their history, one that drew national attention to their fight for independence in 1991

11.14—King Hussein’s Birthday; Jordan

Celebrates the life of the late King Hussein who became king of Jordan in 1952 and reigned for nearly five decades

11.14—Prince of Wales’s Birthday; British Virgin Islands

Celebrates the birth of Prince Charles, eldest son and Heir Presumptive to the Throne of the United Kingdom

11.14—Readjustment Movement Day; Guinea Bissau

On this date in 2002 the President dismissed the Government of Prime Minister Alamaro Nhasse, dissolved the National Assembly, and called for legislative elections

11.14—Children’s Day; India

Honors all children and commemorates the 1889 birth of Jawaharlal Nehru, the first premier of India

11.14—Volkstrauertag; Germany

National day of mourning observed to commemorate those who have died in war. Is observed the Sunday nearest November 16

11.14—President’s Day; Marshall Islands

11.15—Shichi-Go-San (Seven-Five-Three Festival); Japan

An ancient celebration that marks the special ages of seven, five, and three

11.15—The King’s Feast; Belgium

A ceremony held in honor of the King

11.15—Proclamation of “T.R. Northern Cyprus”; Cyprus (Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus)

Celebrated by the Turkish Cypriots as the Independence Day

11.15—Proclamation of the Republic; Brazil

Commemorates the day in 1889 when Brazil’s second Emperor, Dom Pedro II, was deposed and the United States of Brazil was declared

11.15—Independence Day; Palestinian Authority

On this day in 1988 the independent state of Palestine was proclaimed by the Palestine National Council

11.15—Day of Arafat (Waqf al Arafat); Islam

An Islamic Holy Day. It is also an important pilgrimage day. Muslim pilgrims gather near Mount Arafat, the site where Muhammad gave his famous Farewell Sermon

11.15—Prince Charles’s Birthday; Fiji

Celebrated the third Monday in November to commemorate the birth of Prince Charles on November 14, 1948

11.16—Anniversary of Huaripampa; Peru

11.16—Correction Day; Syria

Commemorates the day in 1970 in which the Correction Movement, lead by then defense minister Hafez al-Assad, finally brought long lasting stability after years of political disturbance

11.16—Saint Eustatius Day; St. Eustatius

Commemorates the official state holiday. Celebrates the time a Dutch commander saluted an American brig, thus making Statia the first government to recognize American Independence

11.16—Eid al-Adha; Islam

Also known as the “Festival of Sacrifice,” on this day Muslims commemorate the willingness of Ibrahim to sacrifice his son Ishmael as an act of obedience to God. It occurs the day after the annual pilgrimage to Mount Arafat

11.16—Hari Raya Haji (Feast of the Sacrifice); Singapore

Celebrated by Muslims on the tenth day of the last month of the Muslim calendar. Marks the conclusion of the annual Haj—the pilgrimage to the holy city of Mecca

11.17—Army Day; Zaire (Democratic Congo)

A day to honor military forces

11.17—Day of National Revival; Azerbaijan

Commemorates the day in 1988 which began several days of meetings to protest Moscow’s policies. It was the beginning of the new national movement

11.17—Day of Freedom and Democracy; Czech Republic

Struggle for Freedom and Democracy Day commemorates the student demonstration against Nazi occupation in 1939 and the demonstration in 1989 that started the Velvet Revolution and eventually saw the overthrow of the communist government

11.17—Student Youth Day; Turkmenistan

11.17—Buss-und Bettag (Day of Prayer and Repentance); Germany

An occasion for Protestant Christians to pray and reflect. It is observed the third Wednesday of November

11.17—Fight for Freedom and Democracy Day; Slovak Republic

Commemorates the student demonstration against Nazi occupation in 1939, and especially the demonstration in 1989 in Prague considered to make the beginning of the Velvet Revolution

11.18—Fete de l’Independence (Independence Day); Morocco

Commemorates independence from France in 1956, after a protracted struggle

11.18—Flag Day; Uzbekistan

11.18—National Day; Latvia

On this day in 1918 Latvia gained its independence from Russia

11.18—National Day; Oman

Commemorates the many accomplishments of Oman since the beginning of its modern renaissance under His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said. This day marks the birth of Sultan Qaboos

11.18—Vertieres Day; Haiti

Commemorates the Battle of Vertieres, a defining campaign in the Haitian’s revolution against France

11.19—Liberation Day; Mali

Anniversary of the bloodless coup in 1968 which removed Modibo Keita from power

11.19—Garifuna Settlement Day; Belize

Anniversary of the arrival of 500 Garifunas (a combined race consisting of Africans, Arawaks, and Yellow Caribs) to Belize in 1823

11.19—Monaco National Commemoration Day & Prince Rainer’s Day; Monaco

A day to honor and celebrate the national tradition and the identification. Held on the day of Saint Rainier d’Arrezzo

11.19—Discovery Day; Puerto Rico

Celebrates the day Christopher Columbus found Puerto Rico on his second voyage to the New World in 1493

11.20—Dia de la Revolucion; Mexico

Commemorates the Mexican Revolution which began on this day in 1910 and ended in 1920

11.20—Teacher’s Day; Vietnam

A day to honor teachers for their effort in educating the young

11.20—Dia da Consciencia Negra; Brazil

A day celebrated by Brazilians of African descent to honor Zumbi dos Palmares, the last of the leaders of the Quilombo dos Palmares

11.21—World Television Day; International

Commemorates the date on which the first World Television Forum was held at the United Nations in 1996. The day is observed by encouraging global exchanges of television programs focusing on issues such as peace, security, economic and social development, and the enhancement of cultural exchanges

11.21—Saint Archangel Michailo; Serbia

The Serbian feast day for St. Michael

11.21—Guru Nanak's Birthday; India

Celebrates the life of Guru Nanak, the founder of Sikhism

11.21—Loy Kratong; Thailand

A festival held to pay homage to the goddess of rivers and waterways, Mae Nam

11.21—Totensonntag; Germany

Held the Sunday before Advent to commemorate the dead

11.22—Independence Day; Lebanon

Commemorates the declaration of independence from France on this day in 1943

11.22—Day of 1970 Invasion; Guinea

Commemorates the 1970 seaborne attack of Guinea by the Portuguese

11.22—Feast of St. Cecilia; St. Lucia

Honors Saint Cecilia, the patroness of music, musicians, and musical instrument makers

11.23—Kinro Kansha-no-Hi (Labor Thanksgiving Day); Japan

A holiday to honor working people and productivity

11.25—Anniversary of Moquegua; Peru

The anniversary of the Spanish foundation of Moquegua city. It is celebrated with artistic, cultural and sports activities

11.25—Independence Day; Suriname

Commemorates independence from the Netherlands in 1975

11.25—Mange Yam (Fete de la moisson); Haiti

A harvest festival which includes the consecration of new yams which symbolize the continuation of life

11.25—National Day & National Statehood Day; Bosnia-Herzegovina

Commemorates the day in 1943 when Bosnia and Herzegovina was reestablished as a republic within the Yugoslavian federation

11.25—St. Catherine's Day; France

Commemorates the martyrdom of St. Catherine. It also marks the arrival of winter

11.25—International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women; International

The UN invites governments, international organizations, and NGOs to organize activities designated to raise public awareness of the problem of violence against women. This date came from the brutal assassination in 1960, of the three Mirabal sisters, political activists in the Dominican Republic, on order of Dominican dictator Rafael Trujillo

11.26—Anniversary of the Death of Alkoutb Said Muhammad Cheikh Al Maarouf; Comoros

Commemorates the anniversary of the death of Alkoutb Said Muhammad Cheikh Al Maarouf

11.26—Proclamation Day; Mongolia

Commemorates the 1924 proclamation of the Mongolian People's Republic, which made Mongolia the world's second communist nation

11.28—Independence Day; Albania

Marks the 1912 declaration of independence from the Ottoman Empire

11.28—Independence Day; Panama

Marks the independence from Spain in 1821

11.28—Independence Day; Mauritania

Commemorates the independence of Mauritania since 1960

11.28—Republic Day; Chad

Anniversary of the proclamation of the republic in 1958

11.28—Harvest Holiday (Hasyl toyy); Turkmenistan

Observed the last Sunday of November

11.29—Liberation Day; Albania

Commemorates the day in 1944 when invading German and Italian troops were driven out by Allied forces

11.29—Unity Day; Vanuatu

11.29—W.V.S. Tubman's Birthday; Liberia

Celebrates the life of William Vacanarat Shadrach Tubman, president of Liberia from 1944 until his death in 1971. He is regarded as the "father of modern Liberia"

11.30—St. Andrew's Day; Scotland

Commemorates the life of the patron saint of Scotland

11.30—Bonifacio Day; Philippines

Celebrates the life of Andres Bonifacio y de Castro, a Filipino revolutionary leader and one of the main rebel leaders of the Philippine Revolution against Spain in the late 19th century

11.30—Independence Day; Barbados

Commemorates independence from Britain in 1966

11.30—Independence Day; Yemen

Commemorates independence from Britain in 1967

11.30—National Day; Benin

Commemorates the establishment of a Marxist-Leninist state on the anniversary of the day in 1975 when the official name of the country was changed from Dahomey to Benin

Information from www.earthcalendar.net, Wikipedia, and <http://www.shagtown.com/days/index.html>.

Some information adapted from Honoring Differences 2008 calendar, available at www.diversitycalendar.com.