

# Festivals and special days

WHAT? - WHEN?

<p><b>January</b></p> <p><u>1st</u></p>  <p>New Year</p>	<p><b>February</b></p> <p><u>2nd</u></p>  <p>Groundhog Day (USA)</p> <p><u>14th</u></p>  <p>Valentine's day</p>  <p>Pancake day = Shrove Tuesday</p>	<p><b>March</b></p> <p><u>17th</u></p>  <p>Saint Patrick's Day</p> <p>Mother's day (GB)</p>	<p><b>April</b></p> <p><u>1st</u></p>  <p>April Fools' day</p>  <p>Easter</p>
<p><b>May</b></p>  <p>Happy Mother's Day</p> <p>Mother's day (USA)</p> <p><u>1st</u></p> <p>May Day (GB)</p> 	<p><b>June</b></p>  <p>I Love Dad</p> <p>Father's day</p>  <p><u>2nd saturday</u></p> <p>Trooping the colour (UK)</p>	<p><b>July</b></p> <p><u>4th</u></p>  <p>Independence Day (USA)</p>	<p><b>August</b></p>
<p><b>September</b></p>  <p>Back to school</p>	<p><b>October</b></p> <p><u>31st</u></p>  <p>Halloween</p>	<p><b>November</b></p> <p><u>5th</u></p>  <p>Guy Fawkes (GB)</p> <p><u>4th Thursday</u></p>  <p>Thanksgiving (USA)</p>	<p><b>December</b></p> <p><u>25th</u></p>  <p>Christmas</p> <p><u>26th</u></p>  <p>Boxing day</p>

# Festivals and special days: Where? - Why? - How?

<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>January</u></b></p> <p><b>New Year's Day :</b> (Australia, Britain, Canada, New Zealand, USA) - Celebrate the new year - Organize parties</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>February</u></b></p> <p><b>Groundhog Day :</b> (USA) - Predict spring - Traditionally, the groundhog is supposed to awaken on February 2<sup>nd</sup>, Groundhog Day, and come up out of his burrow. If he sees his shadow, he will return to the burrow for six more weeks of winter. If he doesn't see his shadow, he remains outside and starts his year, because he knows that spring has arrived early.</p> <p><b>Valentine's Day :</b> (Australia, Britain, Canada, New Zealand, USA) - Show affection to a person you love - Send Valentine cards</p> <p><b>Shrove Tuesday :</b> (Australia, Britain, Canada, New Zealand, USA) - Celebrate the Tuesday before Lent - Eat and toss pancakes. Take part in pancakes races</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>March</u></b></p> <p><b>St Patrick's Day :</b> (Ireland, USA) - Celebrate St Patrick, a priest who introduced Christianity in Ireland - Wear green</p> <p><b>Mother's Day :</b> (Britain) - Celebrate the mothers - In UK, Mothering Sunday is celebrated on the 4th Sunday of Lent (3 weeks before Easter), but in the USA, it is celebrated on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of May</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>April</u></b></p> <p><b>April Fool's Day :</b> (Australia, Britain, Canada, New Zealand, USA) - Have fun - Play tricks and practical jokes before 12 a. m.</p> <p><b>Easter :</b> (Australia, Britain, Canada, New Zealand, USA) - Celebrate the resurrection of Christ - Go to church, eat chocolate eggs, organize an egg hunt</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>May</u></b></p> <p><b>May Day :</b> (Britain) - Celebrate the beginning of summer - Dance around Maypoles weaving coloured ribbons hanging from the top of the tree, elect the May Queen</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>June</u></b></p> <p><b>Trooping the colour :</b> (Britain) - Celebrate the queen's (official) birthday - Watch a parade with the whole royal family in London</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>July</u></b></p> <p><b>Independence Day :</b> (USA) - Celebrate the Independence of the 13 colonies (1776) - Watch a parade and fireworks displays, go on a picnic, organize a barbecue</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>August</u></b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>September</u></b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>October</u></b></p> <p><b>Halloween :</b> (Australia, Britain, Canada, New Zealand, USA) - Have fun before All Saints' Day - Wear a scary costume. Say "trick or treat" and eat lots of sweets. Play "Bobbing for apples".</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>November</u></b></p> <p><b>Guy Fawkes' Night:</b> Britain - Celebrate November 5<sup>th</sup> when Guy Fawkes, a catholic, wanted to kill the protestant king - Make a bonfire, burn a dummy of Guy, buy fireworks, eat sausages and potatoes</p> <p><b>Thanksgiving :</b> (USA) - Celebrate 1621: the pilgrims have a party to thank God for their first crop - Eat a special meal: turkey and pumpkin pie</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>December</u></b></p> <p><b>Boxing Day :</b> (Australia, Britain, Canada, New Zealand) - Began in England, in the middle of the nineteenth century, under Queen Victoria, it was a way for the upper class to give gifts of cash, or other goods, to those of the lower classes. - Spent with family and friends with lots of food, sharing of friendship and love and exchanging gifts</p>