

# Cultural Celebrations

## Calendar

# 2021-2022

	<b>Dashain</b>	October 12 – October 17	Celebrated in India, Nepal, Bhutan	A 15-day Hindu celebration honoring a great conquest of the gods over evil demons. The first 9 days represent the constant battle between vice and virtue. This festival also celebrates a reunion with those who live far from home. People wear Tikas (emblems) on their forehead.
	<b>Mid-Autumn Festival</b>	October 21	Celebrated in China and Vietnam	Thanksgiving festival that celebrates the end of the autumn harvest on the traditional Chinese calendar. It is celebrated with street parades, lanterns, gifts, and feasts.
	<b>Day of the Dead</b>	November 1 – November 2	Celebrated in Mexico	A holiday celebrated by the creation of altars, prayers, and remembrance of friends and family members who have died. Traditional dishes are prepared for family and community feasts.
	<b>Dipawali</b>	November 4 - 6	Celebrated in India, Nepal, Bhutan	A Hindu festival of lights, usually lasting five days, Diwali symbolizes the spiritual victory of light over darkness, good over evil, and knowledge over ignorance.
	<b>Our Lady of Guadalupe</b>	December 12	Celebrated in Mexico	The most significant feast day for Mexican people, this celebration commemorates the appearance of Mary to a man named Juan Diego. Our Lady of Guadalupe is an essential part of Mexican identity.
	<b>Chinese New Year</b>	February 1	Celebrated in China and Vietnam	A festival that celebrates the beginning of a new year on the traditional Chinese calendar. It is celebrated with dragon dancing, lucky money, games, and feasts.
	<b>Semana Santa/ Holy Week</b>	April 10- April 16	Celebrated in all Latin America	The most important religious celebration in Latin America, celebrates the last days of Christ's life. The celebration starts on Palm Sunday and ends on Easter Sunday. During this week schools and many businesses are closed.
	<b>Ramadan</b>	April – May	Celebrated everywhere Muslims live	Ramadan is the ninth month of the Islamic calendar. It begins with the sighting of the new moon. For Muslims, it is a "month of blessing" marked by prayer, fasting and charity. Ramadan ends with Eid Al-Fitr celebration.
	<b>Eid Al-Fitr</b>	May 1 or May 2	Celebrated everywhere Muslims live	A festival of Breaking the Fast. It begins with morning prayers and meals throughout the day. People wear their finest clothes, adorn their homes with lights and decorations, give treats and money to children and visit family and friends. The greeting is: "Eid Mubarak."
	<b>Eid-Al-Adha</b>	July 10 or July 11	Celebrated everywhere Muslims live	A holiday celebrated by sacrificing a lamb or other animal and sharing its meat with family, friends and the poor. Giving to the poor is one of the five pillars of Islam and is a way to invoke Zakat (charity). This is also the time of Hajj (a pilgrimage to Mecca, Saudi Arabia).