



# APRIL

## **I ALL FOOLS' DAY**

Tricks and practical jokes until noon.

## **4 LADY DAY, FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION**

Here we are nine months to Christmas and the Nativity. The usual date for Lady Day is March 25, but this year that happened to be Good Friday; in such years the feast is transferred to the Monday following the Second Sunday of Easter. In Sweden the day is known as *Våffeldagen*: Waffle Day. Yes, you should eat waffles today!

## **22 PASSOVER (PESACH) BEGINS AT SUNDOWN**

Why is this night different from all other nights? Passover commemorates the freeing of the Israelites from their slavery in Egypt.

## **23 ST. GEORGE'S DAY**

Sacred to England. A red rose in your lapel marks the day.

## **24 ST. MARK'S EVE**

One of the traditional nights for divining the future, especially for romance: If you wish to see your future love, fast from sunset and during the night, bake a cake that contains an eggshellfull of salt, wheat meal, and barley meal. Open the door of your home and your future love will come in and turn the cake.

## **25 ST. MARK'S DAY**

Blessings upon the newly sown crops. Summer will soon be returning, along with the arrival of migratory birds to northern climes.

## **30 WALPURGIS NIGHT, MAY EVE**

May Eve is the festival of the dead in Spain and Portugal, and in Germany it is Walpurgisnacht. Elsewhere, bonfires and gravlax welcome May and summer, which traditionally begins with the May Day festivities in the morning.



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Image: April showers bring May flowers. Photo by Char Pratt: [charcoalphoto.com](http://charcoalphoto.com)

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