

JULY



1 CANADA DAY

It's the national day of Canada. Formerly known as Dominion Day.

3 DOG DAYS OF SUMMER **THROUGH AUGUST 15**

It's traditionally the hottest part of the year, ruled by Sirius, the Dog Star.

4 INDEPENDENCE DAY

It's the 240th birthday of the USA!

5 (ABOUT) EID UL-FITR **BEGINS AT SUNDOWN**

Feasting concludes Ramadan, the month of fasting.

7 TANABATA

Japanese festival on the seventh day of the seventh month, based on the stars Vega and Altair: Wishes are written on colorful paper and hung from the trees.

14 BASTILLE DAY

La Fête Nationale, le Quatorze Juillet... It's French National Day, commemorating the Storming of the Bastille in 1789.

15 ST. SWITHIN'S DAY

*St. Swithin's Day, if thou dost rain, For forty days it will remain;
St. Swithin's Day, if thou be fair, For forty days 'twill rain nae mair.*

16 OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

Sacred to Chile.

23 NEPTUNALIA & SALACIA

An ancient Roman holiday honoring Neptune, the sea god, and his wife Salacia, goddess of the salty sea. A good day to honor water and all it means to us.

25 ST. JAMES'S DAY

Sacred to Spain. Oysters for dinner.

26 ST. ANNE'S DAY

Feast day of Anne, mother of Mary.

29 ST. MARTHA'S DAY

Martha teaches us to engage life fully; to not worry so much about appearances.

31 LAMMAS EVE

The wheel of the year is in continuous motion and now we approach autumn. Lammas brings the first of the harvest festivals and the understanding that summer is waning. The wheat harvest is beginning; it is traditional to bake loaves of bread for Lammas using the new grain. Shakespeare's Juliet was born on Lammas Eve.



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Image: The Japanese festival of Tanabata on the 7th of July. Our wishes were written on strips of paper made by hand years ago with Richard Flavin at Paper & Book Intensive at Penland, North Carolina. Read more about Tanabata and all these days at the Convivio Book of Days blog.

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