



# THE BOOKSELLING YEAR 2026

## RELIGIOUS CELEBRATIONS

### January

3 Mahayana New Year (Buddhist)  
 6 Theophany (Orthodox Christian)  
 6 Epiphany (Christian)  
 7 Christmas (Eastern Orthodox Christianity)  
 16 Lailat-al-Miraj (Islam)  
 20 Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh Jayanti (Sikh)  
 23 Vasant Panchami (Hindu)

### February

15 Maha Shivratri (Hindu)  
 15 Nirvana Day (Buddhist)  
 18 Ramadan begins (Islam)

18-2 April Lent (Christian)  
 18 Ash Wednesday (Christian)

### March

3 Magha Puja (Buddhist)  
 3 Purim (Jewish)  
 4 Holi (Hindu)  
 4-6 Hola Mohalla (Sikh)  
 20 Eid al-Fitr (Islam)  
 29 Palm Sunday (Christian)

### April

2-9 Pesach (Passover) (Jewish)  
 3 Good Friday (Christian)

5 Easter Sunday (Christian)  
 10 Great & Holy Friday (Orthodox Christian)  
 12 Pascha/Easter Day (Orthodox Christian)  
 13 Theravada New Year (Buddhist)  
 13-15 Songkran (Water Festival) (Buddhist)  
 14 Vaisakhi/Baisakhi (Spring Festival) (Sikh)

### May

1 Wesak (Buddhist)  
 14 Ascension Day (Christian)  
 22-23 Shavuot (Jewish)  
 24 Pentecost/Whitsun (Christian)  
 24-29 Hajj (Islam)  
 27 Eid al-Adha (Islam)

### June

16 Martyrdom of Guru Arjan Dev (Sikh)  
 26 Ashura (Islam [Shia])

### July

29 Guru Purnima (Hindu)

### August

13-15 Obon (Buddhist)  
 15 Dormition of the Mother of God (Orthodox Christian)  
 15 Assumption Day (Christian)  
 26 Mawlid al-Nabi (Islam)  
 28 Raksha Bandhan/Rakhi (Hindu)

### September

4 Krishna Janmashtami (Hindu)  
 12-13 Rosh Hashanah (Jewish)  
 21 Yom Kippur (Jewish)  
 26-2 October Sukkot (Tabernacles) (Jewish)

### October

3 Shemini Atzeret (Jewish)  
 3-4 Simchat Torah (Jewish)  
 20 Vijaya Dashami/Dussehra (Hindu)

### November

8 Diwali (Hindu)  
 8 Bandi Chhor Divas (Sikh)  
 24 Birthday of Guru Nanak Dev Ji (Sikh)  
 24 Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur (Sikh)

### December

4-12 Hanukkah (Jewish)  
 8 Bodhi Day (Buddhist)  
 25 Christmas Day (Christian)



We'd love to see your window displays marking the seasonal dates shown on the wallchart. Please scan the QR code to share your photos on The Booksellers Network Facebook Group.

	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	
M						1-30 Pride Month; Bank Holiday (Ireland)							M
T						2						1 Giving Tuesday	T
W				1 April Fool's Day		3	1 Bookselling Wales Conference - date to be announced					2	W
T	1 New Year's Day; Bank Holiday (UK and Ireland); National Year of Reading			2 2-9 Pesach (Passover) (Jewish); World Autism Awareness Day		4	2		3	1-31 Black History Month; National Poetry Day		3	T
F	2 Bank Holiday (Scotland)			3 Good Friday (Christian); Bank Holiday (UK)	1	5	3		4	2		4 4-12 Hanukkah	F
S	3			4	2 International Harry Potter Day	6	4	1-31 Women in Translation Month	5	3		5	S
S	4 World Braille Day	1 1-28 Bookshop.org's Read it Forward; LGBTQ+ History Month	1 St David's Day (Wales); 1-31 Women's History Month	5 Easter Sunday (Christian)	3	7	5	2	6	4	1-30 Movember	6	S
M	5	2 St Brigid's Day - Bank Holiday (Ireland)	2	6 Easter Monday; Bank Holiday (England, Northern Ireland, Wales and Ireland); Start of Tax Year	4 Early May Bank Holiday (UK); May Day - Bank Holiday (Ireland)	8	6	3 Summer Bank Holiday (Scotland and Ireland)	7	5	2	7	M
T	6	3	3	7	5	9	7	4	8 International Literacy Day	6	3	8	T
W	7	4 Westminster Book Awards; KPMG Children's Books Ireland Awards: shortlist announcement	4 Nero Book Awards: winner announced; Women's Prize For Fiction: longlist announcement; Holi (Festival of Colours, Love and Spring) (Hindu); 4-6 Hola Mohalla (Sikh)	8	6	10 Women's Prize: live festival & shortlist readings	8 Booksellers Network Summer Party (HarperCollins, London)	5	9	7 7-11 Frankfurt Book Fair	4	9	W
T	8	5	5 World Book Day	9	7	11 Women's Prize: non-fiction and fiction winners announced	9	6	10	8	5 Bonfire Night	10	T
F	9	6	6	10	8	12	10	7	11 11-20 The Jane Austen Festival (Bath)	9	6	11	F
S	10	7	7	11	9	13 13-20 Independent Bookshop Week	11	8	12 Bookshop Day; World Mental Health Day	10	7	12	S
S	11 11-13 Top Drawer Exhibition (Olympia, London)	8	8 International Women's Day	12	10	14	12	9	13 Roald Dahl Day	11	8 Remembrance Sunday; Diwali	13	S
M	12	9 9-10 Irish Book Trade Conference (Waterford)	9	13	11 The British Book Awards: winners announced	15	13 Bank Holiday (Northern Ireland)	10	14 14-20 National Inclusion Week	12	9	14	M
T	13 Nero Book Awards: category winners announced	10	10 10-12 London Book Fair (Olympia, London); The Booksellers Association AGM	14 Jhalak Prize: shortlist announcement	12 12-13 Scottish Book Trade Conference (Edinburgh)	16 Bloomsday	14	11	15	13	10	15	T
W	14	11 Women's Prize for Non-Fiction: longlist announced	11	15 World Art Day	13	17	15	12	16	14	11 Remembrance Day; Armistice Day	16	W
T	15	12	12	16	14	18	16	13	17	15	12 Hidden Books Game from National Book Tokens	17	T
F	16	13	13	17	15	19	17	14	18	16	13 13-19 Transgender Awareness Week	18	F
S	17	14 Valentine's Day; International Book Giving Day	14	18	16	20	18	15 15-30 Edinburgh International Book Festival	19	17 17-24 Irish Book Week	14 National Book Tokens 94th Anniversary	19	S
S	18	15	15 Mother's Day	19 19-20 RISE Bookselling Conference 2026 (Verona, Italy)	17	21 Father's Day; Summer Solstice	19 2026 FIFA World Cup final	16	20 20-21 BA Conference and Gardeners Trade Show (Hinckley, Leicestershire)	18	15	20	S
M	19 T.S. Eliot Prize: winner announced	16	16 16-20 Neurodiversity Celebration Week	20	18 KPMG Children's Books Ireland Awards: winners announcement	22 Windrush Day	20	17	21 Yom Kippur (Jewish)	19	16	21 Winter Solstice	M
T	20	17 Chinese New Year	17 St Patrick's Day; Bank Holiday (Ireland and Northern Ireland); Jhalak Prize: longlist announced (10th anniversary)	21	19 International Booker Prize: winner announced	23	21	18	22 Hobbit Day	20	17	22	T
W	21	18 Ash Wednesday; Ramadan begins (Islam)	18	22 Women's Prize For Fiction: shortlist announcement	20	24 National Writing Day	22	19	23	21	18	23	W
T	22	19	19	23 Shakespeare Day; St George's Day	21 21-31 Hay Festival (Hay-on-Wye, Wales)	25 Last day for Batch Authorisations	23	20	24	22	19 International Men's Day	24	T
F	23	20	20 Eid al-Fitr (Islam)	24	22 22-23 Shavuot (Jewish); Sherlock Holmes Day	26	24	21	25 Macmillan Coffee Morning; 25-4 Oct. Wigtown Book Festival (Scotland)	23	20	25 Christmas Day; Bank Holiday (UK and Ireland)	F
S	24	21	21 World Poetry Day	25	23	27	25	22	26	24	21	26 Boxing Day; Bank Holiday (UK); St Stephen's Day (Ireland)	S
S	25 Burns Night (Scotland)	22	22	26	24	28	26	23	27 Last day for Batch Authorisations	25	22	27	S
M	26	23	23	27 Last day for Batch Authorisations	25 Spring Bank Holiday (UK)	29	27	24	28	26 Bank Holiday (Ireland)	23	28 Bank Holiday (Ireland); Last day for Batch Authorisations	M
T	27 International Holocaust Remembrance Day; Last day for Batch Authorisations	24 International Booker Prize: longlist announced; Last day for Batch Authorisations	24	28	26 Last day for Batch Authorisations	30	28 Booker Prize: longlist announced; Last day for Batch Authorisations	25 Last day for Batch Authorisations	29	27 Last day for Batch Authorisations	24	29	T
W	28	25 Harper North Social	25 Women's Prize for Non-Fiction: shortlist announced	29	27 Eid al-Adha (Islam)		29	26	30	28	25 Last day for Batch Authorisations	30	W
T	29	26	26 Last day for Batch Authorisations	30	28		30	27		29	26	31 New Year's Eve	T
F	30	27	27 World Theatre Day		29		31	28		30	27 Holly & Co's Colour Friday; National Illustration Day; Black Friday		F
S	31 Self Assessment Tax Deadline	28	28 Earth Hour (8.30-9.30pm)		30 National Creativity Day			29		31 Halloween	28		S
S			29		31			30			29		S
M			30					31 Summer Bank Holiday (England, Northern Ireland and Wales)			30 St Andrew's Day; Bank Holiday (Scotland)		M
T			31 International Booker Prize: shortlist announced; Transgender Day of Visibility										T