

Bank holidays and British Summer Time



Bank holidays are public holidays in the United Kingdom, when banks and many other businesses are closed for the day. Find out about the bank holiday dates in the different parts of the UK, and when the clocks go forward and back for British Summer Time.

Bank holidays

The expected dates of bank and public holidays in England, Wales and Scotland are listed in the table below.

Special bank holidays

There are laws that allow the dates of bank holidays to be changed, or other holidays to be declared, for example to celebrate special occasions.

It has been announced that there will be a special bank holiday in 2011 to celebrate the royal wedding and in 2012 to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

The 2012 late May bank holiday will be moved to Monday 4 June 2012 and an additional Jubilee bank holiday will be on Tuesday 5 June 2012.

- [The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Opens new window](#)

England and Wales

There are currently eight permanent bank holidays in England and Wales and an additional one in 2011 and 2012:

England and Wales	2010	2011	2012
New Year's Day	1 January	3 January*	2 January*
Good Friday	2 April	22 April	6 April
Easter Monday	5 April	25 April	9 April
Royal wedding	-	29 April	-
Early May Bank Holiday	3 May	2 May	7 May
Spring Bank Holiday	31 May	30 May	4 June*
Queen's Diamond Jubilee	-	-	5 June

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Summer Bank Holiday	30 August	29 August	27 August
Christmas Day	27 December*	26 December*	25 December
Boxing Day	28 December*	27 December*	26 December
* substitute day			

When the usual date of a bank or public holiday falls on a Saturday or Sunday, a 'substitute day' is given, normally the following Monday. For example in 2009, Boxing Day was on Saturday, 26 December, so there was a substitute bank holiday on Monday, 28 December.

Time off for employees

Employees don't have an automatic right to paid leave on bank and public holidays, though many people receive the day off work. Any right to time off or extra pay for working on a bank holiday depends on the terms of your contract of employment.

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