

Dipika's Detailed 2026 Hindu Calendar

Pranaams, Namaste, Vanakkum, Jai Mata Di, Jai Shree Krsna, Jai Shree Raam

We at www.dipika.org.za pray that you are well...

Many thanks for remaining an awesome Hindu...



The **2026** prayers and festival dates provided below has been approved by:

Andhra Maha Sabha of South Africa
Gurumar Sangam of South Africa
Muruga Bhakthi Foundation of South Africa
Shree Sanathan Dharma Sabha of South Africa
South African Hindu Maha Sabha
World Hindu Pundith Organisation
www.dipika.org.za

Many have asked us to compile an article on the Hindu calendar for example what are the Festivals dates and Rahu kalam.

{A point of note is when you see a * before a prayer date it means this is not in the general Hindu calendar that Hindus have in their homes. I have added these dates because these are equally important prayer dates }

DO NOTE: All times indicated below, associated with the start or end of a religious day are in 24-hour format.

Firstly the Festival dates are the dates that a Hindu observes. This is quite self explanatory. For example for Shree Ganesh Chaturthi, we have a full explanation of this very important festival date on our website. Many ask what is this festival all about and how does one go about celebrating it. Hence this website is meant to make people from all cultures more aware of these important Hindu festival dates. We have included a few more festival dates below that are not generally on the typical Hindu calendar. For more info on the festival dates for **2026** kindly visit our website www.dipika.org.za.



Do note: our website www.dipika.org.za has articles about every festival or prayer days provided below.

JANUARY

Pausha Hindu month	= 5th December 2025 to 3rd January 2026
* Shakambhari Devi Jayanti	= 3rd January (Devi who provides us with nourishments)
Pausha Purnima (Full moon)	= 3rd January
Magha Hindu month	= 4th January to 1st February
Makar Sankranti	= 14th January
Thai Pongal	= 15th January
Magha Amavasya (New moon)	= 18th January
Magha Navaratri (1 st Navaratri of 2026)	= 19th - 27th January
Vasant Panchami (Saraswati Puja)	= 23rd January
Thai Pooam Kavady Flag Raising	= 23rd January
* Varahadeva Jayanti	= 30th January (The app. day of Lord Varahadev)
* Nityananda Jayanti	= 31st January (The app. day of Lord Nityananda)

FEBRUARY

Thai Pooam Kavady	= 1st February
Magha Purnima (Full moon)	= 1st February
Phalgun Hindu month	= 2nd February to 3rd March
* Vishnupati (Sun Enters Aquarius)	= 13th February - The Day of Lord Vishnu worship
* Shani Pradosham (Trayodashi Saturday)	= 14th February
Maha Shivaratri	= 15th February
Phalgun Amavasya (New moon)	= 17th February
Partial Solar Eclipse (Visible in S.A)	= 17th February
* Shani Pradosham (Trayodashi Saturday)	= 28th February

MARCH

Holika Dahan	= 2nd March
Total Lunar Eclipse (NOT visible in S.A)	= 3rd March
* Gaura Purnima	= 3rd March (The app day of Caitanya Mahaprabhu)
Phalgun Purnima (Full moon)	= 3rd March
Chaitra Hindu month	= 4th March to 1st April
* Soma Pradosham (Trayodashi Monday)	= 16th March
Chaitra Amavasya (New moon)	= 18th March
Hindi New Year (Ugadi, Gudi Padwa)	= 19th March
Telugu New Year	= 19th March
Vasant/Chaitra Navaratri (2 nd Navaratri of 2026)	= 19th - 27th March
Ramayana Week	= 19th - 27th March
* Equinox (a day to perform charity)	= 20th March
Raam-Navami (Ramnaumi)	= 26th March
* Soma Pradosham (Trayodashi Monday)	= 30th March

APRIL

Panguni (Phalguni) Uthiram	= 1st April
Chaitra Purnima (Full moon)	= 1st April
Hanuman Jayanti	= 1st April
Vaishakha Hindu month	= 2nd April to 1st May
Tamil New Year	= 14th April
* Akshaya Tritiya	= 19th April
Vaishakha Amavasya (New moon)	= 17th April
Chitra Paruvam (Kavady) Flag Hoisting	= 22nd April
* Sita Navami Jayanti	= 25th April (The app day of Srimati Sita-devi)

MAY

Chitra Paruvam Kavady (main day)	= 1st May
Vaishakha Purnima (Full moon)	= 1st May
* Nrsimhadeva Appearance day	= 30 th April (Smartha), 1st May (Vaishnava) {The appearance day of Lord Nrsimhadeva}
Jyeshtha Hindu month (Dark phase)	= 2nd May to 16th May
* Kathiri period (Kathiri Veyyil - Agni Nakshatram)	= 4 th - 28th May
* Vishnupati (Sun Enters Taurus)	= 13th May - The Day of Lord Vishnu worship
* Shani Jayanti	= 16th May (The appearance day of Shani-deva)
* Shani (Saturn) Amavasya (New moon)	= 16th May
Jyeshtha Amavasya (New moon)	= 16th May
Adhika-Jyeshtha Maas month starts	= 17th May to 14th June
* Ganga Puja/Dussehra	= 25th May (The app day of River Ganga)
Hanuman-Suvarchala wedding anniversary	= 25th May
Vaikasi Visakam (Muruga Jayanti)	= 29th May (The appearance day of Muruga)
Jyeshtha Adhika Purnima (Full moon)	= 31st May

JUNE

Jyeshtha Adhika Amavasya	= 14th June
Jyeshtha Hindu month (Bright phase)	= 15th June to 29th June
* Ambubachi Mela	= 22nd - 25th June (When Devi menstruates in Guwahati, India for the rejuvenation of Planet Earth)
Pandava Nirjala Ekadashi	= 25th June
* Shani Pradosham (Trayodashi Saturday)	= 27th June
* Purnima (Full Moon) Monday	= 29th June
Jyeshtha Purnima (Full moon)	= 29th June
Ashadha Hindu month	= 30th June to 29th July

JULY

Ashadha Amavasya (New moon)	= 14th July
Ashadha Navaratri (3 rd Navaratri of 2026)	= 15th to 22nd July
* Aadi Madham (Tamil mth of Amma puja)	= 17th July to 16th August
Guru Purnima	= 29th July
Ashadha Purnima (Full moon)	= 29th July
Shravan Hindu month	= 30th July to 27th August

AUGUST

* Soma Pradosham (Trayodashi Monday)	= 10th August
Shravana Amavasya (New moon)	= 12th August
Total Solar Eclipse (NOT visible in S.A)	= 12th August
* Vishnupati (Sun enters Leo)	= 17th August - The Day of Lord Vishnu worship
Naag Panchami	= 17th August
Shitla Satam (Goddess of diseases)	= 19th August
Vara Lakshmi Vratam	= 21st August
Shravan Purnima (Full moon)	= 27th August
Raksha Bandhan	= 27th August
* Balarama Appearance Day	= 27th August (The app day of Lord Balarama)
Gita Week starts	= 28th August ends 2nd (Smartha), 3rd (Vaishnava) September
Bhadrapada Hindu month	= 28th August to 26th September
Partial Lunar Eclipse (Visible in S. A)	= 28th August

SEPTEMBER

Krishna Ashtami	= 3rd (Smartha), 4th (Vaishnava) September
Bhadrapada Amavasya (New moon)	= 10th September
Ganesh Chaturthi	= 14th September
Purattasi starts	= 17th September to 16th October
* Radhastami	= 19th Sept (The appearance day of Radharani)
* Equinox (a day to perform charity)	= 23rd September
* Lord Vamana Jayanti	= 23rd September (The app day of Vamanadev)
* Ganesh Visarjan (immersion)	= 25th September
Bhadrapada Purnima (Full moon)	= 26th September
Pitar Paksha	= 27th September to 10th October
Pitar Paksha offically commences	= 26th September @ 18h48
Offer 1 st water oblations (Tarpana) after sunrise on 27th September.	
Pitar Paksha offically ends	= 10th October @ 17h48.
Last Tarpan water oblations to be offered bet sunrise & sunset on the 10th October.	
Mahalaya Paksham	= 27th September to 10th October
Ashwina Hindu month	= 27th September to 26th October

OCTOBER

Ashwina Amavasya (New moon)	= 10th October
Maha Navaratri (4 th Navaratri of 2026)	= 11th to 19th October
Shree Saraswati Pooja (North)	= 17th October
Shree Durga Astami	= 18th October
Shree Saraswati Pooja (South)	= 19th October
Shree Durga Navami	= 19th October
Vijay Dashami	= 20th October
Durga Visarjan (immersion of Devi)	= 21st October
Ashwina Purnima (Full moon)	= 26th October
* Purnima (Full Moon) Monday	= 26th October
* Sharad Purnima (Kojagara puja)	= 25th October
Kartika (Damodara) Hindu month starts	= 27th October and ends 24th November
* Karwa Chauth (Vrat a wife observes for her husband's long life).	= 29th October

NOVEMBER

Dhan Trayodashi	= 6th November
Naraka Chaturdasi (Yama deepa daan)	= 7th November
Deepavali/Lakshmi Puja	= 8th November
Kartika Amavasya (New moon)	= 9th November
Govardhan Pooja	= 9th (Smartha), 10th (Vaishnava) November
Gujarati New Year	= 10th November
Skanda Sashti	= 15th November
* Vishnupati (Sun Enter Scorpio)	= 16th November - The Day of Vishnu worship
Prabhodhini Ekadashi	= 20th (Smartha), 21th (Vaishnava) November
* Tulsi Vivah (The marriage of Tulsi devi & Shaligram Shila)	= 21st November
* Bhishma Panchaka (Last 5 lunar days of Kartik)	= 21st - 24th November
Karthigai Deepam	= 23rd November
Kartika Purnima (Full moon)	= 24th November
Margashirsha Hindu month	= 25th November to 23rd December
* Katyayani Vrata (for a good partner)	= 25th November and ends 24th December

DECEMBER

Margashirsha Amavasya (New moon)	= 8th December
Gita Jayanti	= 20th December
Mokshada Ekadashi	= 20th December
* Soma Pradosham (Trayodashi Monday)	= 21st December
Margashirsha Purnima (Full moon)	= 23rd December
* Dattatreya Jayanti	= 23rd December
Pausha Hindu month	= 24th December to 22nd January 2027

Rahu Kalam. Timing in the Hindu or any advance culture is of the utmost importance. Whether it's in the telling of a joke or striking a business deal, there's nothing more important than timing. What you do is important but when you do it is just as important. We all know the importance of timing in the material world. Even little kids understand the importance of timing. When they want their next cool toy, they catch their dads in a good mood and butter them up! Thus we have known the importance of timing right from our childhood. Our sages say that what we need to learn now is that timing is just as important in the world of spirituality. Just as timing is important in the material world, it's important in the world of spirituality too. The efficacy of one's spiritual practices can be increased greatly by timing it according to Vedic injunctions.

According to Vedic astrology, Rahu Kalam is that 1.1/2 hrs of a day, that are inauspicious periods and one should not undertake any auspicious work during these periods - especially any new undertaking, prayers, weddings and so forth. I will be releasing a day by day Rahu kalam in detail shortly.

Sunday 12h00 - 13h30
Monday 07h30 - 09h00
Tuesdays 13h30 - 15h00
Wednesday 09H00 - 10H30
Thursday 15H00 - 16H30
Friday 10H30 - 12H00
Saturday 06h00 - 07h30 and 16h30 - 18h00

DISCLAIMER: Do note that Dipika is not affiliated to any Hindu group or organization. We at Dipika choose to remain an independent repository of spiritual advice. We appreciate that there are variances between organisations and humbly request that if our views differ from yours that you respect our decision not to conform to the prescripts of your particular organisation. We remain committed to spiritual advice which is based on scripture.

Thank you so much for taking the time to read this article. We pray that this article will assist you in some way and we also pray that it helps you to appreciate the beauty and remarkable foresight of our ancient Hindu culture. We wish to educate all readers and demystify the path of Hinduism (Sanatan Dharma). Please feel free to share these articles with friends and family who do not have direct access to our website or articles. If you use the articles in any form including blogs and/or as part of other articles kindly credit our website as a source. We hope that the articles serve as a reference to you and your family when you need clarification of certain topics. Jai Shree Radha Krsna.



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free information about our beautiful culture
www.dipika.org.za

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