



Festival days in the Buddhist Calendar

The memory of the Buddha's life is kept alive through a series of annual festival days. The more important national festivals in Mahayana (M), Theravada (Th) and Tibetan (T) Buddhism are listed below. It should be noted that the traditional Buddhist calendar is a lunar calendar.

February	15	Nehan-e	(M)	Buddha's passing away
March	Full Moon	Cho Trul Duchen	(T)	Display of miracles
March	21	Higan-e	(M)	Reminder of impermanence
April	8	Hanamatsuri	(M)	Buddha's birth
May	Full Moon	Vesak, Buddha Day	(Th)	Buddha's birth, Enlightenment and passing away
June	Full Moon	Saga Dawa	(T)	Buddha's birth, Enlightenment and passing away
July	Full Moon	Dhammacakka Day	(Th)	First teaching
July	Full Moon	Chor Khor Duchen	(T)	First teaching
September	21	Higan-e	(M)	Reminder of impermanence
October/November	Full Moon	Kathina	(Th)	Offerings made to the Sangha
November	Full Moon	Lha Bab Duchen	(T)	The Buddha returns to Earth after teaching the Abhidharma in the Realm of gods to his mother
December	8	Jodo-e	(M)	Buddha's Enlightenment



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