

# Your Year-Round Guide to Celebrating Holidays and Special Occasions

- **New Year's Day:** Start the year off right with a festive celebration. Pop some champagne, watch the fireworks, and make some resolutions.
- **Epiphany:** This Christian holiday commemorates the arrival of the three wise men. It's a day of feasting and gift-giving.
- **Martin Luther King Jr. Day:** This federal holiday honors the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. It's a day of service and reflection.
- **Valentine's Day:** Show your loved ones how much you care with chocolates, flowers, and cards.
- **President's Day:** This federal holiday honors the birthdays of George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. It's a day for parades, picnics, and speeches.
- **Mardi Gras:** This pre-Lenten celebration is known for its parades, costumes, and parties.
- **Ash Wednesday:** This Christian holiday marks the beginning of Lent. It's a day of fasting and repentance.
- **St. Patrick's Day:** This Irish holiday is celebrated with green beer, parades, and shamrocks.
- **Purim:** This Jewish holiday commemorates the deliverance of the Jewish people from Haman. It's a day of feasting and celebration.

- **Easter:** This Christian holiday celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ. It's a day of joy and renewal.
- **Passover:** This Jewish holiday commemorates the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt. It's a time of feasting and remembrance.
- **Earth Day:** This global holiday is a day to celebrate the environment and promote sustainability.
- **Cinco de Mayo:** This Mexican holiday commemorates the victory of the Mexican army over the French at the Battle of Puebla. It's a day of feasting, music, and dancing.
- **Mother's Day:** This holiday honors mothers and their contributions to our lives. It's a day of gifts, flowers, and brunch.
- **Memorial Day:** This federal holiday honors the men and women who have died while serving in the U.S. military. It's a day of remembrance and gratitude.
- **Father's Day:** This holiday honors fathers and their contributions to our lives. It's a day of gifts, grilling, and golf.
- **Juneteenth:** This federal holiday commemorates the emancipation of enslaved African Americans in the United States. It's a day of celebration and remembrance.
- **Summer Solstice:** This astronomical event marks the longest day of the year. It's a time of celebration and bonfires.
- **Independence Day:** This federal holiday celebrates the adoption of the Declaration of Independence. It's a day of fireworks, parades, and

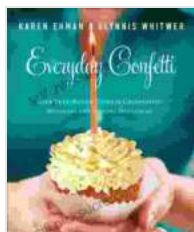
barbecues.

- **Bastille Day:** This French holiday commemorates the storming of the Bastille prison in 1789. It's a day of parades, fireworks, and dancing.
- **Eid al-Fitr:** This Muslim holiday marks the end of Ramadan. It's a day of feasting and celebration.
- **Rosh Hashanah:** This Jewish holiday marks the beginning of the Jewish New Year. It's a time of reflection and repentance.
- **Labor Day:** This federal holiday honors the contributions of the American labor movement. It's a day of parades, picnics, and barbecues.
- **Summer's End:** This astronomical event marks the end of summer and the beginning of fall. It's a time of harvest festivals and hayrides.
- **Yom Kippur:** This Jewish holiday is the holiest day of the Jewish year. It's a day of fasting and atonement.
- **Autumnal Equinox:** This astronomical event marks the first day of fall. It's a time of changing leaves and cooler temperatures.
- **Sukkot:** This Jewish holiday commemorates the Israelites' wandering in the desert after their exodus from Egypt. It's a time of feasting and celebration.
- **Halloween:** This holiday is celebrated with costumes, candy, and trick-or-treating.
- **Dia de los Muertos:** This Mexican holiday honors the dead. It's a time of feasting, music, and dancing.

- **Reformation Day:** This Christian holiday commemorates the Protestant Reformation. It's a day of worship and reflection.
- **Veterans Day:** This federal holiday honors the men and women who have served in the U.S. military. It's a day of remembrance and gratitude.
- **Thanksgiving:** This federal holiday is a time to give thanks for the blessings in our lives. It's a day of feasting, family, and football.
- **Black Friday:** This shopping holiday is the day after Thanksgiving. It's a day of big sales and long lines.
- **Hanukkah:** This Jewish holiday commemorates the victory of the Maccabees over the Seleucids. It's a time of feasting, gift-giving, and menorah lighting.
- **Christmas:** This Christian holiday celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ. It's a time of joy, family, and gift-giving.
- **Kwanzaa:** This African American holiday celebrates the seven principles of Nguzo Saba. It's a time of feasting, gift-giving, and reflection.
- **Plan ahead.** The earlier you start planning for the holidays, the more money you'll save. Make a list of the holidays you want to celebrate and start saving early.
- **Set a budget.** Once you know how much money you have to spend, set a budget for each holiday. This will help you stay on track and avoid overspending.

- **Shop around.** Don't just buy the first thing you see. Take the time to compare prices and find the best deals.
- **Get creative.** There are many ways to celebrate the holidays without spending a lot of money. Get creative and come up with your own ideas.
- **Ask for help.** If you're struggling to stay within your budget, don't be afraid to ask for help from your friends or family. They may be able to offer you some suggestions or help you find some deals.

The holidays are a special time of year, but they can also be stressful. By following the tips in this guide, you can make the most of the holidays without breaking the bank or losing your sanity.



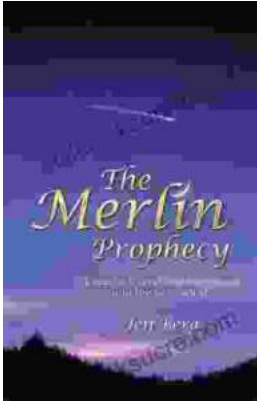
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by Karen Ehman

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

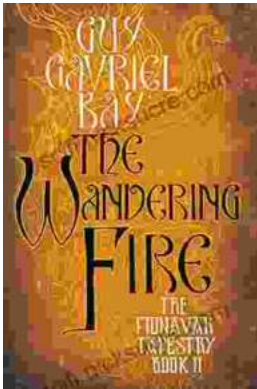
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