

Ten's Perspective

2025



MAGNIFICENT MAY

Magnificent May

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A B O U T T H I S M A G A Z I N E

As we step into Magnificent May, we're embracing a month bursting with celebration, reflection, and indulgence. From Cinco de Mayo to National Star Wars Day, and **Mother's Day, this month offers something for everyone. Whether you're a fan of epic sagas, cultural festivities, or simply honoring the special women in your life, May is the perfect time to gather, reflect, and enjoy. And let's not forget the emerald, May's dazzling birthstone, symbolizing rebirth and love—fitting for a month that blooms with life.

Foodies, rejoice! May is packed with delicious observances, from National Strawberry Month to World Baking Day, National Pizza Party Day, and Tres Leche Cake. Whether firing up the grill for National Barbeque Day or blending up a grape popsicle, there's no shortage of ways to savor the season. And for those who love a good drink, National Beverage Day ensures we raise a glass to the simple joys. With so many tasty reasons to celebrate, your May menu just got a whole lot more exciting.

This month also invites us to pause and honor those who serve and sacrifice. Memorial Day reminds us to reflect on the bravery of fallen heroes, while National Armed Forces Day (May 18) celebrates our active-duty military. Meanwhile, National Foster Care Month sheds light on the importance of supporting vulnerable children and families. These observances ground us in gratitude and compassion, balancing the month's lighter festivities with meaningful moments of recognition.

Finally, let's take a journey through the stunning landscapes of Montana, Washington, Idaho, Wyoming, and Utah—perfect destinations for spring adventures. Whether hiking through wildflower-filled valleys or enjoying a round of miniature golf (May 11!), May's longer days and warmer weather beckon us outdoors. So, as International Day of Light (May 16) illuminates the world, let's embrace this radiant month in all its glory. Happy May, everyone—let's make it magnificent!

A handwritten signature in a cursive script, reading "Jennifer". The signature is written in a dark brown or black ink. The letter "J" is large and loops around, and the "V" at the end has a long, sweeping tail that extends to the right.

Cinco De Mayo is deeply rooted history in the Franco-Mexican War influenced Mexican-American communities in the early years of the American Civil War. In the early 1860s, as the Civil War erupted, these communities took up the banner of the Cinco De Mayo celebration as a way to commemorate the cause of freedom and democracy. Today, in the United States, Americans celebrate Mexican-American heritage and pride annually on May 5th.

My husband's birthday happens to be this day too. So we combine the Cinco De Mayo theme as we celebrate his birthday. Jen's Loaded Nachos, Jen's Tres Leche cake, Family Taco Night, and maybe some Mojito Sherbert Punch, give this party a fiesta feel. This year we're making Margarita's as well. So check out these recipes for your party.

On June 7, 2005, the United States Congress issued a Concurrent Resolution. The resolution invited the President of the United States to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe Cinco de Mayo with appropriate ceremonies and activities.



According to José Alamillo, professor of ethnic studies at Washington State University in Pullman, a 2006 study found more than 150 official events celebrating the day.

Celebrations surrounding the observance in the United States take on a significance beyond that in Mexico. They include displaying of banners and events highlighting Mexican culture, music, and regional dancing. School districts also hold special events to educate students about its historical significance. In the U.S., commercial interests the day by celebrating Mexican products and services with an emphasis on beverages, food, and music.

Celebrate Mexican heritage, culture, and history. Explore foods like Quesadillas with avocado, Margarita Sangrias, and traditions, music, and cinema. La Fiesta at your house.

Immerse yourself in the language and discover new connections. Uncover long lost history and share your treasures. Share your Mexican heritage and use #CincodeMayo to post on social media.



PARADES, OPEN HOUSES, RECEPTIONS AND AIR SHOWS WERE HELD TO CELEBRATE THE FIRST ARMED FORCES DAY HELD ON MAY 20, 1950.

- 1962 – PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY ESTABLISHED ARMED FORCES DAY AS AN OFFICIAL HOLIDAY.
- THE UNITED STATES LONGEST RUNNING CITY-SPONSORED ARMED FORCES DAY PARADE IS HELD IN BREMERTON, WASHINGTON.
- 2012 – BREMERTON CELEBRATED THE 64TH YEAR OF THE ARMED FORCES DAY PARADE.

Use #ArmedForcesDay to post on social media.

ON MAY 21 ARMED FORCES DAY IS A DAY TO PAY TRIBUTE TO THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO SERVE THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES. THE DAY IS CELEBRATED ON THE THIRD SATURDAY IN MAY AND IS PART OF ARMED FORCES WEEK.

HISTORY

IT WAS WITH THE IDEA FOR CITIZENS TO COME TOGETHER AND THANK OUR MILITARY MEMBERS FOR THEIR PATRIOTIC SERVICE IN SUPPORT OF OUR COUNTRY THAT PRESIDENT HARRY S. TRUMAN LED THE EFFORT TO ESTABLISH THIS SINGLE HOLIDAY. THE ONE-DAY CELEBRATION THEN STEMMED FROM THE UNIFICATION OF THE ARMED FORCES UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE. IT WAS ON AUGUST 31, 1949, THAT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE LOUIS JOHNSON ANNOUNCED THE CREATION OF AN ARMED FORCES DAY TO REPLACE SEPARATE ARMY, NAVY, MARINE CORPS, U.S. COAST GUARD AND AIR FORCE DAYS.

Explore More...

[Memorial Day](#)

[Army Birthday](#)

[Navy Birthday](#)

[Air Force Birthday](#)

[Marine Corps Birthday](#)

[National Guard Birthday](#)

[Independence Day](#)

[4th of July](#)

[Patriot Day](#)

[Veterans Day](#)

[National PTSD Awareness Day](#)

[Military Appreciation Month](#)

[National Anthem Day](#)

[Military Family Month](#)

MEMORIAL DAY

Memorial Day, a United States Federal holiday, is observed each year on the last Monday in May. We honor and remember all the men and woman who have died while serving in the United States Armed Forces.

Memorial Day is also a day to remember all loved ones that have passed away.

Traditionally on Memorial Day, the flag of the United States of America is raised briskly to the top of the staff then solemnly lowered to the half-staff position where it remains until noon. At noon, it is then raised to full-staff for the remainder of the day.

When the flag is at half-staff, the position is in remembrance of the more than one million men and women who gave their lives for their country. Raising the flag at noon signifies the nation lives, that the country is resolved not to let their sacrifice be in vain but to rise up in their honor and continue to fight for liberty and justice for all.

HISTORY

Honoring the men and women who have died while serving in the military, Memorial Day has been kept in various forms in the United States since the end of the Civil War. General John Logan called for a nationwide day of remembrance on May 5, 1868. On May 30 Decoration Day was first observed.

General James Garfield spoke at Arlington National Cemetery. Generals Grant, Howard, Logan, Pane, Wool, and Hancock attended the ceremony, and volunteers decorated the graves of 20,000 Union and Confederate soldiers.



Across the country, humble tributes occurred on that first Decoration Day. Just outside Fort Stevens near Washington, D.C., there was a small cemetery where 40 soldiers were buried, one of whom belonged to a widow from Northern Vermont. He was one of three sons she lost to the war. On Decoration Day, she went to the cemetery carrying 40 wreaths for 40 graves.

Someone placed a laurel wreath upon the head of a Lincoln statue at City Hall, Washington D.C.

In Cincinnati, Hamilton and Dayton Railroads transported passengers to the Spring Grove Cemetery. Flags were displayed at half-mast along the routes. Floral wreaths were placed on the soldiers' graves and speeches made. Many of the first Decoration Days recognized only the Union soldiers, though some included the Confederate soldiers as well. Over time, the day grew to include all those soldiers lost during the conflict.

Decoration Day gradually became known as Memorial Day and now honors all U.S. military personnel who have died during a military conflict. Memorial Day continued to be observed on May 30 until Congress passed the Uniform Monday Holiday Act of 1968. Since 1971, Memorial Day has been observed the last Monday of May.

NATIONAL STAR WARS DAY

May the Fourth be with you each year on National Star Wars Day. Or is it, "May the force be with you?" It all depends on whether you like using puns or not.

Thousands of Star Wars enthusiasts celebrate this day each year with parties and celebrations around the nation. Check out our dedicated page here.

Star Wars fans didn't first introduce the often quoted phrase on May 4th. It was 1979, and Britain elected the first female Prime Minister, Margaret Thatcher. On May 4th, the day she took office, the Conservative Party placed an advertisement in The London Evening News, which read, "May the Fourth Be with You, Maggie. Congratulations."



Star Wars creator, George Lucas, was asked during a 2005 interview on a German news TV channel to say the famous sentence "May the Force Be with You." Upon doing so, the interpreter interpreted the sentence into German as Am4 Mai sind wir bei Ihnen (On May 4 we are with you). TV Total captured this and aired it on May 18, 2005.

NATIONAL STAR WARS DAY HISTORY

National Star Wars Day was first organized in Toronto, Ontario, Canada at the Toronto Underground Cinema in 2011. Produced by Sean Ward and Alice Quinn, festivities included an Original Trilogy Trivia Game Show, a costume contest, and the web's best tribute films, mash-ups, parodies, and remixes on the big screen. May 4th was chosen because of the play on words.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF LIGHT

Every year on May 16th, the International Day of Light promotes awareness for the appreciation of light and the role it plays in science, art, education, and sustainable development. The day also recognizes the natural benefits of light, as well as its many technological applications.

Even though everyone knows what light is, it can be hard to define. Light is not just the opposite of darkness. It is electromagnetic radiation within the electromagnetic spectrum that is perceived by the human eye. Visible light has wavelengths between 400 and 700 nanometers. Another way to define light is a stream of photons that travel with wavelike properties at the speed of light.

While we perceive the world in many ways, light is one of the most significant ways we comprehend the world around us. Additionally, light energy comes in many forms including visible light, infrared waves, ultraviolet light, gamma rays, and radio waves. According to Audrey Azoulay, the director-general of UNESCO, the understanding of light allows us to achieve the greatest of scientific and technological progress.

Here are just a few of the many applications that light is used for:

- Lights are used to illuminate spaces, such as homes and offices.
- UV lights are used in phototherapy to treat certain illnesses.
- Ultraviolet energy is used to eradicate bacteria and viruses from the air and water.
- Light is used in optical fiber networks, which helps to transmit information.
- Lights are essential for safety, such as headlights for vehicles and traffic lights.
- They are used in many household items, such as television sets, microwaves, and cell phones.
- Natural light helps plants grow and provides many health benefits to humans.

It seems that every part of our lives are affected by light in some way.



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF LIGHT HISTORY

Due to the success of the International Year of Light and Light-based Technologies 2015, UNESCO decided to organize a day dedicated to light. The first official International Day of Light was held on May 16th, 2018. The date May 16th marks the anniversary of the first successful operation of the laser. American physicist and engineer, Theodore Maiman is credited for inventing the laser. He fired the first laser in 1960.

HOW TO OBSERVE

#INTERNATIONALDAYOFLIGHT

Worldwide events to celebrate this day include light festivals that feature entertaining optic demonstrations, scientific lectures, and photo contests. To participate:

- Think about the ways you benefit from light and how it helps you in your everyday life.
- Do some fun light activities with your kids, such as making a periscope or a rainbow.
- Watch science videos about light.

Share cool photos of light on social media. When you do, be sure to use #InternationalDayOfLight or #IDL.



May is set aside as National Foster Care Month honoring the foster parents, families, and those who support children throughout their journey to find a permanent home.

A child's welfare takes priority every day in the lives of caseworkers, guardians, counselors, advocates, and foster parents. Building meaningful relationships and foundations take time. Every year, National Foster Care Month recognizes the dedicated people who promote compassionate, stable homes for children.

These parents and professionals focus not only on the emotional and physical needs of the children but on their long-term educational goals and overall health. Each step along the way, they are aware of the obstacles each child may have already had to overcome in life. Everyone deserves to be surrounded by the love and support of a family and foster care specialists seek to find the safest environment for every child.

NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH HISTORY

National Foster Care Month is proclaimed annually by the President of the United States.

Explore More...

[National Family Day](#)

[National Adoption Month](#)

[National Parents Day](#)

[Reconciliation Day](#)

[Family Fun Month](#)

[Foster Care Day](#)

[National Adoption Day](#)

[World Adoption Day](#)

[National Birth Mother's Day](#)

[American Family Day](#)

HOW TO OBSERVE #NationalFosterCareMonth

Support those who provide care and if you are able, consider being a foster parent.

The need is increasing. Use #FosterCareMonth to share on social media.

Visit www.childwelfare.gov to learn more.



ARE YOU GREEN? EMERALD THAT IS! MAY BIRTHSTONE

WETHER ITS THE EMERALD ISLES OR THE EMERALD COAST, THEY BOTH GET THEIR NAMES FROM MAY'S BEAUTIFUL BIRTHSTONE...YOU GUESSED IT EMERALDS. THESE PRECIOUS STONES HAVE BEEN COVETED BY HUMANITY THROUGHOUT HISTORY AND ITS EASY TO SEE WHY. IF YOU HAVE A MAY BIRTHDAY THIS IS YOUR STONE. IF NOT THE ALLURE AND BEAUTY OF THE STONES GIVES ALL THE REASON NEEDED TO ADD THESE TO YOUR WARDROBE.

COLORS RANGE FROM LIGHT COLUMBIAN TO DEEP EMERALD. MOST ARE DETERMINED BY MINE LOCATION. THE FEWER INCLUSIONS THE MORE VALUABLE THE STONE. IN TIMES GONE BY THESE STONES WERE THOUGHT TO HAVE POWERS BEYOND MATCHING A GOWN. SOME ARE RUMORED TO BE CURSED, WHILE SOME HELD CURATIVE POWERS IF INGESTED. EMERALDS ARE SO COVETED THEY EVEN HAVE A SHAPE OF DIAMONDS AND GEMS NAMED AFTER THEM.

A SYMBOL OF UNENDING LOVE AND HONESTY HAVE ENCOURAGED FAVORITISM AS WEDDING STONES OF CHOICE. THE REGENCY ERA IN PARTICULAR IRISH AND ENGLISH GIRLS RECEIVED MANY. LONG SEEN AS A SYMBOL OF HOPE AND PROPHECY MADE THEM VERY POPULAR. UNLIKE THE RED RUBY, A STATEMENT OF PASSIONATE LOVE, AN EMERALD CONVEYS A COMPLEX SYMBOLISM AND EMOTIONS. CLEOPATRA DRAPED HERSELF IN EMERARDS. RICH LUSCIOUS GREEN COLOR BEAUTIFULLY PLAYED OFF THE VIOLET OF ELIZABETH TAYLOR'S EYES IN THE 1960'S

WHILE BEING MOST CALMING COLOR GREEN IT REFLEXES GROWTH, PEACE,BALANCE, AND REFLECTION. HEALING AND FERTILITY ARE ALSO ATTRIBUTED TO THESE VERY RARE GEMSTONE. VERDANT TONES AND INSIDE ARE TEMPERED BY COOL BLUE WITHIN THE STONE SYMBOLIZE A STEADFAST BOND.



GIVING AN EMERALD, YOU SHOWING A DASH OF HUMANITY. YOU'RE CONSIDERED "GREEN" OR A BIT NAIVE WHEN YOU DON'T HAVE EVERYTHING FIGURED OUT IN LIFE. THIS SHOULD BE SEEN AS A POSITIVE WHEN YOU CONSIDER YOUR NEW LIFE AS A COUPLE IS DEFINED BY MANY UNFORSEEN OBSTACLES TO CONFRONT AND SOLVE TOGETHER AND LEARN LESSONS FROM.

EMERALDS ARE OFTEN ASSOCIATED WITH STRONG SEXUALITY AND FERTILITY, IT WAS HISTORICALLY BELIEVED TO HELP WITH DIFFICULT BIRTHS OR THE PROBLEMS BEARING CHILDREN. LINKED TO HEALING AND BALANCE WITHIN THE NERVOUS, RESPIRATORY AND EVEN AID DIGESTION. ANCIENT ROMANS, FOR EXAMPLE, FELT THAT THE VERY SOUL OF AN INDIVIDUAL WAS RESTORED WHEN THEY WORE EMERALD JEWELRY. SO WHETHER THEY ARE FOR YOUR BIRTHDAY, OR YOU JUST LOVE THE COLOR I WISH YOU ANY LUCK THEY MAY CONTAIN.



ARE YOU GREEN?
EMERALD THAT IS!
MAY BIRTHSTONE



National Strawberry Month



Sweet and bright, National Strawberry Month beckons in May.

We eat them fresh out of the garden, blend them in smoothies, add them to parfaits and bake them into pies. Strawberries tantalize us in ice cream and milkshakes, too. We create preserves with them and give them to our sweethearts covered in chocolate or whipped cream.

These slightly tart berries aren't even berries. Strawberries belong to the rose family and reproduce from runners, not seeds. There are over 400 different varieties, and each berry produces approximately 200 seeds on the outside of the fruit.

They're nutritious, too. Strawberries are low in sugar and excellent sources of vitamins C and K.

HOW TO OBSERVE

- **Visit a pick-you-own-strawberries-farm.**
- **Plant a few strawberry plants if you have space.**
- **Try some strawberry recipes.**

Use #NationalStrawberryMonth to share on social media.





NATIONAL BEVERAGE DAY

HOW TO OBSERVE #NationalBeverageDay

National Beverage Day on May 6th encourages us to sit back, relax, and enjoy our favorite beverages.

Beverages come in many forms. And whether you prefer a hot beverage or a cold one, the choice is yours. Serve up a caffeinated drink poured over over ice. Make it carbonated or mix it up as a cocktail or a mocktail as the case may be. Beverages may be freshly squeezed, frozen, blended, or creamy. They can even be sweet, sour, bitter, smooth, or dry.

We drink them to cool off and to warm up. We also drink them to chill out and serve them to add sparkle to a celebration. Although, some months celebrate more than others. While January is quite busy and raises a glass to milk, green juice, and the bloody Mary, February only celebrates Kahlua. While July is busy, May doesn't shy away from beverage celebrations, either. We just celebrated lemonade and America's favorite beverage, orange juice, and will celebrate several more in May, too!

Observe National Beverage Day by singing to a "beverage" inspired song while enjoying your tasty beverage! Post photos of your favorite beverage on social media using #NationalBeverageDay

Explore More...

National Carbonated Beverage With Caffeine Day

Lemonade Day

National Bubble Tea Day

National Punch Day

National Smoothie Day

Global Smoothie Day

National Cocktail Day

Hot Chocolate Day

National Pumpkin Spice Day

National Green Juice Day

International Coffee Day

National Iced Tea Day

National Iced Tea Month

National Hot Tea Month

International Tea Day



NATIONAL MINIATURE GOLF DAY

Annually the second Saturday in May recognizes National Miniature Golf Day. This day is separate from Miniature Golf Day, which is celebrated worldwide on September 21.

Similar to the sport of golf, but as the name suggests it is a miniature version of the game. While still played with a series of 9 or 18 holes, miniature golf courses are shorter, usually themed, and have a variety of obstacles that add to the difficulty of the game.

There also isn't any need to call "FOUR" since only putters are used in this version. The distances are too short (usually about 10 yards) to use any of the other clubs in golf. Most courses consist of concrete or artificial turf so don't worry about replacing any divots, either! The game also goes by the names mini-golf, midget golf, putt-putt, and peewee golf.

Some of the more challenging miniature golf courses have waterfalls, caverns, and castles with drawbridges as part of their obstacle course.

HOW TO OBSERVE #NationaMiniGolfDay

Watch out for the water hazards and the windmill! Meet your friends at your local miniature golf course and have a fun-filled day. While you're out putting, share your photos using #NationalMiniGolfDay.

Explore More...

National Golf Month

National Golf Lover's Day

National Sports Day

National Mulligan Day



Happy Mother's Day

Mother's Day is a time-honored tradition of recognizing the women in our lives who raised us, dried our tears, and well, mothered us. Everyone has one or has someone who is like a mother to them. On the second Sunday of May, we honor those women who are our mothers. Whether we shower her with gifts, take her to a fancy dinner or make her a homemade card, what moms want most is to be surrounded by the love of her family. Knowing the people they love are safe, sound, and healthy is a mom's number one priority.

MOTHER'S DAY HISTORY

Mother's Day has been celebrated around the world since, well, since motherhood. In the United States, Julia Ward Howe inspired the first movement toward a national observance during the Civil War. Appealing to the public for a "Mother's Day for Peace" after witnessing the devastation left by war, Howe went on an international crusade. While her efforts never gained formal recognition for an official observance, she was acknowledged posthumously in 1988 for her achievements and her efforts for women's rights.

In 1905, Anna Jarvis, the daughter of Ann Marie Reeves Jarvis successfully introduced the idea for a national holiday recognizing mothers. Ann Marie Reeves Jarvis had followed Howe's campaign and had pursued her own volunteer efforts during the Civil War. Ann Marie died on May 9, 1905, and her daughter, Anna, missed her mother greatly. She started a dedicated letter-writing campaign to declare an official Mother's Day. Through Andrews Methodist Church in Grafton, West Virginia, the first observance occurred on May 10, 1908.

This day, to honor Anna Jarvis's mother, grew into a national observance until in 1911 when every state participated. Soon it was spreading internationally, and on May 9, 1914, President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed Mother's Day a national holiday to be held on the second Sunday of May.

HOW TO OBSERVE MOTHER'S DAY

Pay tribute to your mother this holiday. Surround her with the love she deserves and shower her with the affection and attention you know she wants. For those of us whose moms are no longer with us, spend some time remembering the woman you miss. Visit with those who remember her and honor her memory. If you're a mom, revel in the attention. You deserve it!

Remember to put mom first on Mother's Day and use #MothersDay to share on social media.

Explore More...

National Father's Day

Parents Day

National Birth Mother's Day

Grandparents Day

Foster Care Day

World Adoption Day

National Family Day

Family Fun Month

Family Stories Month



For Mom's



Tap to Shop

Father's Day Finds



Tap to Shop

NATIONAL PIZZA PARTY DAY

Each year on the third Friday in May, millions of pizza lovers across the nation join in extolling the qualities of pizza on National Pizza Party Day. Celebrate by inviting friends and family to share a night of fun at your favorite pizzeria. Another way to celebrate is with a homemade pizza with fresh toppings or by having one delivered.

- In ancient Greece, Greeks enjoyed bread covered with oils, herbs, and cheese.
- In Byzantine Greek, the word was spelled "πίτα", pita, meaning pie.
- A sheet of dough topped with cheese and honey, then flavored with bay leaves was developed by the Romans.
- The modern pizza had its beginning in Italy as the Neapolitan flatbread.
- The original pizza used only mozzarella cheese, mainly the highest quality buffalo mozzarella variant which was produced in the surroundings of Naples.
- It was estimated that the annual production of pizza cheese in the United States in 1997 was 2 billion pounds.
- The first United States pizza establishment opened in 1905 was in New York's Little Italy.
- Pizza has become one of America's favorite meals.



EXPLORE MORE....

[NATIONAL PIZZA MONTH](#)

[NATIONAL PIZZA DAY](#)

[NATIONAL CHEESE PIZZA DAY](#)

[NATIONAL SAUSAGE PIZZA DAY](#)

[NATIONAL DEEP DISH PIZZA DAY](#)

[NATIONAL PIZZA WITH THE WORKS EXCEPT ANCHOVIES DAY](#)

[PEPPERONI PIZZA DAY](#)

HOW TO OBSERVE

Share photos of your pizza party on your favorite social media and include #PizzaPartyDay



NATIONAL QUICHE **LORRAINE DAY**

May 20 is dedicated to the food holiday
National Quiche Lorraine Day.

Quiche Lorraine is believed to have originated in the rural Lorraine Region of France. The original Quiche Lorraine consisted of an open pie, made using a bottom crust with a filling of custard and smoked bacon. A cast iron skillet was used to cook the original Quiche. The cheese was added to the recipe at a much later time.

Explore More...

[Chocolate Souffle Day](#)

[Cheese Souffle Day](#)

[Jen's Keto Quiche](#)

[National Quiche Lorraine Day](#)

HOW TO OBSERVE

[Enjoy a Quiche](#)
[Lorraine today. Use](#)
[#QuicheLorraineDa](#)
[y to post on social](#)
[media.](#)

NATIONAL BARBECUE DAY

If the mouthwatering aromas wafting down the street haven't told you, we will; May 16th is National Barbecue Day!

The purist in the world of barbecue either uses charcoal, wood, or gas and slow cooks the protein over indirect heat. While the type of protein and seasonings vary, each part of the country specializes in their own flavors and sauces.

For example, more tangy BBQ with a vinegar base can be found in North Carolina. South Carolina leans toward a sweeter sauce. The sauce can be applied thick or thin, giving it more of a glaze. Turn up the heat by adding spices and peppers. Smoking meat is another way to add flavor and tenderness, too.

Unique ingredients come from ketchup, mustard and Worcestershire, brown sugar, soy, and molasses. But you never know what combination of spices a barbecue master has in his or her repertoire. They've spent years perfecting their trade.



Unique ingredients come from ketchup, mustard and Worcestershire, brown sugar, soy, and molasses. But you never know what combination of spices a barbecue master has in his or her repertoire. They've spent years perfecting their trade.

More to Explore....

[National Barbeque Month](#)

[National Sauce Month](#)

[National Grilling Month](#)

[National Picnic Day](#)

[Memorial Day](#)

[4th of July](#)

[Independence Day](#)

[Classic Ceasars Salad](#)

[National Barbecue Spareribs Day](#)

[Black and Blue Burgers](#)

[Red and Blue Cheesecake Salad](#)





WORLD BAKING DAY

Every third Sunday in May, World Baking Day inspires people to bake for their loved ones, friends, and neighbors. These bakers are also encouraged to give their baked goods away as a token of gratitude and appreciation.

People have been baking for thousands of years. In fact, the world's oldest oven is over 6,500 years old! Bread baking goes all the way back to 600 BC in Ancient Greece. The Egyptians were the first to use yeast when baking bread. Besides bread, cakes were also a popular food to bake. The word "cake" dates back to the 13th century. The earliest cakes were more bread-like. Bakers added sugar or honey to add sweetness.

During the 16th and 17th centuries, baking was transformed by globalization. There was an abundance of syrups, spices, and currants, which made baked goods taste even more delicious. Bready dough with butter, cream, and raisins were especially popular. By the late 17th century, sugar was less expensive. As a result, people began making mince pies with sugar and spices. Eventually, other ingredients like eggs, flour, and baking powder were used more and more.

Today baked goods are popular all over the world. Some favorites include apple pie, black forest cake, baklava, cannoli, Yorkshire pudding, rye bread, brownies, and pretzels.

HOW TO OBSERVE #WorldBakingDay

The best way to observe this day is to bake some goodies for a friend, neighbor or loved one. They will be surprised and delighted to receive such a wonderful and delicious gift. This day is also a great day to teach your kids to bake. Go ahead and try to bake something you've never made before. Or host a cake decorating contest. No matter what you choose to bake, be sure to share your goodies with others. Take a photo of your creation and post it on social media with #WorldBakingDay.

NATIONAL GRAPE POPSICLE DAY



May 27 calls for warm weather and sunshine so we can recognize National Grape Popsicle Day.

In San Francisco, California, in 1905, 11-yr-old Frank Epperson was outside on his porch, mixing water with a white powdered flavoring to make soda. Upon going inside, he left it there on the porch with the stirring stick still in it. That night the temperature reached a record low and the following morning, Frank discovered the drink had frozen to the stick.

Years later, in 1922, Epperson introduced his treat at a fireman's ball where it was a huge success. Then in 1923, he made and sold his frozen treat-on-a-stick at an amusement park in Alameda, California. Epperson applied for a patent in 1924 for his frozen confectionery, which he called "Epsicle" ice pop. He then renamed it "Popsicle".

Popsicles are one of summertime's favorite treats for kids of all ages. National Grape Popsicle Day honors one of the most popular flavors!

I remember how much fun we had making our own, then enjoying them on a hot summer day. I hope to pass this fun summer treat on to my nieces and nephews. There's nothing better than summer as a kid. We played outside, begged to run through the sprinklers, and enjoy picnics, barbeques, and popsicles.

HOW TO OBSERVEy

Use #GrapePopsicleDay to post on social media.

Explore More...

[National Grape Popsicle Day](#)

[National Cherry Popsicle Day](#)

[Freezer Pop Day](#)

[National Blueberry Popsicle Day](#)

[National Bomb Pop Day](#)

[National Creamsicle Day](#)

[National Blueberry Popsicle Month](#)

JEN'S TRES LECHE CAKE



I NGREDIENTS

1 Yellow or White cake mix (I usually use a Duncan Hines)

Butter, eggs and oil or water as directed.

1 lg container of cool whip

1 can sweetened condensed milk

1 can evaporated milk

1 cup milk or heavy cream

Cinnamon to sprinkle on top.

D IRECTIONS

Mix batter according to direction.

Pour into pan. I like a 9" x 13" pan myself.

Bake as directed.

Cool completely

In separate bowl mix your 3 milks or tres leche, 1 can sweetened condensed, 1 can evaporated, and 1 cup regular milk or heavy cream with a whisk. Set aside.

Once cake is completely cool use a large wooden spoon handle to pole holes through out cake.

Gently pour milk mixture over the back of your spoon to ensure you don't make a crater in your cake.

Let rest till all milk mixture is absorbed. Yes it will all disappear below the surface.

Spread on lg container cool whip, in even layer on top of cake.

Sprinkle cinnamon on top.

NATIONAL APPLE PIE DAY

National Apple Pie Day, America's favorite dessert, is observed annually on May 13th.

The first apple pie recipe printed was in England in 1381. The list of ingredients included good apples, good spices, figs, raisins, pears, saffron, and cofyn (a type of pastry crust).

While the apple pie existed well before the Pilgrims landed on the eastern shores of what is now The United States, Americans wax poetic about how American apple pie is. The phrase "as American as apple pie" has been around for more than 100 years.

During the turn of the 20th century when whole toasted cereals were becoming the 'health food' fad, pie gained a bad reputation. Apple pie saved the day of sorts, being more nutritious than other pies according to some.

Teddy Roosevelt was impressed to have a taste of home when he was served an American apple pie while traveling in Africa.

Soldiers during World War II were often quoted they were fighting "for Mom and apple pie." In 1970, advertisers used the patriotic connection with a commercial jingle "Baseball, hot dogs, apple pie, and Chevrolet."

HOW TO OBSERVE #NationalApplePieDay

Share your favorite apple pie recipes. Another way to celebrate is by giving a shout out to your favorite apple pie baker.

Use #NationalApplePieDay to post on social media.



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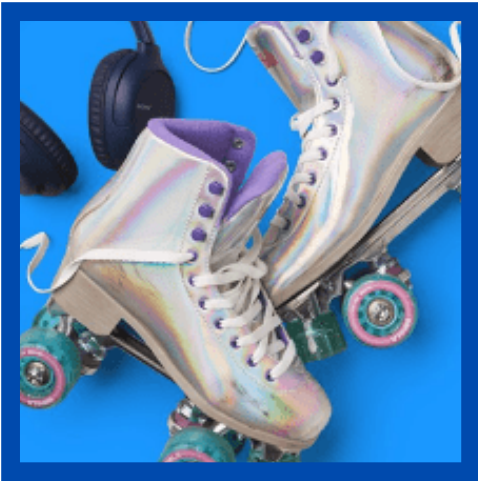
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A blue Volvo Polestar 2 electric car is shown from a front three-quarter view. The car has a sleek, aerodynamic design with a black grille and a red accent line along the bottom. The Volvo logo is visible on the front. The car is parked on a white background.

Map of the United States showing 15 highlighted states and their major cities:

- WA** (Washington): Seattle
- OR** (Oregon): Portland
- CA** (California): San Francisco, Los Angeles, San Diego
- UT** (Utah): Salt Lake City
- CO** (Colorado): Denver
- AZ** (Arizona): Phoenix
- TX** (Texas): El Paso, San Antonio, Austin, Dallas, Houston, Beaumont
- MN** (Minnesota): Minneapolis-St. Paul
- WI** (Wisconsin): Sheboygan, Fond Du Lac, Milwaukee
- IL** (Illinois): Chicago, Springfield
- IN** (Indiana): Indianapolis
- OH** (Ohio): Columbus, Cleveland
- MO** (Missouri): St. Louis
- TN** (Tennessee): Nashville
- AL** (Alabama): Birmingham
- GA** (Georgia): Atlanta
- FL** (Florida): Jacksonville, Fort Myers, Orlando, Tampa, West Palm Beach, St. Petersburg, Miami
- NY** (New York): New York, Albany
- PA** (Pennsylvania): Pittsburgh, Harrisburg, Philadelphia
- VA** (Virginia): Richmond
- NC** (North Carolina): Raleigh-Durham, Charlotte
- SC** (South Carolina): Columbia
- ME** (Maine): Portland
- MA** (Massachusetts): Boston, Providence
- CT** (Connecticut): Hartford
- MD** (Maryland): Baltimore
- DC** (District of Columbia): Washington DC
- DE** (Delaware): Dover
- VA** (Virginia): Charlottesville, Harrisonburg