

MEANING

- “Gentle” or “calm.”
- The high point of the solar year celebrating the beginning of summer.
- One of the four solar holidays and the turning point at which summer reaches its height and the sun shines longest.
- Represents the strength and power of the sun over the summer months and is celebrated as a day of inner power and brightness.

WHEN

- Between June 20-21 (the summer solstice being the longest day of the year).
- About midway between the spring equinox and summer solstice in the northern hemisphere.
- Please note: Precise celebration dates can vary based on tradition and the related agricultural milestones of the local region. Celebrations may occur on the astrologically precise quarter and cross-quarter days, the nearest full or new moon or the nearest weekend



COMMON PRACTICES

- Historic rituals include hilltop bonfires and dancing, with people attempting to jump over the bonfires for good luck.
- Broadly, observances celebrate and greet the sun, which is at its greatest strength on Litha.
- For some traditions, Litha represents a time for love magic and handfasting.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS?

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Litha

Old English

LEE·thuh



- When appropriate, reasonable accommodations should be discussed in advance between students and instructors.

FOR MORE INFO VISIT:

provost.msu.edu

Type of Calendar:

Wheel of the Year
(solar)

