



THE FUSION STATES OF AMERICA

A Year at the *Table*

A diaspora kitchen calendar. Thirteen months of festivals, holidays, and what's good at the market, for the family that grew up between countries.

July 2026 to July 2027

HOW TO READ IT

- Hindu / South Asian festival
- U.S. holiday
- Indian national & cultural day
- Other faith observance
- Just for fun

The Year at a Glance

Every date worth circling, all in one place.

July 2026 August 2026 September 2026

- Jul 4 Independence Day
- Jul 29 Guru Purnima

- Aug 15 India Independence Day
- Aug 25 Eid Milad-un-Nabi
- Aug 28 Raksha Bandhan

- Sep 4 Krishna Janmashtami
- Sep 7 Labor Day
- Sep 14 Ganesh Chaturthi
- Sep 25 Anant Chaturdashi

October 2026 November 2026 December 2026

- Oct 11 Navratri begins
- Oct 20 Dussehra
- Oct 29 Karva Chauth
- Oct 31 Halloween

- Nov 1 Clocks Fall Back
- Nov 6 Dhanteras
- Nov 8 Diwali
- Nov 10 Bhai Dooj
- Nov 11 Veterans Day
- Nov 15 Chhath Puja
- Nov 24 Guru Nanak Jayanti
- Nov 26 Thanksgiving

- Dec 20 Gita Jayanti
- Dec 25 Christmas
- Dec 31 New Year's Eve

January 2027 February 2027 March 2027

- Jan 1 New Year's Day
- Jan 14 Lohri
- Jan 15 Makar Sankranti / Pongal
- Jan 18 MLK Jr. Day
- Jan 26 Republic Day (India)

- Feb 8 Ramadan begins
- Feb 11 Vasant Panchami
- Feb 14 Valentine's Day
- Feb 15 Presidents' Day

- Mar 6 Maha Shivaratri
- Mar 10 Eid al-Fitr
- Mar 14 Clocks Spring Forward
- Mar 15 Spring Break
- Mar 22 Holi
- Mar 26 Good Friday
- Mar 28 Easter

April 2027 May 2027 June 2027

- Apr 7 Ugadi / Gudi Padwa
- Apr 9 Mahavir Jayanti
- Apr 14 Baisakhi
- Apr 15 Ram Navami
- Apr 21 Hanuman Jayanti

- May 9 Mother's Day
- May 17 Eid al-Adha
- May 20 Buddha Purnima
- May 31 Memorial Day

- Jun 16 Islamic New Year
- Jun 19 Juneteenth
- Jun 20 Father's Day
- Jun 21 International Yoga Day

July 2027

- Jul 4 Independence Day
- Jul 18 Guru Purnima

July 2026

America turns 250 this year. Fire up the grill.



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4 ● Independence Day
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29 ● Guru Purnima	30	31	

WHY IT MATTERS

4 JUL Independence Day
America's 250th birthday this year.

29 JUL Guru Purnima
Honoring teachers and gurus; date shifts.

IN SEASON

- ◆ Sweet corn
- ◆ Okra (bhindi)
- ◆ Tomatoes
- ◆ Peaches
- ◆ Zucchini
- ◆ Basil

COOK FROM THE BOOK

Masala Street Corn

Elote the way the chaat cart does it, the Fourth reimagined.

August 2026

Peak summer heat, peak summer produce.



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15 ● India Independence Day
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25 ● Eid Milad-un-Nabi	26	27	28 ● Raksha Bandhan	29
30	31					

WHY IT MATTERS

15 AUG **India Independence Day**
India's freedom from British rule, 1947.

25 AUG **Eid Milad-un-Nabi**
The Prophet Muhammad's birthday.

28 AUG **Raksha Bandhan**
Sisters tie a rakhi; brothers vow to protect.

IN SEASON

- ◆ Eggplant (baingan)
- ◆ Okra
- ◆ Melons
- ◆ Green mango
- ◆ Peppers
- ◆ Figs

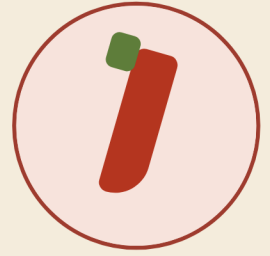
COOK FROM THE BOOK

Tikka Smoked Brisket

Central Texas smoke meets the South Asian spice box.

September 2026

Festival season opens.



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4 ● Krishna Janmashtami	5
6	7 ● Labor Day	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 ● Ganesh Chaturthi	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 ● Anant Chaturdashi	26
27	28	29	30			

WHY IT MATTERS

- 4 SEP** Krishna Janmashtami
Krishna's birth; fasting and midnight prayers.
- 7 SEP** Labor Day
Honors workers; summer's last cookout.
- 14 SEP** Ganesh Chaturthi
Ganesha, remover of obstacles, comes home.
- 25 SEP** Anant Chaturdashi
Ganesha is sent off to the water.

IN SEASON

- ◆ Bell peppers
- ◆ Eggplant
- ◆ Late tomatoes
- ◆ Grapes
- ◆ Apples
- ◆ Green chilies

COOK FROM THE BOOK

Chili Paneer

Sweet, sticky, chili-slicked, the cousin's standing order.

October 2026

Nine nights, then the harvest table.



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 ● Navratri begins	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20 ● Dussehra	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29 ● Karva Chauth	30	31 ● Halloween

WHY IT MATTERS

11 OCT Navratri begins
Nine nights of Durga; garba and dandiya.

20 OCT Dussehra
Rama beats Ravana; good over evil.

29 OCT Karva Chauth
A fast for a loved one's long life.

31 OCT Halloween
Costumes, candy, and a carved kaddu.

IN SEASON

- ◆ Pumpkin (kaddu)
- ◆ Sweet potato
- ◆ Spinach (palak)
- ◆ Cauliflower (gobi)
- ◆ Pomegranate
- ◆ Apples

COOK FROM THE BOOK

Aloo Gobi Burrito

The Mission burrito meets the Sunday sabzi.

November 2026

The lights, then the long table.



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 ● Clocks Fall Back	2	3	4	5	6 ● Dhanteras	7
8 ● Diwali	9	10 ● Bhai Dooj	11 ● Veterans Day	12	13	14
15 ● Chhath Puja	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 ● Guru Nanak Jayanti	25	26 ● Thanksgiving	27	28
29	30					

WHY IT MATTERS

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1
NOV</p> <p>Clocks Fall Back
Daylight saving ends; gain an hour.</p> | <p>6
NOV</p> <p>Dhanteras
The lucky day to buy gold; Diwali opens.</p> |
| <p>8
NOV</p> <p>Diwali
The festival of lights; lamps and mithai.</p> | <p>10
NOV</p> <p>Bhai Dooj
Sisters bless their brothers.</p> |
| <p>11
NOV</p> <p>Veterans Day
Honors all who served in the forces.</p> | <p>15
NOV</p> <p>Chhath Puja
Thanks to the sun god; date shifts.</p> |
| <p>24
NOV</p> <p>Guru Nanak Jayanti
Birth of Sikhism's founder; langar, kirtan.</p> | <p>26
NOV</p> <p>Thanksgiving
The year's biggest, most fusable table.</p> |

IN SEASON

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| ◆ Pomegranate (anar) | ◆ Cranberries |
| ◆ Cauliflower | ◆ Carrots |
| ◆ Fenugreek (methi) | ◆ Winter squash |

COOK FROM THE BOOK

Rosewater Citrus Olive Oil Cake

A bright, mithai-adjacent finish for the Diwali sweet table.

December 2026

Citrus, greens, and good company.



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 ● Gita Jayanti	21	22	23	24	25 ● Christmas	26
27	28	29	30	31 ● New Year's Eve		

WHY IT MATTERS

20 DEC **Gita Jayanti**
The day Krishna spoke the Gita; date shifts.

25 DEC **Christmas**
Feasting and family across faiths.

31 DEC **New Year's Eve**
Out with the old; in with resolutions.

IN SEASON

- ◆ Mustard greens (sarson)
- ◆ Guava
- ◆ Peas (matar)
- ◆ Oranges
- ◆ Carrots (gajar)
- ◆ Radish (mooli)

COOK FROM THE BOOK

Saag Paneer Lasagna

Creamy spiced spinach in place of ricotta, a potluck hero.

January 2027

Sarson, til, and the turning sun.



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 ● New Year's Day	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14 ● Lohri	15 ● Makar Sankranti / Pongal	16
17	18 ● MLK Jr. Day	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26 ● Republic Day (India)	27	28	29	30
31						

WHY IT MATTERS

- 1
JAN

New Year's Day
A clean 365; cook something new.

14
JAN

Lohri
A bonfire night for the winter harvest.

15
JAN

Makar Sankranti / Pongal
Sun turns north; til, jaggery, kites.

18
JAN

MLK Jr. Day
Honors Dr. King; a day of service.

26
JAN

Republic Day (India)
India's constitution took effect, 1950.

IN SEASON

- ◆ Sarson greens
- ◆ Sesame (til)
- ◆ Carrots
- ◆ Radish (mooli)
- ◆ Peas
- ◆ Citrus

COOK FROM THE BOOK

Sinigang Collard Greens

Slow winter greens with a bright, sour tamarind edge.

February 2027

Wear yellow; the greens are sweet.



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 ● Ramadan begins	9	10	11 ● Vasant Panchami	12	13
14 ● Valentine's Day	15 ● Presidents' Day	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

WHY IT MATTERS

- 8 FEB** **Ramadan begins**
A month of dawn-to-dusk fasting begins.
- 11 FEB** **Vasant Panchami**
Honoring Saraswati; everyone wears yellow.
- 14 FEB** **Valentine's Day**
A day for love; cook for someone.
- 15 FEB** **Presidents' Day**
Honors past U.S. presidents.

IN SEASON

- ◆ Citrus
- ◆ Cabbage
- ◆ Beets
- ◆ Turnips (shalgam)
- ◆ Spinach
- ◆ Spring onions

COOK FROM THE BOOK

Saffron Fried Chicken Sando
Golden and saffron-marinated, fitting for Vasant Panchami's yellow.

March 2027

Colors, spring greens, new beginnings.



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6 ● Maha Shivaratri
7	8	9	10 ● Eid al-Fitr	11	12	13
14 ● Clocks Spring Forward	15 ● Spring Break	16	17	18	19	20
21	22 ● Holi	23	24	25	26 ● Good Friday	27
28 ● Easter	29	30	31			

WHY IT MATTERS

6 MAR **Maha Shivaratri**
A night vigil and fast for Shiva.

14 MAR **Clocks Spring Forward**
Daylight saving begins; lose an hour.

22 MAR **Holi**
Spring's festival of colors and forgiveness.

28 MAR **Easter**
Christians celebrate the resurrection.

10 MAR **Eid al-Fitr**
The joyful feast that ends Ramadan.

15 MAR **Spring Break**
Most schools out this week; dates vary.

26 MAR **Good Friday**
Christians mark the crucifixion.

IN SEASON

- ◆ Peas
- ◆ Spring onions
- ◆ Cilantro
- ◆ Fenugreek (methi)
- ◆ Mint (pudina)
- ◆ Early greens

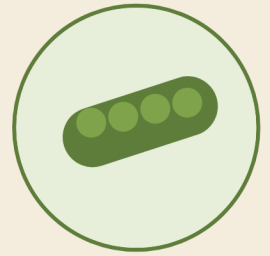
COOK FROM THE BOOK

Gobi Manchurian

Crisp, tangy, festive, a Holi snack everyone fights over.

April 2027

Harvest new years and spring shoots.



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7 ● Ugadi / Gudi Padwa	8	9 ● Mahavir Jayanti	10
11	12	13	14 ● Baisakhi	15 ● Ram Navami	16	17
18	19	20	21 ● Hanuman Jayanti	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

WHY IT MATTERS

- 7 APR** Ugadi / Gudi Padwa
New year in the south and west.
- 9 APR** Mahavir Jayanti
Jains honor Mahavir, who taught ahimsa.
- 14 APR** Baisakhi
Punjab's harvest; the Khalsa's founding.
- 15 APR** Ram Navami
The birth of Lord Rama.
- 21 APR** Hanuman Jayanti
The birth of Hanuman, strength and faith.

IN SEASON

- ◆ Asparagus
- ◆ Green garlic
- ◆ Strawberries
- ◆ Peas
- ◆ Mint
- ◆ Spring onions

COOK FROM THE BOOK

Butter Chicken Quesadilla

Leftover makhani, a tortilla, too much cheese. Don't skip the chaat masala.

May 2027

Mango season is here.



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 ● Mother's Day	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 ● Eid al-Adha	18	19	20 ● Buddha Purnima	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 ● Memorial Day					

WHY IT MATTERS

- 9 MAY** **Mother's Day**
For the woman who taught you to cook.
- 17 MAY** **Eid al-Adha**
The festival of sacrifice; shared meat.
- 20 MAY** **Buddha Purnima**
The Buddha's birth and enlightenment.
- 31 MAY** **Memorial Day**
Honors the fallen; grilling season opens.

IN SEASON

- ◆ Mango (aam), peak
- ◆ Strawberries
- ◆ Cherries
- ◆ Asparagus
- ◆ Green almonds
- ◆ Cucumbers

COOK FROM THE BOOK

Tandoori Brisket Tacos

Brisket, tandoori rub, corn tortilla, and a mango habanero salsa.

June 2027

Alphonso season, smoke season.



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16 ● Islamic New Year	17	18	19 ● Juneteenth
20 ● Father's Day	21 ● International Yoga Day	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

WHY IT MATTERS

16 JUN **Islamic New Year**
The Islamic year begins; quiet reflection.

20 JUN **Father's Day**
A day for dads; hand him the tongs.

19 JUN **Juneteenth**
Marks the end of slavery in America.

21 JUN **International Yoga Day**
A global day of yoga, proposed by India.

IN SEASON

- ◆ Alphonso mango
- ◆ Apricots
- ◆ Cucumbers
- ◆ Cherries
- ◆ Summer squash
- ◆ Melons

COOK FROM THE BOOK

Garam Masala Burnt Ends

Candied cubes of brisket point, a Juneteenth cookout staple.

July 2027

Full circle, back to the grill.



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4 ● Independence Day	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 ● Guru Purnima	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

WHY IT MATTERS

4 JUL Independence Day
One more Fourth at the fusion table.

18 JUL Guru Purnima
Teachers and gurus, honored again; date shifts.

IN SEASON

- ◆ Sweet corn
- ◆ Okra (bhindi)
- ◆ Melons
- ◆ Peaches
- ◆ Tomatoes
- ◆ Stone fruit

COOK FROM THE BOOK

Tandoori Baby Back Ribs

Tandoori-marinated, slow-roasted, blistered red. A year, well fed.