

OCTOBER 2015

October	Full Month	LGBT HISTORY MONTH Marks and celebrates the lives and achievements of lesbian, gay bisexual and transgender people in the United States.
October	Full Month	NATIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH Recognizes the contributions of workers with disabilities.
October 6		SIMCHAT TORAH • Jewish "Rejoicing in the Torah" celebrates the conclusion of the public reading of the Pentateuch and its beginning anew.
October 11		COMING OUT DAY Encourages honesty and openness about being lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender. Commemorates October 11, 1987, when 500,000 people marched on Washington, DC, for gay and lesbian equality.
October 12		COLUMBUS DAY Marks Christopher Columbus's landing at San Salvador on October 12, 1492. Known as <i>Día de la Raza</i> , "Day of the Race", in Spanish-speaking countries and communities.
October 12		NATIVE AMERICAN DAY Celebrates Native American history and culture.
October 13		SHEMINI ATZERET • Jewish "The Eighth (Day) of Assembly" is observed on the day immediately following Sukkot.
October 13–21		NAVARATRI • Hindu Nine-day festival celebrating the triumph of good over evil. It worships God in the form of the universal mother commonly referred to as Durga, Devi or Shakti, and marks the start of fall.
October 14		MUHARRAM • Islamic The month of Muharram marks the beginning of the Islamic liturgical year. The first day of the month, al-Hijra, remembers the migration of Muhammad and his followers from Mecca to Medina in 622 CE. It also marks the beginning of the ten-day Shi'ite Remembrance of Muharram, a period of intense grief and mourning of the martyrdom of Hussein, the son of Ali and grandson of Muhammad.
October 17		INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ERADICATION OF POVERTY Call to action for the eradication of poverty and destitution worldwide.
October 20		BIRTH OF THE BÁB • Bahá'í Bahá'í observance of the anniversary of the birth in 1819 of Siyyid, "the Báb," the prophet-herald of the Bahá'í Faith, in Shíráz, Persia.
October 22		DASSERA • Hindu Anniversary of the day when Rama killed the evil demon Ravana. Also known as <i>Durga Puja</i> , which celebrates the goddess Durga.
October 23		ASHURA • Islamic A day of fasting observed on the 10th day of the month of Muharram to celebrate Moses' exodus from Egypt. For Shi'a Muslims, it also marks the climax of the ten-day Remembrance of Muharram, which mourns the martyrdom of Hussein at the Battle of Kerbala in 680 CE.



October 24

UNITED NATIONS DAY

Commemorates the founding of the world organization in 1945.

October 25

REFORMATION DAY • Christian

Commemorates the beginning of the Protestant Reformation in 1517.

October 31

HALLOWEEN

The eve of All Saints' Day.