April

April (Apr.) is the fourth month of the year in the Julian and Gregorian calendars, and comes between March and May. It is one of four months to have 30 days.

April always begins on the same day of the week as <u>July</u>, and additionally, <u>January</u> in leap years. April always ends on the same day of the week as <u>December</u>.

<<	April					<u>>></u>
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	<u>3</u>	4	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>7</u>	8	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>
<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>
<u>21</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>27</u>
<u>28</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>30</u>				

The Month

[change | change source]

Spring flowers in April in the Northern Hemisphere.

April comes between <u>March</u> and <u>May</u>, making it the fourth month of the year. It also comes first in the year out of the four months that have 30 days, as <u>Iune</u>, <u>September</u> and <u>November</u> are later in the year.

April begins on the same day of the week as <u>July</u> every year and on the same day of the week as <u>January</u> in <u>leap years</u>. April ends on the same day of the week as <u>December</u> every year, as each other's last days are exactly 35 weeks (245 days) apart.

In common years, April starts on the same day of the week as October of the previous year, and in leap years, May of the previous year. In common years, April finishes on the same day of the week as July of the previous year, and in leap years, February and October of the previous year. In common years immediately after other common years, April starts on the same day of the week as January of the previous year, and in leap years and years immediately after that, April finishes on the same day of the week as January of the previous year.

In years immediately before common years, April starts on the same day of the week as <u>September</u> and <u>December</u> of the following year, and in years immediately before leap years, <u>June</u> of the following year. In years immediately before common years, April finishes on the same day of the week as September of the following year, and in years immediately before leap years, <u>March</u> and June of the following year.

April is a <u>spring</u> month in the <u>Northern Hemisphere</u> and an <u>autumn/fall</u> month in the <u>Southern Hemisphere</u>. In each <u>hemisphere</u>, it is the <u>seasonal</u> equivalent of <u>October</u> in the other.

It is unclear as to where April got its name. A common theory is that it comes from the <u>Latin</u> word "aperire", meaning "to open", referring to <u>flowers</u> opening in <u>spring</u>. Another theory is that the name could come from

Aphrodite, the Greek goddess of <u>love</u>. It was originally the second month in the old Roman <u>Calendar</u>, before the start of the new year was put to <u>January</u> 1.

Quite a few festivals are held in this month. In many <u>Southeast Asian</u> cultures, new year is celebrated in this month (including <u>Songkran</u>). In Western <u>Christianity</u>, <u>Easter</u> can be celebrated on a <u>Sunday</u> between <u>March 22</u> and <u>April 25</u>. In <u>Orthodox</u> Christianity, it can fall between <u>April 4</u> and <u>May 8</u>. At the end of the month, Central and Northern <u>European cultures</u> celebrate <u>Walpurgis Night</u> on <u>April 30</u>, marking the transition from <u>winter</u> into <u>summer</u>.

April in poetry

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<u>Poets</u> use *April* to mean the end of winter. For example: *April showers bring* <u>May</u> flowers.

Events in April

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Fixed Events

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An April Fools' Day hoax for April 1 in Copenhagen.

Songkran celebration in Thailand around April 14.

Proposed flag for Earth Day on April 22.

Saint George's Day on April 23 in London's Trafalgar Square.

ANZAC Day commemoration in Australia on April 25.

Queen's Day, April 30, celebration in the Netherlands. It changed to King's Day, April 27, in 2014.

Walpurgis Night bonfire on April 30 in Sweden.

- April 1 April Fools' Day
- April 1 Islamic Republic Day (Iran)
- April 2 International Children's Book Day
- April 2 Thai Heritage and Conservation Day
- April 2 World Autism Awareness Day
- April 2 Malvinas Day (Argentina)
- April 4 Independence Day (Senegal)
- April 4 International Day for Landmine Awareness and Assistance
- April 4 Peace Day (Angola)
- April 5 End of Tax Year (United Kingdom)

- April 6 Tartan Day (Canada and United States)
- April 6 Chakri Day (Thailand)
- April 7 Day of Maternity and Beauty (Armenia)
- April 7 Genocide Memorial Day (Rwanda)
- April 7 World Health Day
- April 7 Women's Day (Mozambique)
- April 8 Buddha's Birthday (Buddhism)
- April 9 Martyrs' Day (Tunisia)
- April 9 Day of National Unity (Georgia)
- April 9 Day of the Finnish language
- April 12 Cosmonauts' Day (Russia), marking the day of Yuri Gagarin's space flight
- April 13 Songkan (Laos), local New Year celebration
- April 13 Cambodian New Year
- April 13 Thomas Iefferson's Birthday (United States)
- April 14 Southeast Asian New Year festivals, including Songkran
- April 14 Georgian language Day
- April 14 Youth Day (Angola)
- April 14 Ambedkar Jayanti (India)
- April 14 Pan-American Day
- April 15 Tax Day (United States)
- April 15 Kim Il-Sung's Birthday (North Korea)
- April 15 Father Damien Day (Hawaii)
- April 15 Jackie Robinson Day (Major League Baseball)
- April 16 Birthday of Queen Margrethe II of Denmark
- April 16 Emancipation Day (Washington, DC)
- April 16 World Voice Day
- April 16 Selena Day (Texas)
- April 17 National Day of Syria
- April 17 Flag Day (American Samoa)
- April 17 Women's Day (Gabon)
- April 17 World Hemophilia Day
- April 18 Independence Day (Zimbabwe)
- April 18 Invention Day (Japan)
- April 18 International Day of Monuments and Sites
- April 19 Bicycle Day
- April 19 Dutch-American Friendship Day
- April 19 Birthday of King Mswati III of Swaziland
- April 19 Patriots' Day (Massachusetts, Maine, Wisconsin)
- April 20 4/20 in Cannabis Culture
- April 21 John Muir Day (California)
- April 21 San Jacinto Day (Texas)
- April 21 Kartini Day (<u>Indonesia</u>)
- April 21 National Tree Planting Day (Kenva)
- April 21 First Day of Ridran (Baha'i faith)
- April 21 Grounation Day (Rastafari movement)
- April 22 Earth Day
- April 22 Discovery Day (Brazil)
- April 23 Saint George's Day, celebrating the patron saint of several countries, regions and cities (including England and Catalonia)
- April 23 World Book Day
- April 23 National Sovereignty and Children's Day (Turkey)

- April 24 Democracy Day (Nepal)
- April 24 Genocide Day (Armenia)
- April 24 Republic Day (the Gambia)
- April 25 Australia and New Zealand celebrate ANZAC Day. ANZAC Archived 2006-06-15 at the Wayback Machine means Australian and New Zealand Army Corps, and began in 1915.
- April 25 World DNA Day
- April 25 World Malaria Day
- April 25 Flag Day (Swaziland, Faroe Islands)
- April 25 Freedom Day (Portugal)
- April 25 Liberation Day (Italy)
- April 25 Army Day (North Korea)
- April 26 Union Day (Tanzania)
- April 26 Confederate Memorial Day (Texas, Florida)
- April 27 Independence Day (Sierra Leone and Togo)
- April 27 Freedom Day (South Africa)
- April 27 World Tapir Day
- April 27 King's Day (Netherlands) from 2014, birthday of Willem-Alexander of the Netherlands
- April 28 Workers Memorial Day
- April 28 National Day (Sardinia)
- April 28 National Heroes Day (Barbados)
- April 29 Showa Day (Japan), birthday of Emperor Hirohito, who died in 1989
- April 29 International Dance Day
- April 30 Former Queen's Day Holiday in the <u>Netherlands</u> (changed to King's Day, <u>April 27</u> in <u>2014</u>), was the birthday of former Queen <u>Juliana</u> of the <u>Netherlands</u>
- April 30 Flag Day in <u>Sweden</u> (birthday of King <u>Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden</u>)
- April 30 International <u>Jazz</u> Day
- April 30 Walpurgis Night (Central and Northern Europe)

Moveable Events

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Eggs celebrating <u>Easter</u>, which often falls in April, but sometimes falls in <u>March</u>.

Image traditionally showing it as <u>raining</u> in April in the <u>Northern Hemisphere</u>.

- Easter-related events in Western Christianity:
 - Palm Sunday (between March 15 and April 18)
 - Maundy Thursday (between March 19 and April 22)
 - Good Friday (between March 20 and April 23)
 - Easter Sunday (between March 22 and April 25)
 - Easter Monday (between March 23 and April 26)
- Eastern Orthodox Easter falls between April 4 and May 8.
- Ascension Day (Western Christianity), falls between <u>April 30</u> and <u>June</u>
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- <u>Jewish Passover</u> falls in the same week as Western <u>Christianity</u>'s <u>Holy Week</u>, which is the week leading up to <u>Easter</u>.
- Mother's Day (UK) falls between March 1 and April 4.
- World **Snooker** Championship (late April, early **May**)
- Horse racing Grand National (UK), Kentucky Derby (United States)
- Start of <u>Daylight Saving Time</u> Clocks going forward one hour:
 - Most of Mexico
 - Morocco (Ramadan does not include Daylight Saving Time)
- End of Daylight Saving Time Clocks going back one hour:
 - Southeast Australia, and New Zealand
 - Chile
- Marathon Events in the following cities:
 - Belgrade, Serbia
 - Boston, Massachusetts, United States
 - Brighton, United Kingdom
 - Enschede, Netherlands
 - London, <u>United Kingdom</u> (held in <u>October</u> from <u>2020</u> to <u>2022</u> because of <u>COVID-19</u>)
 - Madrid, Spain
 - Paris, France
 - Rotterdam, Netherlands
 - Utrecht, Netherlands
 - Zurich, Switzerland

Selection of Historical Events

[change | change source]

<u>Inauguration</u> celebration for <u>Nunavut</u> on <u>April 1</u>, <u>1999</u>.

A statue on <u>Easter Island</u> - Jacob Roggeveen became the first <u>European</u> to land there on <u>April 5</u>, <u>1722</u>.

Newspaper report on the sinking of the RMS Titanic on April 15, 1912.

Fires after the San Francisco earthquake on April 18, 1906.

Australian and New Zealand forces landing at Anzac Cove, April 25, 1915.

Painting showing the Mutiny on the Bounty on April 28, 1789.

Queen <u>Juliana of the Netherlands</u>, who abdicated the throne on her 71st <u>birthday</u>, <u>April 30</u>, <u>1980</u>.

- April 1, 1918 The Royal Air Force is founded.
- April 1, 1976 Apple Inc. is founded.
- April 1, 1979 The Islamic Republic of Iran is founded.
- April 1, 1999 The territory of Nunavut is created in Northern Canada.
- <u>April 1</u>, <u>2001</u> The <u>Netherlands</u> introduces <u>same-sex marriage</u>, as the first <u>country</u> to do so.

- April 2, 1519 Florida is sighted by a European for the first time.
- April 2, 1930 Haile Selassie becomes Emperor of Ethiopia.
- April 2, 1982 Start of the <u>Falklands War</u>, as Argentine forces land on the <u>Falkland Islands</u>.
- April 2, 2005 Pope John Paul II dies aged 84, after 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ years as Pope.
- April 3, 1973 The first-ever mobile phone call is placed by Martin Cooper in New York City.
- April 4, 1721 Robert Walpole becomes the first Prime Minister of Great Britain.
- April 4, 1841 William Henry Harrison dies. He was <u>President of the United States</u> for 31 days, the shortest-ever time in office for a US president.
- April 4, 1960 Senegal becomes independent.
- April 4, 1968 Assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. in Memphis, Tennessee.
- <u>April 5</u>, <u>1722</u> <u>Jacob Roggeveen</u> becomes the first <u>European</u> to land on <u>Easter Island</u>, landing there on <u>Easter Sunday</u>.
- April 6, 1320 Scotland's independence is confirmed with the Declaration of Arbroath.
- April 6, 1830 The Mormon Church is founded.
- April 6, 1909 Robert Peary claims to have been first at the North Pole on this date.
- April 7, 1994 The Rwandan Genocide begins.
- April 9, 1865 American Civil War: Confederate forces under Robert E. Lee surrender to Union forces.
- April 9, 1940 World War II: Denmark and Norway are invaded by Nazi Germany.
- April 9, 1989 April 9 tragedy: In Tbilisi, Georgia, a peaceful demonstration for independence is broken up by the Soviet Army, killing 20 people. The country gains independence on this date exactly two years later.
- April 10, 1815 Mount Tambora in Indonesia erupts in a huge eruption, affecting the world's climate for at least a year.
- April 10, 2010 A plane crash near Smolensk, <u>Russia</u>, kills several people who were important in <u>Poland</u>, including <u>President Lech</u> <u>Kaczynski</u>.
- April 11, 1814 Napoleon Bonaparte is exiled to the island of Elba.
- April 11, 1954 Said to have been the most boring day of the 20th century.
- April 12, 1861 The American Civil War begins at Fort Sumter, Charleston, South Carolina.
- April 12, 1945 US President Franklin D. Roosevelt dies, and Harry S. Truman replaces him.
- April 12, 1961 Yuri Gagarin becomes the first human to fly into space.
- April 14, 1865 US President Abraham Lincoln is shot dead at Ford's Theatre by John Wilkes Booth. Lincoln dies the next day.
- April 14, 2010 Qinghai Province, China, is hit by an earthquake, killing tens of thousands of people.
- April 14, 2010 The eruption of Eyjafjallajokull in Iceland shuts down air traffic around Europe for a week, due to its ash cloud.

- April 15, 1912 The ship RMS Titanic sinks near Newfoundland after hitting an iceberg, resulting in the deaths of many of the people on board.
- April 16, 1943 Albert Hofmann discovers LSD's effects.
- April 17, 1946 Syria gains full independence from France.
- April 17, 1955 Albert Einstein dies.
- April 18, 1906 1906 San Francisco earthquake: San Francisco, California, is hit by a big earthquake, resulting in fires that destroy large parts of the city.
- April 18, 1980 Zimbabwe gains full independence.
- April 19, 1897 The first Boston Marathon is held.
- April 19, 1971 Sierra Leone becomes a republic.
- April 19, 1993 The siege of the Branch Davidians at Waco, Texas, ends in a fire that kills 82 people.
- April 19, 1995 Timothy McVeigh carries out the Oklahoma City bombing, killing 169 people.
- April 19, 2005 Joseph Alois Ratzinger becomes Pope Benedict XVI.
- April 20, 1889 Adolf Hitler is born.
- April 20, 1902 Marie Curie and Pierre Curie refine Radium.
- April 20, 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill: A massive fire on the Deepwater Horizon drilling rig in the <u>Gulf of Mexico</u> kills 11 workers and causes a massive <u>oil</u> spill, the worst spill in US history.
- April 21, 753 BC Legendary founding date of Rome
- April 21, 1509 Henry VIII of England becomes King.
- April 21, 1908 Frederick Cook claims to have reached the North Pole on this date.
- April 22, 1502 Pedro Alvares Cabral becomes the first European to reach present-day Brazil.
- April 22, 1970 Earth Day is observed for the first time.
- April 23, 1533 The <u>Church of England</u> declares that <u>Henry VIII of England</u> and <u>Catherine of Aragon</u> are not married.
- April 24, 1916 The Easter Rising occurs in Dublin, Ireland.
- April 24, 1990 The <u>Hubble Space Telescope</u> is launched on the <u>Space Shuttle Discovery</u>.
- April 25, 1915 World War I: In Turkey, the Battle of Gallipoli begins, Australian, French, British and New Zealand forces land at Anzac cove.
- April 25, 1974 Portugal's dictatorship is overthrown in a coup, in what is known as the Carnation Revolution.
- April 26, 1937 Spanish Civil War: German planes bomb the town of Guernica, Basque Country, later depicted in a painting by Pablo Picasso.
- April 26, 1964 Tanganyika and Zanzibar merge to form Tanzania.
- April 26, 1986 A reactor explosion occurs at the <u>Chernobyl</u> nuclear plant in present-day <u>Ukraine</u>, with <u>radiation</u> spreading around Europe and the world.
- April 26/27, 1994 South Africa holds its first free elections.
- April 27, 1960 Togo becomes independent from France.
- April 27, 1961 Sierra Leone becomes independent from the <u>United Kingdom</u>.
- April 28, 1789 Mutiny on the ship Bounty in the <u>Pacific Ocean</u>, lead by <u>Fletcher Christian</u>.
- April 28, 1945 Benito Mussolini is executed by Italian partisans.

- April 28, 1947 In Peru, Thor Heyerdahl starts his Kon-Tiki expedition aimed at proving his theory that the Polynesian settlers on the Pacific Ocean's islands came from South America.
- April 29, 1991 A cyclone in Bangladesh kills an estimated 138,000 people.
- April 29, 2011 The wedding of <u>Prince William</u>, <u>Duke of Cambridge</u> and <u>Catherine</u>, <u>Duchess of Cambridge</u> is broadcast worldwide.
- April 30, 1789 George Washington becomes the first President of the United States.
- April 30, 1803 The <u>United States</u> purchases (buys) the <u>Louisiana</u> territory from <u>France</u>.
- April 30, 1945 Adolf Hitler commits suicide on the same day that the Soviet Army raises the Red Flag on Berlin's Reichstag.
- April 30, 1952 The Diary of Anne Frank is published in English.
- April 30, 1975 The <u>Vietnam War</u> ends, as <u>North Vietnamese</u> forces take <u>Saigon</u>.
- April 30, 1980 Queen Juliana of the Netherlands abdicates the throne, and her daughter becomes Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands. Beatrix later also abdicates, on this day in 2013, in favor of her son, King Willem-Alexander of the Netherlands.

Trivia

[change | change source]

- April has the 100th day of the year. April 10 in a common year, April 9 in a leap year.
- In Western Christianity, Easter falls more often in April than in March.
- The months around April (March and May) both start with an 'M' in the English language, with an 'A' as the second letter.
- In the <u>English language</u>, April is the first of three months in-a-row, along with <u>May</u> and <u>June</u>, that is also a <u>female</u> given name.
- The astrological signs for April are <u>Aries</u> (<u>March 21</u> to <u>April 20</u>) and <u>Taurus</u> (<u>April 21</u> to <u>May 20</u>).
- The <u>sweet pea</u> and <u>daisy</u> are the traditional birth flowers for April.
- The <u>birthstone</u> for April is the <u>diamond</u>.
- April 1 is the only day in April to start within the first quarter of the calendar year.
- If the months of the <u>year</u> were arranged in <u>alphabetical</u> order in the <u>English language</u>, April would come first.
- Five current <u>European monarchs</u> were born in April. They are King Philippe of Belgium (April 15), Queen <u>Margrethe II of Denmark</u> (April 16), Henri, Grand Duke of Luxembourg (April 16), King Willem-Alexander of the Netherlands (April 27), and King <u>Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden</u> (April 30). Elizabeth II of the <u>United Kingdom</u> and <u>Commonwealth realms</u> who died on <u>September 8</u>, 2022 was also born in April (on <u>April 21</u>).

Months of the **Year**

January | February | March | April | May | June | July | August | September | October | November | December

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