

## FESTIVALS IN PUNJAB 2021-22

Sno	Name of the Festival	Definition	District	Month
1	Lohri	<p>Lohri is essentially a festival dedicated to fire and to the Sun God. It is the time when the sun moves towards the north. The new configuration lessens the ferocity of winter and brings warmth to the earth. It is to ward off the bitter chill of the month of January that people light bonfires, dance around them in a mood of bonhomie and celebrate Lohri. Venue: This is celebrated all over Punjab. Highlights : Lohri is traditionally associated with the harvest of the rabi crops. People take peanuts, rewri, flour, butter and various food items to places of religious worship to thank God for a good harvest. A key feature of Lohri is the bonfire, signifying the return of warmer days.</p>	All over Punjab	January
2	Vasant Panchami	<p>Vasant Panchami also spelled Basant Panchami, is a festival that marks the preparation for the arrival of spring. The festival is celebrated by people in various ways depending upon the region in the life in the Indian subcontinent. Vasant Panchami also marks the start of preparation for Holika and Holi, which take place forty days later.<sup>[5]</sup> The Vasant Utsava (festival) on Panchami is celebrated forty days before Spring, because any season's transition period is 40 days, and after that, the season comes into full bloom.</p>	All over Punjab	February
3	Hola Mohalla	<p>Hola is derived from the word 'halla' (a military charge) and the term 'mohalla' stands for an organized procession or an army column. The words 'Hola Mohalla' would thus stand for 'the charge of an army.</p> <p>Venue:Takht Sri Keshgarh Sahib, Anandpur Sahib. Highlights : The festival consists of camping out and enjoying various displays of fighting prowess and valour, followed by kirtan, music, and poetry. For meals, visitors sit on the ground in neat rows called Pangats and eat vegetarian food from the</p>	Anandpur Sahib/ All over Punjab	March

		Langars served by volunteers. Hola Mohalla: Nihangs carry traditional weapons and modern fire-arms as well, and are skilled at tent-pegging, sword wielding, jousting and other martial sports.		
4	Baisakhi	Baisakhi is one of the most significant holidays in the Sikh calendar, commemorating the establishment of the Khalsa in 1699. To mark the celebrations, devotees, irrespective of their religion, throng the Gurdwara, the Sikh place of worship. Processions through towns are also common. Venue: Baisakhi is celebrated on a large scale at Takht Sri Damdama Sahib situated at Bathinda Highlights: Sikh devotees generally attend the Gurdwara before dawn with flowers and offerings. Processions through cities are also common.	All over Punjab	April
5	Teej/Teeyan	Teej is known as Teeyan in Punjab and is seen as a seasonal festival which is dedicated to the onset of the monsoon. The festival is celebrated by women of all faiths, and lasts from the third day of the bright half of the lunar month of Sawan as per the Punjabi calendar to the full moon of Sawan (about 13 days).	All over Punjab	August
6	Rakhri or Rakhrhee	Rakhri or Rakhrhee is the Punjabi word for Rakhi and a festival observed by Hindus and Sikhs. In the Punjab region, the festival of Raksha Bandhan is celebrated as Rakhrhya. Rakhrhya is observed on the same day of the lunar month of Sawan. It, like Raksha Bandhan, celebrates the relationship between brothers and sisters. Rakhri means "to protect" whereby a brother promises to look out for his sister and in return, a sister prays for the well being of her brother. According to Fedorak (2006), the festival of Rakhri celebrates "the bonds between brothers and sisters". Married women often travel back to their natal homes for the occasion.  A Rakhri can also be tied on a cousin or an unrelated man. If a woman ties a Rakhri on the wrist of an unrelated man,	All over Punjab	August

		their relationship is treated as any other brother and sister relationship would be. The festival is a siblings-day comparable to Mother's day/Father's day/Grandparents day etc.		
7	Dussehra	Dussehra is the festival of the victory of good over evil. This festival signifies that wrong doings on some or the other day comes in front of everyone. Whether any evil forces push you, truth and righteousness always win. Also, Dussehra is considered as a day for starting new businesses or new investments. In South Indian in some states, on this day, small children are admitted to schools.	All over Punjab	October
8	Karu-ay da varat	Karu-ay da varat is the Punjabi name for the fast of Karva Chauth. This fast is primarily traditionally observed in the Punjab region but is also observed in parts of Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan. Although the mode of performing the Karva Chauth fast requires the woman to see the moon through a sieve and then her husband's face through the same sieve before she eats, in the Punjabi Karu-ay da varat, traditionally a brother will collect his married sister who will keep the fast at her natal home. The women will eat sweet dishes before sunrise and will not eat throughout the day. Women also get dressed up in traditional attire and gather in the evening for hearing tales about the fast. The purpose of the fast is for the well being and longevity of husbands.	All over Punjab	October
9	Diwali	On this day, Guru Hargobind Singh, the sixth Guru of the Sikhs, reached Amritsar after his release from Gwalior during the reign of the Mughal emperor, Jehangir. Diwali also celebrates the return of Ram, King of Ayodhya, with his wife Sita and brother Lakshman to Ayodhya after a 14 year exile, and a war in which he killed the evil demon-king Ravan. Venue: Golden Temple Amritsar. Highlights: On this day the entire Golden Temple is illuminated with traditional lamps. Fireworks are on display till late at night .	Golden Temple Amritsar / All over Punjab	November

10	Gurpurab	<p>A Gurpurab in Sikh tradition is a celebration of an anniversary of a Guru's birth marked by the holding of a festival. There are indications in the old chronicles that the gurus who succeeded Guru Nanak celebrated his birthday. Such importance was attached to the anniversaries that dates of the deaths of the first four gurus were recorded on a leaf in the first recension of the Scripture prepared by the Fifth Guru, Guru Arjan. The term gurpurab first appeared in the time of the gurus. It is a compound of the word purab (or parva in Sanskrit), meaning a festival or celebration, with the word guru. It occurs in at least five places in the writings of Bhai Gurdas (1551–1636), written in the time of Guru Arjan Dev Ji (5th Guru of the Sikhs). A Gurpurab is a mixture of the religious and the festive, the devotional and the spectacular, the personal and the communal. Over the years a standardized pattern has evolved, but this pattern has no special sanctity, and local groups may invent their own variations. During these celebrations, the Guru Granth Sahib is read through, in private homes and in the gurdwaras, in a single continuous ceremony lasting 48 hours. This reading, called Akhand Path, must be without interruption; the relay of reciters who take turns at saying the Scripture ensures that no break occurs.</p>	All over Punjab	November
11	Bhai Dooj	<p><b>Bhai Dooj</b> In <b>Punjab</b>, the day after <b>Diwali</b> is celebrated as tika and on this day, sisters make a paste with saffron and rice and apply tika on their brothers' forehead to keep away all the difficulties and dangers from them. After this, they exchange gifts and sweets among each other.</p>	All over India	November