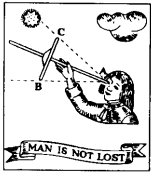


RGO ASTRONOMICAL INFORMATION SHEET No. 64



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for the Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council

ASTRONOMICAL AND CALENDARIAL DATA SHEET FOR 1997

PHASES OF THE MOON

New Moon			First Quarter			Full Moon			Last Quarter		
	d	h	m		d	h	m		d	h	m
Jan.	9	04	26	Jan.	15	20	02	Jan.	23	15	11
Feb.	7	15	06	Feb.	14	08	57	Feb.	22	10	27
Mar.	9	01	15	Mar.	16	00	06	Mar.	24	04	45
Apr.	7	11	02	Apr.	14	17	00	Apr.	22	20	33
May	6	20	46	May	14	10	55	May	22	09	13
June	5	07	03	June	13	04	51	June	20	19	09
July	4	18	40	July	12	21	44	July	20	03	20
Aug.	3	08	14	Aug.	11	12	42	Aug.	18	10	55
Sept.	1	23	52	Sept.	10	01	31	Sept.	16	18	50
Oct.	1	16	51	Oct.	9	12	22	Oct.	16	03	46
Oct.	31	10	01	Nov.	7	21	43	Nov.	14	14	12
Nov.	30	02	14	Dec.	7	06	09	Dec.	14	02	37
Dec.	29	16	56								

SEASONS

			d	h	m
Vernal Equinox	—	Spring begins	Mar.	20	13 55
Summer Solstice	—	Summer begins	June	21	08 20
Autumnal Equinox	—	Autumn begins	Sept.	22	23 56
Winter Solstice	—	Winter begins	Dec.	21	20 07

SUMMER TIME

In the United Kingdom BST, one hour in advance of GMT, will be kept from March 30^d 01^h to October 26^d 01^h GMT.

ECLIPSES

1. A total eclipse of the Sun on March 8–9. The path of totality begins in Mongolia, crosses the extreme north-east of China then passes through north-east Russia and ends in the Arctic regions. The partial phase is visible from the eastern half of Asia except for Indonesia and Malaysia (excluding Brunei), north Pacific Ocean including Japan, Arctic regions, Alaska and western Canada. The eclipse begins on March 8 at 23^h 17^m and ends on March 9 at 03^h 31^m; the total phase begins at 00^h 43^m and ends at 02^h 04^m. The maximum duration of totality is 2^m 54^s.
2. A partial eclipse of the Moon on March 24 is visible from part of Antarctica, western half of Africa, Europe (except for the extreme eastern part) including the British Isles, Iceland, Greenland, Atlantic Ocean, Arctic regions, The Americas except for the western part of Alaska and the east Pacific Ocean. The eclipse begins at 02^h 59^m and ends at 06^h 21^m. The time of maximum eclipse is 04^h 40^m, when 0.92 of the Moon's diameter is obscured.
3. A partial eclipse of the Sun on September 1–2 is visible from the south-east Indian Ocean, part of Antarctica, Australia, New Zealand and the south-west Pacific Ocean. The eclipse begins on September 1 at 21^h 44^m and ends on September 2 at 02^h 23^m. The time of maximum eclipse is 00^h 04^m on September 2, when 0.90 of the Sun's diameter is obscured.
4. A total eclipse of the Moon on September 16 is visible from Antarctica, the west Pacific Ocean, Australasia, Asia except for extreme north eastern part, the Indian Ocean, Africa, Europe including the British Isles and the south-east Atlantic Ocean. The eclipse begins at 17^h 08^m and ends at 20^h 24^m. Totality lasts from 18^h 15^m to 19^h 17^m.

All times are in GMT

JPH/CYH

1992 September
Updated 1996 October

CALENDAR 1997

CHRONOLOGICAL CYCLES AND ERAS

Dominical Letter	E	Julian Period (year of)	6710
Epact	21	Roman Indiction	5
Golden Number (Lunar Cycle)	III	Solar Cycle	18

Era	Year	Begins	Era	Year	Begins
Byzantine	7506	Sept. 14	Grecian (Seleucidæ)	2309	Sept. 14
Roman (AUC)	2750	Jan. 14			(or Oct. 14)
Nabonassar	2746	Apr. 24	Indian (Saka)	1919	Mar. 22
Japanese	2657	Jan. 1	Diocletian	1714	Sept. 11

RELIGIOUS CALENDARS

Epiphany	Jan. 6	Low Sunday	Apr. 6
Septuagesima Sunday	Jan. 26	Rogation Sunday	May 4
Quinquagesima Sunday	Feb. 9	Ascension Day—Holy Thursday	May 8
Ash Wednesday	Feb. 12	Whit Sunday—Pentecost	May 18
Quadragesima Sunday	Feb. 16	Trinity Sunday	May 25
Fourth Sunday in Lent—Mothering Sunday	Mar. 9	Corpus Christi	May 29
Palm Sunday	Mar. 23	First Sunday in Advent	Nov. 30
Good Friday	Mar. 28	Christmas Day (Thursday)	Dec. 25
Easter Day	Mar. 30		

First Day of Passover (Pesach)	Apr. 22	Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur)	Oct. 11
Feast of Weeks (Shavuot)	June 11	First day of Tabernacles (Succoth)	Oct. 16
Jewish New Year (Rosh Hashanah)	5758 Oct. 2		
First day of Ramadân	Jan. 10	Islamic New Year	1418 May 9
	and Dec. 31		

All Jewish and Islamic dates above are tabular dates, which begin at sunset on the previous evening and end at sunset on the date tabulated. In practice, the dates of Islamic fasts and festivals are determined by an actual sighting of the appropriate new Moon.

CIVIL CALENDAR—UNITED KINGDOM

Accession of Queen Elizabeth II	Feb. 6	Coronation Day	June 2
St David (Wales)	Mar. 1	Birthday of Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh	June 10
Commonwealth Day	Mar. 10	The Queen's Official Birthday*	June 14
St Patrick (Ireland)	Mar. 17	Remembrance Sunday	Nov. 9
Birthday of Queen Elizabeth II	Apr. 21	Birthday of the Prince of Wales	Nov. 14
St George (England)	Apr. 23	St Andrew (Scotland)	Nov. 30

*Date subject to confirmation

HOLIDAYS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

The following list contains bank holidays, (compiled from the *Banking and Financial Dealings Act 1971*), common law holidays and days to be given in lieu for holidays which fall on a weekend. Dates given in *italic* are those which are subject to Royal proclamation. There is no statutory requirement for a day to be given in lieu if one of the days falls at the weekend and is not covered by the act. In such cases probable dates are given in *italic* when they have not yet been authorised by Royal proclamation.

	England and Wales	Northern Ireland	Scotland
New Year	Jan. 1	Jan. 1	Jan. 1, Jan. 2
St Patrick	—	Mar. 17	—
Good Friday	Mar. 28‡	Mar. 28‡	Mar. 28
Easter Monday	Mar. 31	Mar. 31	—
May Day	May 5	May 5	May 26
Spring	May 26	May 26	May 5
Battle of the Boyne	—	July 12# <i>July 14</i>	—
Summer	Aug. 25	Aug. 25	Aug. 4
Christmas	Dec. 25‡	Dec. 25‡	Dec. 25
Boxing Day	Dec. 26	Dec. 26	<i>Dec. 26</i>

‡ Common Law Holiday

Holiday falls on a Saturday

† Holiday falls on a Sunday

Warning: Clauses in the *Banking and Financial Dealings Act* allow the Government to alter dates at short notice.