

# ASTRONOMICAL INFORMATION SHEET No. 77



Prepared by

**HM Nautical Almanac Office**

Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, Chilton, Didcot, OX11 0QX  
Council for the Central Laboratory of the Research Councils



## ASTRONOMICAL AND CALENDARIAL DATA SHEET FOR 2000

### PHASES OF THE MOON

New Moon			First Quarter			Full Moon			Last Quarter		
	d	h m		d	h m		d	h m		d	h m
Jan.	6	18 14	Jan.	14	13 34	Jan.	21	04 40	Jan.	28	07 57
Feb.	5	13 03	Feb.	12	23 21	Feb.	19	16 27	Feb.	27	03 53
Mar.	6	05 17	Mar.	13	06 59	Mar.	20	04 44	Mar.	28	00 21
Apr.	4	18 12	Apr.	11	13 30	Apr.	18	17 41	Apr.	26	19 30
May	4	04 12	May	10	20 00	May	18	07 34	May	26	11 55
June	2	12 14	June	9	03 29	June	16	22 27	June	25	01 00
July	1	19 20	July	8	12 53	July	16	13 55	July	24	11 02
July	31	02 25	Aug.	7	01 02	Aug.	15	05 13	Aug.	22	18 51
Aug.	29	10 19	Sept.	5	16 27	Sept.	13	19 37	Sept.	21	01 28
Sept.	27	19 53	Oct.	5	10 59	Oct.	13	08 53	Oct.	20	07 59
Oct.	27	07 58	Nov.	4	07 27	Nov.	11	21 15	Nov.	18	15 24
Nov.	25	23 11	Dec.	4	03 55	Dec.	11	09 03	Dec.	18	00 41
Dec.	25	17 22									

### SEASONS

			d	h	m
Vernal Equinox	—	Spring begins	Mar.	20	07 35
Summer Solstice	—	Summer begins	June	21	01 48
Autumnal Equinox	—	Autumn begins	Sept.	22	17 27
Winter Solstice	—	Winter begins	Dec.	21	13 37

### SUMMER TIME

In the United Kingdom BST, one hour in advance of GMT, will be kept from March 26<sup>d</sup> 01<sup>h</sup> to October 29<sup>d</sup> 01<sup>h</sup> GMT.

### ECLIPSES

1. A total eclipse of the Moon on January 21 is visible from the northern part of Russia, Europe including the British Isles, north and west Africa, Atlantic Ocean, Greenland, Arctic regions, north, central and South America, western Antarctica and the east Pacific Ocean. The eclipse begins at 03<sup>h</sup> 03<sup>m</sup> and ends at 06<sup>h</sup> 25<sup>m</sup>. Totality lasts from 04<sup>h</sup> 06<sup>m</sup> to 05<sup>h</sup> 22<sup>m</sup>.
2. A partial eclipse of the Sun on February 5 is visible from Antarctica and central southern Indian Ocean. The eclipse begins at 10<sup>h</sup> 56<sup>m</sup> and ends at 14<sup>h</sup> 43<sup>m</sup>. The time of maximum eclipse is 12<sup>h</sup> 49<sup>m</sup>, when 0.58 of the Sun's diameter is obscured.
3. A partial eclipse of the Sun on July 1 is visible from central southern Pacific Ocean and the southern part of Chile and Argentina. The eclipse begins at 18<sup>h</sup> 07<sup>m</sup> and ends at 20<sup>h</sup> 58<sup>m</sup>. The time of maximum eclipse is 19<sup>h</sup> 33<sup>m</sup>, when 0.48 of the Sun's diameter is obscured.
4. A total eclipse of the Moon on July 16 is visible from Australasia, eastern Russia, Japan, China, south-east Asia, India, Indian Ocean, Antarctica, Hawaiian Islands and east Pacific Ocean. The eclipse begins at 11<sup>h</sup> 58<sup>m</sup> and ends at 15<sup>h</sup> 54<sup>m</sup>. Totality lasts from 13<sup>h</sup> 03<sup>m</sup> to 14<sup>h</sup> 49<sup>m</sup>.
5. A partial eclipse of the Sun on July 31 is visible from west Russia, northern parts of Scandinavia and Greenland, north Russia, Arctic Ocean and north-west North America. The eclipse begins at 00<sup>h</sup> 38<sup>m</sup> and ends at 03<sup>h</sup> 49<sup>m</sup>. The time of maximum eclipse is 02<sup>h</sup> 13<sup>m</sup>, when 0.60 of the Sun's diameter is obscured.
6. A partial eclipse of the Sun on December 25 is visible from Mexico, West Indies, North America except Alaska and the extreme north of Canada, west Atlantic Ocean and the southern part of Greenland. The eclipse begins at 15<sup>h</sup> 27<sup>m</sup> and ends at 19<sup>h</sup> 43<sup>m</sup>. The time of maximum eclipse is 17<sup>h</sup> 35<sup>m</sup>, when 0.72 of the Sun's diameter is obscured.

**All times are in GMT**

CYH/SAB

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CALENDAR 2000

CHRONOLOGICAL CYCLES AND ERAS

Dominical Letter	BA	Julian Period (year of)	6713
Epact	24	Roman Indiction	8
Golden Number (Lunar Cycle)	VI	Solar Cycle	21

  

Era	Year	Begins	Era	Year	Begins
Byzantine	7509	Sept. 14	Grecian (Seleucidæ)	2312	Sept. 14
Roman (AUC)	2753	Jan. 14			(or Oct. 14)
Nabonassar	2749	Apr. 23	Indian (Saka)	1922	Mar. 21
Japanese	2660	Jan. 1	Diocletian	1717	Sept. 11

RELIGIOUS CALENDARS

Epiphany	Jan. 6	Low Sunday	Apr. 30
Septuagesima Sunday	Feb. 20	Rogation Sunday	May 28
Quinquagesima Sunday	Mar. 5	Ascension Day—Holy Thursday	June 1
Ash Wednesday	Mar. 8	Whit Sunday—Pentecost	June 11
Quadragesima Sunday	Mar. 12	Trinity Sunday	June 18
Fourth Sunday in Lent—Mothering Sunday	Apr. 2	Corpus Christi	June 22
Palm Sunday	Apr. 16	First Sunday in Advent	Dec. 3
Good Friday	Apr. 21	Christmas Day (Monday)	Dec. 25
Easter Day	Apr. 23		
First Day of Passover (Pesach)	Apr. 20	Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur)	Oct. 9
Feast of Weeks (Shavuot)	June 9	First day of Tabernacles (Succoth)	Oct. 14
Jewish New Year (Rosh Hashanah)	5761 Sept. 30		
Islamic New Year	1421 Apr. 6	First day of Ramadân	Nov. 28

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	The Queen's Official Birthday*	June 10
Commonwealth Day	Mar. 13	Birthday of Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh	June 10
St Patrick (Ireland)	Mar. 17	Remembrance Sunday	Nov. 12
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. 3	Jan. 1# Jan. 3	Jan. 1# Jan. 2† Jan. 4 Jan. 3
St Patrick	—	Mar. 17	—
Good Friday	Apr. 21 ‡	Apr. 21 ‡	Apr. 21
Easter Monday	Apr. 24	Apr. 24	—
May Day	May 1	May 1	May 29
Spring	May 29	May 29	May 1
Battle of the Boyne	—	<i>July 12</i>	—
Summer	Aug. 28	Aug. 28	Aug. 7
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.