



ESTONIAN NATIONAL HOLIDAYS

Erasmus + project “Learn and Participate”
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New Years' Day (1st of January)



Independence Day (24th of February)

Estonian Independence Day (iseseisvuspäev) is a public holiday in Estonia, always celebrated on February 24th. This is Estonia's National Day, marking the anniversary of the declaration founding the Republic of Estonia on this day in 1918



Good Friday (friday in April-May)



Easter Sunday (March-May)



Spring Day (1st of May)

This international holiday is observed on May 1st. It is most commonly associated as a commemoration of the achievements of the labour movement. The holiday may also be known as International Worker's Day or May Day and is marked with a public holiday in over 80 countries.



Mothers Day (second Sunday of May)



Not a public holiday, but a legal national holiday observed on the second Sunday in May in the United States. Mother's Day is celebrated across the world, in more than 50 countries, though not all countries celebrate it on the same day.

Pentecost Sunday

Pentecost, also known as Whit Sunday or Whitsunday, is observed on the seventh Sunday after Easter and 10 days after Ascension. The name comes from the Greek word "pentekoste" which means fiftieth as Pentecost Sunday takes place on the 50th day of Easter.



Victory Day (23rd of June)

Victory Day (Võidupüha) is a public holiday in Estonia, celebrated on June 23rd. It was first celebrated in 1934.

The date marks the key victory in the 1919 Battle of Võnnu (near Cesis, Latvia) when the Estonians and their allies defeated German forces who were seeking to re-establish Baltic-German control over the region.



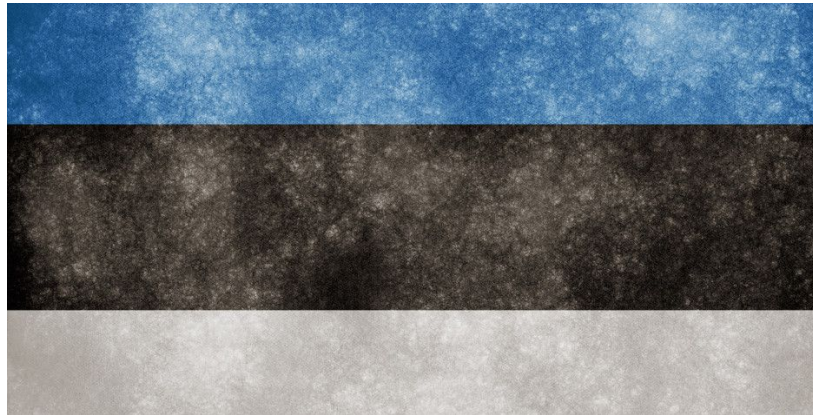
St. John's Day



Always celebrated on June 24th, this holiday celebrates the birthday of St. John the Baptist. In the Gospel of Luke, certain verses imply that John the Baptist was born six months earlier than Jesus. And since it has become a tradition that Jesus was born on December 25th (Christmas Day), Midsummer day, being six months before was taken to be the feast day of St. John the Baptist.

Independence Restoration Day (20th of August)

Following the growth of a strong independence movement in the late 1980s, Estonia officially declared its independence from the former Soviet Republic on August 20th 1991.



Ethnicity Day (October)

This public holiday is celebrated on the 3rd Saturday in October. In 2011, the Estonian Riigikogu (parliament) approved a law according to which ethnicity day will be celebrated on the third

Saturday of October as national holiday, *LETA/htuleht* reports.



Fathers' Day (November)

Father's Day is a celebration that honours the role of fathers and forefathers. It is a modern holiday, though the ancient Romans did have a tradition of honouring fathers, every February, but only those who had deceased.



Christmas (24.12-26.12)

