

Sri Lanka public, bank and mercantile holidays 2026

Humanised

P = public holiday · B = bank holiday · M = paid holiday for shop and office employees (Gazette declaration or Poya day) · Poya rows shaded. Source: Gazette Extraordinary of 27 May 2025 as amended 21 April 2026; Government Printer 2026 calendar; CBSL. Reviewed 3 September 2026.

DATE	DAY	HOLIDAY	P	B	M	POYA
3 Jan	Sat	Duruthu Full Moon Poya Day	✓	✓	✓	✓
15 Jan	Thu	Tamil Thai Pongal Day	✓	✓	✓	—
1 Feb	Sun	Navam Full Moon Poya Day	✓	✓	✓	✓
4 Feb	Wed	Independence Day	✓	✓	✓	—
15 Feb	Sun	Maha Sivarathri Day	✓	✓	—	—
2 Mar	Mon	Medin Full Moon Poya Day	✓	✓	✓	✓
21 Mar	Sat	Id-UI-Fitr (Ramazan Festival Day) (Subject to moon sighting)	✓	✓	—	—
1 Apr	Wed	Bak Full Moon Poya Day	✓	✓	✓	✓
3 Apr	Fri	Good Friday	✓	✓	—	—
13 Apr	Mon	Day Prior to Sinhala & Tamil New Year Day	✓	✓	✓	—
14 Apr	Tue	Sinhala & Tamil New Year Day	✓	✓	✓	—
1 May	Fri	Vesak Full Moon Poya Day and May Day (Vesak Poya and May Day fall on the same day; one holiday)	✓	✓	✓	✓
2 May	Sat	Day Following Vesak Full Moon Poya Day (Mercantile holiday for shops and offices confirmed by the Department of Labour; the public-sector holiday was moved to 31 May)	—	✓	✓	—
28 May	Thu	Id-UI-Alha (Hadji Festival Day) (Subject to moon sighting)	✓	✓	—	—
30 May	Sat	Adhi Poson Full Moon Poya Day (Extra (Adhi) Poya; the State Vesak Festival was observed on this day)	✓	✓	✓	✓
31 May	Sun	Public holiday (day after the State Vesak Festival) (Public-sector holiday declared 21 April 2026; not a mercantile holiday)	✓	✓	—	—
29 Jun	Mon	Poson Full Moon Poya Day	✓	✓	✓	✓
29 Jul	Wed	Esala Full Moon Poya Day	✓	✓	✓	✓
26 Aug	Wed	Milad-Un-Nabi (Holy Prophet's Birthday) (Subject to moon sighting)	✓	✓	✓	—
27 Aug	Thu	Nikini Full Moon Poya Day	✓	✓	✓	✓
26 Sep	Sat	Binara Full Moon Poya Day	✓	✓	✓	✓
25 Oct	Sun	Vap Full Moon Poya Day	✓	✓	✓	✓
8 Nov	Sun	Deepavali Festival Day	✓	✓	—	—
24 Nov	Tue	Il Full Moon Poya Day	✓	✓	✓	✓

DATE	DAY	HOLIDAY	P	B	M	POYA
23 Dec	Wed	Unduvap Full Moon Poya Day	✓	✓	✓	✓
25 Dec	Fri	Christmas Day	✓	✓	✓	—

Working on a Poya day: pay at least 1.5× the daily rate (Shop and Office Employees Act s.7B). Working on a declared mercantile holiday: with the Commissioner’s sanction, a paid substitute day by 31 December or 2× pay (s.7(2)). Full guide, .ics calendar and updates: www.gethumanised.com/guides/mercantile-holidays-sri-lanka-2026/