

Prewar National Holidays / Festival Days and Postwar National Holidays

Before WW [1927]			
Name	Date	National holiday / Festival day	Supplementary Note
Genshisai	January 3	festival day	Instituted in 1873
Shinnen Enkai	January 5	national holiday	Instituted in 1873
Kigensetsu	February 11	national holiday	Instituted in 1872 as the enthronement day of Emperor Jinmu and renamed in 1873 as Kigensetsu (The anniversary day of Emperor Jinmu's Accession).
Shunki Kōreisai	Vernal Equinox Day	festival day	Instituted in 1878
Jinmu-Ten'nōsai	April 3	festival day	Instituted in 1873
Tenchōsetsu	April 29	national holiday	Instituted in 1927
Shūki Kōreisai	Autumnal Equinox Day	festival day	Instituted in 1878
Kannamesai	October 17	festival day	Instituted in 1873
Meijisetsu	November 3	national holiday	Instituted in 1927
Niinamesai	November 23	festival day	Instituted in 1873
Taishō-Ten'nōsai	December 25	festival day	Instituted in 1927
After WW [1993]			
Name	Date	Meaning	Supplementary Note
New Year's Day Gantan	January 1	Celebrate the beginning of the new year.	
Coming-of-Age Day Seijin no Hi	January 15	Celebration of majority, to encourage new adults(20 years of age) to be conscious of their responsibilities and need to live independently.	
National Foundation Day Kenkoku-Kinen no Hi	February 11	Recollect the founding of the nation, and cultivate the patriotic spirit.	Instituted in 1966
Vernal Equinox Shunbun no Hi	Vernal Equinox	Praise nature and cherish living creatures.	

Green Day Midori no Hi	April 29	Cultivate generosity by feeling close to nature and being grateful for its benefits.	Celebrated as the emperor's birthday until 1988
Constitution Day Kenpō-Kinen Bi	May 3	Commemorate the introduction of the Constitution of Japan, and celebrate national development.	
Children's Day Kodomo no Hi	May 5	To respect children's individual personalities, and to encourage them to be happy and grateful to mothers.	
Respect for the Aged Day Keirō no Hi	September 15	Revere the aged people who have contributed to the society for a long time, and celebrate their long life.	Instituted in 1966
Autumnal Equinox Shūbun no Hi	Autumnal Equinox	Commemorate ancestors and the spirits of the deceased.	
Health Sports Day Tai'iku no Hi	October 10	Get familiar with sports, and cultivate a healthy body and mind	Instituted in 1966
Culture Day Bunka no Hi	November 3	Love liberty and peace, and promote culture.	
Labor Thanksgiving Day Kinrō-Kansha no Hi	November 23	Esteem labor, celebrate production and be grateful for each other.	
The Emperor's Birthday Ten'nō-Tanjō Bi	December 23	Celebrate the emperor's birthday.	Instituted in 1989