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HINDUS OF AUSTRALIA

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The 2026 Unified Monthly Panchang Australia

This Panchang is a collaborative effort by the **Australian Council of Hindu Clergy (ACHC)**, **Hindus of Australia**, and **Hindu Organizations, Temples, and Associations (HOTA)**. The main body of this panchang is made as per the local muhurtas of Sydney, Melbourne, Canberra, Adelaide and Hobart. However, key days and dates from Brisbane and Perth are included. Therefore, the **panchanga covers all regions across Australia**, including variations due to daylight savings. The initiative aims to foster unity within the Hindu community by standardizing the dates for major festivals.

The Panchang is meticulously prepared by experienced jyotishis from Date (pronounced: Dáté) Panchang (<https://datepanchang.com/>) in collaboration with Shri Neti Siva Rama Krishna Shastri ji, ensuring both accuracy and authenticity in Australian context.

Understanding the Panchang

The Hindu Panchang divides the sky into 27-star clusters (Nakshatras) within 12 Rasis (zodiac signs), following the Sidereal Zodiac system (known as Simsumara Chakram or Kalapurusha Chakram in Sanskrit). Unlike modern astronomy, where the Sun is considered a star, Hindu astrology categorizes it as one of the seven key planets. While most celestial bodies move clockwise, Rahu and Ketu, the shadow planets move counterclockwise. Ancient sages discovered how planetary movements influence earthly events and used this knowledge to determine auspicious and inauspicious times, forming the foundation of the Panchangam. **The term Panchangam means "five limbs," referring to its key components: Tithi (lunar day), Vara (weekday), Nakshatra (star), Yoga and Karana.**

Calculation Methods

Two primary methods are used in Panchang calculations:

Surya Siddhanta: An ancient approach that lost precision over time due to natural astronomical changes

Drik Siddhanta: A modern, astronomy-based method that allows verification of planetary positions using telescopic observations. **This Panchanga employs the Drik Ganitha (Drik Siddhanta) method**, combined with the Chaitra Paksha Ayanamsa - a standard recommended by the Calendar Reform Committee of India and international astrological organizations.

Modern computing enables daily calculation of Ayanamsa (the shift between the vernal equinox and diurnal equinox). The Panchang's geocentric planetary positions are derived from Kepler's equation of planetary motion, ensuring precise sidereal positions.

Tithi Classifications

Nitya Tithi: Spans sunrise; used in rituals like Sandhya Vandana and Homa. **Parva Tithi:** Determines festival timings based on specific parts of the day (e.g., midday for Rama Navami, midnight for Maha Shivaratri).


Pitru Tithi: Used for ancestral rites during the Aparahna period.

Rahu Kalam and Yam Ghanta timings are averaged for each month, and are indicated under the days.



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Festival Guidelines

Key rules for declaring festivals:

- **Nitya Tithi:** Must be present at sunrise.
- **Madhyahna Vyapini:** Relevant for festivals like Rama Navami.
- **Niseedhi Vyapini:** Required for events like Janmashtami (midnight).

Significant Dates and Clarifications

- **Makara Sankranti:** 14 January 2026
- **Karkataka Sankranti:** 17 July 2026
- **Sukra Asta:** Astangat till 16 Feb 2026, and 22 October to 25 October 2026
- **Guru Asta:** 16 July 2026 to 21 August 2026

Eclipses Visible in Australia

- **Total Lunar Eclipse:** 3 March 2026 AEDT
Partial Start 20:50 Total Eclipse Starts 22:04 Total Eclipse Ends 23:02 Partial Ends 24:17

Festival Categorisation

- **Vinayaka Chaturthi:** Madhyahna Vyapini
- **Deepavali:** Pradosha Vyapini
- **Krishna Ashtami:** Smarthas: Niseedhi Vyapini (midnight). Vaishnavas: Rohini Nakshatra Vyapini
- **Guru Purnima** - Sooryoday Vyapini
- **Vijaya Dashami** - Aparahna Vyapini
- **Mahashivaratri** - Niseedhi Vyapini (midnight)
- **Sankashta Chaturthi** - Chandra Uday Vyapini

The Priests

Pt.Narayan Bhatt ji - ACHC / Hindu Heritage Society

Pt.Siva Srinivasan ji - ACHC / Shirdi Sai Sansthan, Sydney

Pt. Krishnamurthi Venkatraman ji - ACHC

Pt Samir Vyas ji – ACHC / Shirdi Sai Sansthan, Sydney

Pt.Jagdish Sharma ji - President, Sanatan Dharma Pratinidhi Sabha

Pt.Krish Mishra ji - President, Brahman purohit Mahasabha

Pt.Rakesh Sharma ji - Vice President, Brahman Purohit Mahasabha.

Pt.Rishi Sharma ji - Public officer, Brahman purohit Mahasabha

Pt.Shiva Shanmugam ji - Sri Shiva Mandir, Minto.

Association heads

Sri.Subrahmanyam Ramarathinam ji – HOTA

Pt Nirav Maharaj ji - GJSK Australia, Perth

Dr Avinash Karpe ji - Hindus of Australia, Canberra

Hardik Vyas ji - Hindus of Australia, Brisbane.

Pt Pramod Rai ji - Arya Samaj, Shane Park

Arunesh Seth ji – MD- Mahasangh

Yogesh Chanda ji - Secretary, SDPS

Feedback and Contact

We value your feedback and suggestions for improving this Panchang.

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