

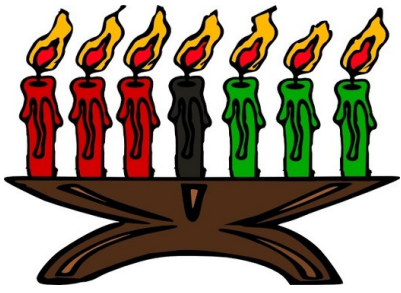
WINTER HOLIDAYS CELEBRATED ACROSS THE GLOBE



HANUKKAH

A Jewish Holiday

Observed by lighting the candles of a Hanukkah Menorah for 8 nights and days. Starts on the 25th day of the Hebrew calendar commemorating the rededication of the Second Temple in Jerusalem at the time of the Maccabean Revolt against the Seleucid Empire. This year it starts on December 2 and ends on December 10



KWANZA

A Celebration of African Heritage

Also known as "First Fruits," is a spiritual holiday that lasts for about a week from December 26 to January 1. It was first celebrated in 1966 and culminates in a feast of celebration. Millions of African Americans dress in special clothes, decorate their homes with fruits and vegetables, and light a kinara.



ST. LUCIA DAY

To Honor Saint Lucia

This Christian holiday honors the third century saint and takes place on December 13 during Advent. It is mostly celebrated in Scandinavia where it is a major feast day. During the festivities, girls will dress like a "Lucia Bride" wearing a long white dress, a red sash, and a wreath with candles while they sing songs and carry saffron buns to their loved ones.



YULE

A Winter Solstice

A Pagan holiday that falls on December 21st known as the winter solstice. This is the shortest day and longest night of the year which celebrates the rebirth of the sun.

LAS POSADAS

A Hispanic Holiday

This 9 day holiday is celebrated by many Hispanic American families and takes place before Christmas on December 16 - 24. This celebration begins with a processional to mimic the journey of Christ's birth and is celebrated every night with gifts, pinatas, parties, and prayer.

