

INCLUDED

Calendar 2026 – 2027

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Pride Walk

11 September to 13 September
Rosh Hashana
 Rosh Hashana, the Jewish New Year, is a time for reflection, repentance, and looking to the future. Forgiveness is an opportunity to look back on the previous year and set intentions for the year ahead. Traditionally, sweet dishes are eaten, such as apples with honey, to signify a sweet and prosperous year.

25 September: International Day of Sign Language
 25 September marks more than 72 million people who are deaf or hard of hearing. At the same time, we celebrate this diversity and effect for the future of modern sign languages in our own countries. It's a fully accessible way to celebrate the diversity of our community.

26 September: Mid-Autumn Festival
 The Mid-Autumn Festival is a traditional East Asian celebration where families come together to admire the full moon and illuminate, and celebrate the harvest.

26 September: Pride Walk
 Celebrating 50 years of a historic march of equality, the Pride Walk is an annual celebration. As the University of Applied Sciences, we are proud to have the event on our campus to show the diversity of our students.

The distribution on the map and for each month in the calendar were made by [World Climate Data Center](#) (germany).

SEPTEMBER 2026

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30

11 September to 13 September

Rosh Hashana

25 September

International Day of Sign Language

26 September

Mid-Autumn Festival

26 September

Pride Walk

INCLUDED

Get all dates, times, and other details for each event and celebration on our [Pride page](#) or website.

[Pride Walk](#) [Mid-Autumn Festival](#) [International Day of Sign Language](#)

5-11 October Accessibility Week

During Accessibility Week, we reflect on the importance of accessibility for everyone. Accessibility encompasses more than just physical access; it also involves providing clear information, fostering inclusive communication, and ensuring equal opportunities for all.

This is a valuable opportunity for us to collaborate and share our innovative practices, ensuring that all customers and staff have supported throughout the first phase.

6 October Diversity Day

Each year, we strive to best understand our differences and embrace diversity. At Robertson Diversity Day, we celebrate our staff and customers from all backgrounds, ethnicities, and perspectives. This enables us to learn from each other, share our experiences, and ensure everyone feels included and valued.

9 October Purple Friday 11 October Coming Out Day

Our LGBTQ+ staff member, Rebecca is Purple Friday. Her origin as an initiative by elementary school students has grown to a national day of visibility, with the purpose of ensuring that everyone is able to be themselves, whether that is at school, at work or everywhere.

A few hours later, on 11 October is Coming Out Day. A day centered on visibility and the freedom to be open about who you are and who you love. Together, these days highlight just how important it is to ensure we feel safe when being ourselves.

Diversity Day

OCTOBER 2026

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31																															
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1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8		9		10		11		12		13		14		15		16		17		18		19		20		21		22		23		24		25		26		27		28		29		30		31	
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9 March Eid al-Fitr

Celebrated after days of Ramadan, Eid marks the end of the fasting month.

 Muslims around the world celebrate the end of the fasting month of Ramadan. Muslims celebrate this occasion with prayer, gift-giving and feasting.

16-20 March Neurodiversity Celebration Week

This is a global initiative that raises awareness and promotes acceptance of neurodiversity.

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20 March Nowruz

Nowruz is an ancient Persian spring festival celebrated by people from three billion people across all four corners of the world.

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23 March Holi Phagwa

Holi is an ancient Hindu festival of colors, joy and love.

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23 March International Transgender Visibility Day

Transgender Visibility Day is a global day of celebration and solidarity for transgender people.

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MARCH 2027

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31



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10 June: Neurodiversity Pride Day

Community people, so much compassion! There is a way to get on with everything on 10 June the first day of the month is different. Remember that this is a day when we have differences make us special and that we are not looking to receive from they think at best it is a day of recognition, respect and pride in neurodiversity.

20 June: World Refugee Day

International observance is held every year on this day, we recognize the strength and courage of those who have been displaced, look to help them, welcome, support them, and work together to create a world where everyone feels welcome.

30 June: Kari Koki (commemoration)

Kari Koki means "Korua-ohia" and commemorates the abolition of slavery in Singapore and the lives of those who were enslaved. On this day, it is a time to look back and thank to remember and celebrate.

Recognition and awareness of this important history form the basis for a past and inclusive equity. Every year on 30 June the Singaporean community takes place at the Quarry Monument on the Esplanade, home to the Singapore Museum and the Singapore Botanic Gardens. The day is organized by the Education Board and a Committee of the University of Applied Sciences located in a nearby neighborhood.

World Refugee Day

JUNE 2027

3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30		
										10 June: Neurodiversity Pride Day										Singapore Museum					Singapore Botanic Gardens				

[Singapore Museum](#)
[Singapore Botanic Gardens](#)
[University of Applied Sciences](#)

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Illustrations: Lotta Schultz (@lottart05)

“WHAT WE DON'T KNOW, WE OFTEN FAIL TO APPRECIATE”

This saying dates back to the Middle Ages. Yet its message is more relevant than ever. Online algorithms mean that we are more likely to see content and read texts that aligns with our existing views, making it harder for other perspectives to reach us.

It is no different in our classrooms. Students often gravitate towards people who are similar to them or who think the same way as they do. While this may feel comfortable, it is also a missed opportunity. It is precisely these different perspectives that lead to better conversations, new ideas, and solutions that more people can relate to.

Teachers tell us that breaking out of these bubbles can be quite tricky. After all, how can you ensure that students genuinely connect with one another without it feeling forced? With this INCLUDED calendar, we are handing you a starting point. It's packed with dates of festivals and commemorative days that highlight the diversity of students in your class. Think of it as an invitation to reflect on

this periodically. Getting started doesn't have to be complicated.

After all, inclusion isn't just about grand gestures; it's also about small interactions, such as acknowledging something or asking a question, and being open to different perspectives. You don't need to be a diversity expert to achieve this: openness and good intentions go a long way.

So please use the calendar as intended: as a practical tool. Use it to highlight diversity, spark conversations, and strengthen the sense of connection in your classroom.

Would you like us to add a day?

Please let us know via included@hr.nl.

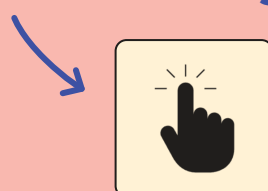
And, what about your birthday? 🍰 🎉

Feel free to add that as well!

How to use the calendar as a conversation tool?

- When relevant, wish your students a happy Pride, Diwali, Eid or other holiday.
- Try starting your lesson with something like: 'Did you know that today is ...?'
- Then ask students to talk about their traditions or holidays that are important to them.
- Make a statement relating to the day and ask students to respond briefly or discuss it in pairs.
- Once per block, let students choose a relevant day and introduce it briefly to the group themselves.
- Can you link it to the content of your lesson?

Want to get started with inclusion in your class? Scan the QR-code, and discover the INCLUDED toolkit including videos and practical tools.



INCLUDED – YOUR VOICE IS OUR STRENGTH

Here at RUAS, we love coming together to celebrate special occasions such as Neurodiversity Celebration Week, Lunar New Year, Iftar and Black History Month. INCLUDED, of course, prefers to work on these events through co-creation. These celebrations and events are organised because students, staff and lecturers want their perspectives and traditions to be represented at our university of applied sciences.

Do you have an idea for an event, too? We'd love to hear from you! Get in touch via: included@hr.nl.

Through INCLUDED, we are working together to create a more inclusive knowledge institution. It is a community for and by students, where under-represented perspectives are valued and everyone is given the opportunity to be themselves.

By sharing experiences and knowledge, we ensure that racism, discrimination and inclusion are topics that can be openly discussed. This raises awareness, brings people together, and ensures that everyone can feel at home here.

Holidays and days off

	Start date	End date
Autumn break	17-10-2026	25-10-2026
Christmas holiday	19-12-2026	03-01-2027
Spring break	20-02-2027	28-02-2027
Good Friday and Easter	26-03-2027	29-03-2027
King's Day	27-04-2027	
May break	24-04-2027	02-05-2027
Liberation Day	05-05-2027	
Ascension	06-05-2027	
Pentecost	16-05-2027	17-05-2027
Summer holiday	17-07-2027	29-08-2027



Pride Walk

11 September to 13 September: Rosh Hashana

Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, is a time for reflection, new beginnings, and looking to the future. For many, it is an opportunity to look back on the previous year and set intentions for the year ahead. Traditionally, sweet dishes are eaten, such as apples with honey, to symbolise a sweet and prosperous year.

23 September: International Day of Sign Languages

Did you know that more than 72 million people worldwide use sign language, and that there are over 300 different variants? On this day, we celebrate this diversity and reflect on the status of national sign languages in our own countries. It's a lovely reminder that language is so much more than just words.

25 September: Mid-Autumn Festival

The Mid-Autumn Festival is a traditional East Asian celebration where families come together to admire the full moon, eat mooncakes, and celebrate the harvest.

26 September: Pride Walk

Rainbows, glitter and a healthy dose of solidarity: the Pride Walk is an annual celebration. As Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences, we are joining the colourful parade to show that everyone is free to be themselves.

The illustrations on the cover and for each month in this calendar were made by WdKA student Lotta Schultz (@lottart05).

SEPTEMBER 2026

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
36	31	1	2	3	4	5	6
37	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
					Rosh HaShanah (Jewish New Year)		
38	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
				Rotterdam Pride Week			
39	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	Yom Kippur		Int. Day of Sign Languages Bi Visibility Day		Mid-Autumn Festival	 Sign up! Pride Walk	
	Rotterdam Pride Week						
40	28	29	30	1	2	3	4

5–11 October:
Accessibility Week

During Accessibility Week, we reflect on the importance of allowing everyone to participate. Accessibility encompasses more than just physical access; it also involves providing clear information, fostering inclusive communication, and ensuring equal opportunities for all.

This is a valuable opportunity for us to collaborate and identify ways to eliminate barriers, ensuring that all students and staff feel supported throughout the year.

6 October: Diversity Day

Diversity Day is the perfect time to celebrate our differences and embrace diversity. At Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences, we learn from and with one another, embracing all the backgrounds, stories and perspectives that this entails. In our teaching, we strive to create an environment where everyone feels welcome, and where students learn to contribute to an inclusive society.

9 October: Purple Friday
11 October: Coming Out Day

Dig out that purple jumper, because it's Purple Friday! What began as an initiative by secondary school pupils has grown into a national day of solidarity with the LGBTQIA+ community. Wearing purple shows that everyone is free to be themselves, whether that's at school, at work or anywhere else.

A few days later, on 11 October, is Coming Out Day, a day centred on visibility and the freedom to be open about who you are and who you love. Together, these days highlight just how important it is for everyone to feel safe simply being themselves.

Diversity Day



OCTOBER 2026

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
40	28	29	30	1	2	3	4
41	5 Day of the Teacher	6 Diversity Day	7	8	9 Sign up! Purple Friday	10 World Mental Health Day	11 Coming Out Day
	Accessibility Week						
42	12 Sign up!	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Student Wellbeing Week				Autumn break		
43	19	20	21 International Pronouns Day	22	23	24	25
	Autumn break						
44	26 Intersex Awareness Day	27	28	29	30	31	1

School holidays

Holiday or commemoration

INCLUDED EVENT

NOVEMBER 2026

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
44	26	27	28	29	30	31	1 Día de los Muertos
45	2 Día de los Muertos	3	4	5	6	7	8 Diwali
46	9	10	11 Saint Martin's Day	12	13	14	15
47	16	17	18	19	20 Transgender Day of Remembrance	21	22
48	23	24	25 Srefidensi (Surinam Independence Day)	26	27	28	29
49	30	1	2	3	4	5	6

3 December: International Day for Persons with Disabilities

On this day, we reflect on everyone's right to participate fully. We mean equal opportunities, accessibility, and the removal of barriers in education and beyond.

It is a time to consider how things could be improved and to keep this focus in mind in our day-to-day work. This will help ensure that everyone feels heard, seen and supported all year round.

4–12 December: Hanukkah

Hanukkah is an eight-day Jewish festival centred on light, hope and perseverance. Each evening, an additional candle is lit in the hanukkiah to commemorate the miracle of the light that burned longer than expected.

For many people, it is a time for coming together with traditions, stories and shared meals. It is a time to reflect on resilience and to keep believing in light, even in dark times.

10 December: Winter Around the World

Winter Around the World brings students and staff together at the end of the year. With delicious food, lovely music and a warm atmosphere, we ensure that our school buildings feel especially welcoming. It's a chance to get together and meet new people. Will you be joining us?



DECEMBER 2026

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
49	30	1	2	3 International Day for Persons with Disabilities	Hanukkah		
50	7	8 Bodhi Day	9 Sign up!	10 Winter Around the World Human Rights Day	11	12	13
	Hanukkah						
51	14	15	16	17	18 International Migrants Day	Christmas holidays	
52	21	22	23	24	25 Christmas	26	27
	Christmas holidays						
53	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve	1	2	3
	Christmas holidays						



4 January: World Braille Day

Did you know that today marks the 218th anniversary of Louis Braille's birth? This is why 4 January is World Braille Day, a day that highlights the importance of accessible communication for blind and visually impaired people. Braille makes a difference when it comes to reading, learning, and participating in society.

24 January: International Day of Education

Everyone has the right to education. Yet worldwide, 244 million children and young people do not attend school, and 771 million adults are illiterate. On this day, we reflect on the importance of education in creating equal opportunities, breaking the cycle of poverty, and contributing to a peaceful society.

27 January: International Holocaust Remembrance Day

On this day, we remember the victims of the Holocaust and acknowledge the ongoing impact of this chapter in our history. The day serves as a reminder to remain vigilant against exclusion and discrimination, and to work together to create an environment in which everyone feels safe and respected.

JANUARY 2027

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
53	28	29	30	31	1 New Year's Day	2	3
	Christmas holidays						
1	4 World Braille Day	5	6 Three Kings' Day	7	8	9	10
2	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
3	18 Blue Monday	19	20	21	22	23	24 International Day of Education
4	25	26	27 International Holocaust Remembrance Day	28	29	30	31

Black History Month

Black History Month is a time to reflect on the history, struggles and contributions of people from the African diaspora. This attention is also much needed in the Netherlands, where the history of slavery is still too often overlooked despite its ongoing impact on people's lives.

During Black History Month, however, we celebrate the strength, pride and influence of many generations. For Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences, these stories are an indispensable part of our education and community.

6 February: Lunar New Year

Lunar New Year marks the start of the new year according to the traditional lunar calendar, which is primarily used in East Asian cultures. The festival is all about renewal, family, and celebrating life. In Rotterdam, this festival is celebrated on a grand scale, particularly within the city's various Asian communities.

7 February to 8 March: Ramadan

(start and end dates may vary depending on the Islamic denomination)

. In 2027, Ramadan falls partly in February and partly in March. During this month, Muslims fast from sunrise to sunset. Iftar is the moment when they break their fast, often together with family, friends or the wider community. This period is all about reflection, connection and solidarity.

Here at RUAS, we are organising a communal iftar. We're bringing students, lecturers and staff together to get to know each other better and share our traditions. Will you be joining us?

21 February: International Mother Language Day

Did you know that an estimated 180 languages are spoken in Rotterdam?

On this day, we celebrate this great diversity. One way to start a conversation in class is to ask who was brought up bilingually or speaks more than one language.

Sign up!



Lunar New Year



FEBRUARY 2027

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
5	1 World Hijab Day	2	3	4 Lunar New Year	5	6 Lunar New Year	7
6	8 Ramadan	9	10 Ash Wednesday	11 International Day of Women and Girls in Science	12	13	14
				Lunar New Year			
7	15	16	17	18	19	20 International Social Justice Day	21 International Mother Language Day
						Spring break	
8	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
						Spring break	

School holidays

Holiday or commemoration

INCLUDED EVENT



9 March: Eid al-Fitr

(start and end dates may vary depending on the Islamic denomination)
Eid al-Fitr is the Islamic festival marking the end of the fasting month of Ramadan. Muslims celebrate this occasion with prayer, gatherings and festive meals.

16–20 March: Neurodiversity Celebration Week

Sign up! →



This is a global initiative that takes place every year in March. Its aim is to challenge stereotypes about neurological differences and to promote acceptance and equality for neurodivergent people, both in education and in the workplace.

20 March: Nowruz

Nowruz is an ancient Persian spring festival celebrated by more than three hundred million people as the start of the new year. It falls on the first day of spring and symbolises a new beginning.

22 March: Holi Phagwa

Holi is the vibrant Hindu festival of colours, joy and new beginnings. It celebrates the victory of good over evil and marks the festive arrival of spring.

31 March: International Transgender Visibility Day

Transgender people around the world often face prejudice, discrimination and violence. For example, nearly half of transgender people have experienced verbal abuse, and some also face physical or sexual violence. This day is intended to bring their stories to light and raise awareness.

MARCH 2027

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10	8 End of Ramadan International Women's Day	9	10	11	12	13	14
11	15	16	17	18 Aruba Day	19	20 Nowruz	21 International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
12	22 Holi Phagwa	23 Purim	24	25 International Day for the Remembrance of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade	26 Good Friday	27	28 Easter
13	29 Easter	30	31 International Transgender Visibility Day	1	2	3	4

School holidays

Holiday or commemoration

INCLUDED EVENT

2 April: World Autism Awareness Day

In 2007, the United Nations urged all member states to prioritise autism. Since then, World Autism Awareness Day has been observed on 2 April, a day dedicated to raising awareness and promoting inclusion through the sharing of knowledge. Activities take place all over the world to raise awareness of autism and bring people together.

5 April: Qingming

During Qingming, members of the Chinese community honour their ancestors by visiting graves together and sharing memories.

19 April: Anti-Bullying Day

On Anti-Bullying Day, we reflect on the impact of bullying at school, online, and beyond.

At RUAS this is an opportunity to focus extra attention on creating a safe and inclusive learning environment, where students feel free to be themselves and challenge each other's behaviour when values are not aligned in this respect.

26 April: International Lesbian Visibility Day

Lesbian women are still too often pushed to the background due to stereotyping, inequality, and a lack of recognition. This day draws attention to these issues, promoting visibility, recognition, and the freedom to be oneself.



APRIL 2027

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
9	29	30	31	1	2 World Autism Awareness	3	4
10	5 Qingming	6 International Asexuality Day	7	8 Sign up! RUAS Reads	9	10	11
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
12	19 Day against Bullying	20	21	22	23	24	25
13	26 International Lesbian Visibility Day	27 King's Day	28	29	30	1 May break	2

School holidays

Holiday or commemoration

INCLUDED EVENT

Let your students know about these festive and commemorative occasions. How? Page 2 provides practical



Mental Health Awareness Month

Mental Health Awareness Month raises awareness of mental health issues and helps to break down the taboos surrounding mental wellbeing.

At INCLUDED, we are committed to creating an environment in which students and colleagues can be themselves. After all, mental health affects everyone, however, not everyone necessarily faces the same challenges or barriers.

16 May: Eid al-Adha

Eid al-Adha is an important Islamic festival during which Muslims reflect on the story of the Prophet Ibrahim, who was prepared to sacrifice his son for God. They gather for prayer, share meals with family and neighbours, and give to those less fortunate.

17 May: International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Intersexphobia and Transphobia (IDAHOBIT)

Did you know that IDAHOBIT is celebrated every year on 17 May because, on that day in 1990, homosexuality was officially declassified as a disease? People worldwide use this day to draw attention to homophobia, biphobia, intersex phobia and transphobia, and to stand up for respect, equality, and the freedom to be yourself.

21 May: International Day for Cultural Diversity

With a population comprising around 170 different nationalities, Rotterdam is a city where diversity is the norm. This is reflected in the classroom and the workplace. While differences can clash, they can also yield new insights when you view others as equals. We'll be reflecting on this on 21 May.

18 May: Five years of INCLUDED

Let's celebrate! Today marks the fifth anniversary of the INCLUDED team. What began as a final-year research project has grown into a space where students and staff come together through stories, experiences, and inspiring events.

Together, we create space for different perspectives and build a community where everyone can be themselves. Today, we're taking a moment to reflect on this journey and celebrate everyone who contributes to our mission.

MAY 2027

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
17	26	27	28	29	30	1 Labour Day	2
	May break						
18	3	4 Commemoration of the	5 Liberation Day	6 Ascension	7	8	9
19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16 Pentecost Eid al-Adha
20	17 IDAHOBIT Pentecost	18 Birthday INCLUDED	19	20 Global Accessibility Awareness Day Buddha Day (Vesak)	21	22	23
21	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
22	31	1	2	3	4	5	6

School holidays Holiday or commemoration INCLUDED EVENT

16 June: Neurodiversity Pride Day

So many people, so much brainpower! That is exactly what we are celebrating on 16 June: the fact that every brain is different. Neurodiversity Pride Day is a day to show that these differences make us special and that everyone belongs, no matter how they think or feel. It is a day of recognition, respect and pride in neurodiversity.

20 June: World Refugee Day

Everyone deserves a safe place to call home. On this day, we recognise the strength and courage of those who flee their countries. It is a day to listen to their stories, support them, and work together to create a world where everyone feels welcome.

30 June: Ketikoti (commemoration)

Ketikoti means 'broken chains' and commemorates the abolition of slavery in Suriname and the Caribbean part of the Kingdom in 1863 and 1873. It is a time to look back and look ahead, to remember and celebrate.

Recognition and awareness of this important history form the basis for a just and inclusive society. Every year on 30 June, the Rotterdam commemoration takes place at the Slavery Monument on the Lloydkade, close to the Rotterdam Mainport Institute. During the commemoration, the Chair of the Executive Board and a Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences student lay a wreath together.

World Refugee Day



JUNE 2027

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
22	31	1	2	3	4	5	6
23	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
24	14	15	16 Neurodiversity Pride Day	17	18	19	20 World Refugee Day
25	21	22	23 International Women in Engineering Day	24	25	26	27
26	28	29	30 Ketikoti laying wreathes Ketikoti (commemoration)	1	2	3	4

School holidays Holiday or commemoration INCLUDED EVENT



1 July: Keti Koti (celebration)
On 1 July, Rotterdam celebrates Keti Koti, commemorating the abolition of slavery in Suriname and the Caribbean parts of the Kingdom in 1863 and in 1873. The day is a celebration of resilience and freedom, centred on the sense of community within the Afro-Surinamese and Caribbean diaspora.

The day begins with the Bigi Spikri parade, a vibrant celebration of cultural pride, tradition and community. Starting at Oostervant, the parade makes its way to Wijkpark Het Oude Westen, where the Keti Koti Festival begins with music, dance, children's activities and much more.

2 July: Dia di Bandera (Flag Day, Curaçao)
On 2 July, Curaçao celebrates Dia di Bandera, or Flag Day. It is a day on which the community reflects on the island's history. The flag is displayed all over the island and celebrations centred on music, food and traditions take place.

5 July: Cape Verde Independence Day
Cape Verdeans worldwide celebrate the independence of their archipelago on 5 July. It is a day full of pride, music, dance and stories!

14 July: International Day of Non-Binary People
This day is dedicated to raising awareness and providing support for people who do not fully identify as male or female. Since its first edition in 2012, it has grown into an important moment of solidarity and recognition.

JULY 2027

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
26	28	29	30	1 Keti Koti (celebration)	2 Dia di Bandera (Curaçao Flag Day)	3	4
27	5 Cape Verde Independence Day	6	7	8	9	10	11
28	12	13	14 International Day of Non-Binary People	15	16	17	18
29	19	20	21	22	23 Rotterdam Summer Carnival	24	25
	Summer holidays						
30	26	27	28	29	30	31	1
	Summer holidays						

15 August: Commemoration of the end of the Second World War in the former Dutch East Indies

This commemoration honours the victims of the Second World War in the Dutch East Indies and reflects on the war's impact on the region. Ultimately, the war's end led to Indonesia's independence.

17 August: Indonesian Independence Day

Indonesia declared its independence on 17 August 1945. This day is celebrated annually in Indonesia as Independence Day, also known as Hari Proklamasi Kemerdekaan. However, the Netherlands did not officially recognise Indonesia's independence until 27 December 1949, following a violent war of decolonisation. In 2023, the Netherlands also symbolically recognised 17 August 1945 as the date of independence.

17 August: Dia di Tula

This day commemorates the courageous uprising of thousands of enslaved people in Curaçao, led by the resistance hero Tula on 17 August 1795. They rose up against oppression and demanded their freedom.

Although the uprising was violently suppressed, it has become an important symbol of resistance, dignity, and the struggle for freedom. Tula has been a national hero ever since.

17 August: Raksha Bandhan

Raksha Bandhan is a Hindu festival centred on the bond between brothers and sisters. During the festival, sisters tie a Rakhi bracelet around their brothers' wrists as a sign of their bond and care for one another.

Commemoration of the end of WWII in the former Dutch East Indies



AUGUST 2027

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
30	26	27	28	29	30	31	1
	Summer holidays						
31	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Summer holidays						
32	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	Summer holidays						Commemoration of the end of WWII in the former Dutch East Indies
33	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
		Dia di Tula Raksha Bandhan Indonesian Independence Day					
	Summer holidays						
34	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	Summer holidays						
35	30	31	1	2	3	4	5