

## FESTIVAL INFO

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### ST. STEPHEN'S DAY

**Saint Stephen's Day**, also called the **Feast of Saint Stephen**, is a Christian [saint's day](#) to commemorate [Saint Stephen](#), the first Christian [martyr](#) or [protomartyr](#), celebrated on 26 December in [Western Christianity](#) and 27 December in [Eastern Christianity](#). The [Eastern Orthodox Churches](#) that adhere to the [Julian calendar](#) mark Saint Stephen's Day on 27 December according to that calendar, which places it on 9 January of the [Gregorian calendar](#) used in secular contexts. In Latin [Christian denominations](#), Saint Stephen's Day marks the [second day](#) of [Christmastide](#).<sup>[1][2]</sup>

It is an official public holiday in [Alsace-Moselle](#), Austria, the [Balearic Islands](#), Bosnia and Herzegovina, [Catalonia](#), Croatia, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Ukraine, Switzerland and Newfoundland. The date is also a [public holiday](#) in those countries that celebrate [Boxing Day](#) on the day in addition to or instead of Saint Stephen's Day, such as Australia, Canada, South Africa and the United Kingdom.

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### HISTORY

SAINT STEPHEN'S DAY IS THE [SECOND DAY](#) OF [CHRISTMASTIDE](#) AND IS CELEBRATED IN HONOUR OF ONE OF THE FIRST [CHRISTIAN MARTYRS](#), SAINT STEPHEN,<sup>[3]</sup> WHO WAS STONED TO DEATH IN 36 AD.<sup>[4]</sup>