







Key facts

Religion	Symbol	Place of worship	Important people	Holy texts/books	Special times
Hinduism		mandir (temple)	e.g. Krishna / Lord Swaminayrayan	e.g. Vedas/ Upanishads /Bhagavad Gita	e.g. Diwali / Holi /Vaisaki /Navaratri
Buddhism		temple / shrine	Buddha	Tripitaka / tipitaka	e.g. Wesak
Judaism		synagogue	Abraham	Torah	e.g. Hanukah / Shabbat / Yom Kippur / Pesach
Sikhism		gurdwara	10 Gurus	Guru Granth Sahib	e.g. Vaisaki /Gurpurbs / Diwali
Christianity		church	Jesus	Bible	Easter / Christmas / Sunday
Islam		mosque	Prophet Muhammed (P.B.U.H.)	Qur'an	Ramadan/ Eid / Friday

Festivals: A day of period of celebration, typically for religious reasons

Christmas is celebrated on the 25 December (7 January for Orthodox Christians). Christmas is a Christian holy day that marks the birth of Jesus who Christians believe to be the Son of God.

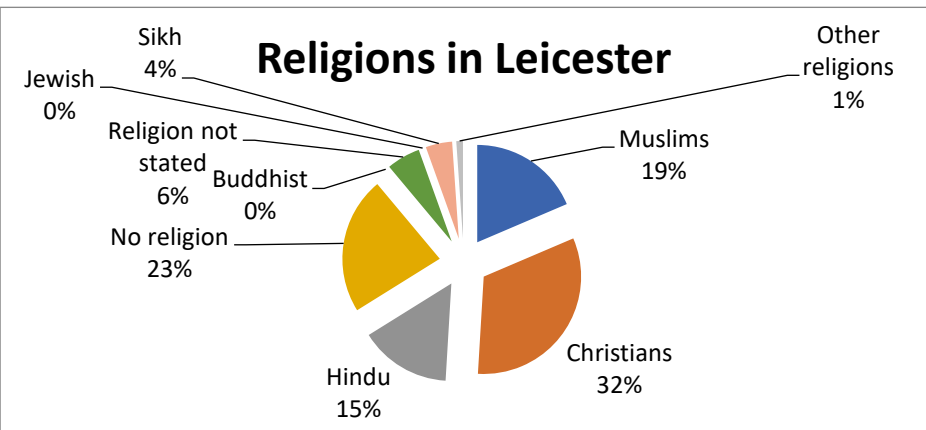
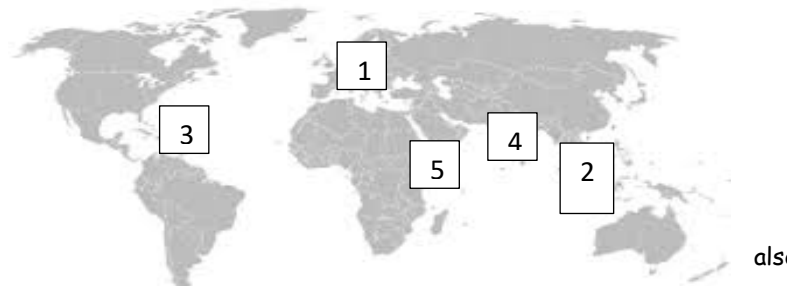
Eid-ul-Adha ('festival of Sacrifice'), also known as the Greater Eid, is the second most important festival in the Muslim calendar. The festival remembers the prophet Ibrahim's willingness to sacrifice his son when God ordered him to.

The word Diwali means 'rows of lighted lamps'. Diwali is known as the 'festival of lights' because houses, shops and public places are decorated with small oil lamps called diyas.

Passover is one of the most important festivals in the Jewish year. At this time Jewish people remember how the children of Israel left slavery behind them when they were led out of Egypt by Moses over 3000 years ago.

How did religions come to Leicester?

- In the 1750s and 1760s, Jews from Eastern Europe came to live here (1)
- In 1919, after the First World War, some Hindus and Muslims from India, Pakistan and Bangladesh came to Britain. Christians from Goa, India also came. (2)
- Between 1952 and 1962, people from the Caribbean Islands came. (3)
- In 1979 some people from Iran came to Leicester looking for a safer place to live. They were Sunni Muslims, Christians and Zoroastrians. (4)
- In the late 1990's Somali Muslims came to Leicester from Denmark, Norway, Sweden and Holland. Some came from Somalia. (5)



Population of the 6 major religions of the world

Religion	Population statistics
Christianity	2.1 billion
Islam	1.3 billion
Hinduism	900 million
Buddhism	376 million
Sikhism	23 million
Judaism	14 million

