



[When Nations Celebrate Maritime or Marine or Merchant Marine or Merchant Navy Day](#)

Maritime or Marine or Merchant Marine or Merchant Navy Day is celebrated as almost 70 percent area of the Planet Earth is covered by oceans and not less than 90 percent of the world trade is through sea routes by ships as a means of transportation. Also shipping industry is one of the oldest global industries.

World Maritime Day

Every year [International Maritime Organization](#) (IMO) celebrates World Maritime Day during the last week of September. The exact date is left to individual Governments to decide. This day marks the importance of shipping safety, maritime security and the marine environment and to emphasize a particular aspect of IMO's work.

This year, World Maritime Day will be celebrated at the Organization's refurbished Headquarters, on Thursday, September 25. The theme for this year is *IMO: 60 years in the service of shipping*. This theme was chosen to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the adoption of the IMO Convention 1948. Read more from [IMO](#).

National Maritime or Marine or Merchant Marine or Merchant Navy Day

In addition most of the countries celebrate National Maritime or Marine or Merchant Marine or Merchant Navy Day to highlight their maritime heritage. Here are some countries listed alphabetically that celebrate Maritime or Marine or Merchant Marine or Merchant Navy Day.

- **Australia:** September 03 of the year is celebrated as Merchant Navy Day. Officially from this year the day is celebrated to honour the bravery of merchant seafarers during wartime and also to recognize the enormous contribution the Merchant Marine had made to the economic development and security of the nation. Read more from Maritime Union of Australia from [here](#) and [here](#).
- **Canada:** May 26 of the year is celebrated as Marine Day. Officially from this year the day is celebrated to honour Canada's marine industry past, present and future. Read more from CMC-CCM [here](#) and [here](#). Video clip on Canada Marine Day is [here](#).
- **China:** July 11 of the year is celebrated as National Maritime Day from the year 2005. On July 11,1405 'Zheng He' of the Ming Dynasty (1368–1644) navigator led Chinese fleets on ocean voyages as far as America. This happened 87 years earlier than [Christopher Columbus's](#) bold attempt to reach America. Read more from [China Embassy](#).

- **European Union (EU):** May 20 of the year is celebrated as European Maritime Day. The first European Maritime Day was celebrated this year. European Maritime Day highlights the crucial role that oceans and seas play in the everyday life not only of coastal communities, but of all EU citizens, and for Europe's sustainable growth and jobs at large. Read more from [New Europe](#). An interesting video clip on European Maritime Day is [here](#).
- **India:** April 05 of the year is celebrated as National Maritime Day from the year 1964. On April 05, 1919 **SS Loyalty** the first ship of the [Scindia Steam Navigation Company](#) sailed to the United Kingdom. Read more from [Press Information Bureau](#).
- **Japan:** July 20 of the year is celebrated as Marine Day from 1996. Marine Day signifies the return of Emperor Meiji from a boat trip to Japan's northernmost island of Hokkaido on July 20, 1876. Read more from [The Japan Times](#).
- **Philippines:** September 27 of the year or the last Friday of September is celebrated as National Maritime Day from 1996. This day is to promote, develop and to implement the national maritime policy and capability. Read more from [Republic Of The Philippines](#).
- **United Kingdom (UK):** September 03 of the year is celebrated as Merchant Navy Day from the year 2000. It commemorates the 30,000 merchant seamen who died during World War II and also reminds the country about the continuing importance of the Merchant Navy. Read more from [Department for Transport](#).
- **United States of America (USA):** May 22 of the year is celebrated as National Maritime Day from the year 1933. On May 22, 1819 **S.S. Savannah** left her home port of [Savannah](#), Georgia to [Liverpool](#), England. She completed her voyage in 29 days using steam and sails to become the first steamship to cross the Atlantic. Read more from [MARAD](#).

All seafarers get ready to celebrate World Maritime Day on September 25.