

Babylonian Calendar

The Babylonian calendar is a lunisolar calendar and the months begin in spring with years consisting of 12 lunar months, each beginning when a **new crescent moon** was first sighted low on the horizon at sunset. **Note:** Upon the Israelites living in Babylonian exile from 606 B.C to 445 B.C, they were to observe the Babylonian Calendar; however the weekly cycle upon the Babylonian calendar is identical to the Hebrew calendar.

Number	Month name	Babylonian deities	Gregorian equivalent
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1	Nisannu	Named after Anu – God of Heaven	March/April
2	Ajaru	Named after Ea – Patron God of the city Eridu in Mesopotamia	April/May
3	Simanu	Named after Sim – Moon God	May/June
4	Du'ûzu	Named after Dumu – God of vegetation	June/July
5	Âbu	Warfare, contest of strength and vigour	July/August
6	Ulûlu	Many rituals in this month, to various gods, depending on which city it is in. Ishtar the goddess of fertility was one of them	August/September
7	Tašrîtu	Many rituals in this month, to various gods, depending on which city.	September/October

8	Arahsamna	This month was also dedicated to various gods	October/November
9	Kislîmu	Unknown meaning of this name, but has been referred to the Demon god Nergal	November/December
10	Tebêtu	Many rituals in this month, to various gods, depending on which city.	December/January
11	Šabatu	Month of the feast of Enlil, the months of Sabatu, Addaru, and Nissanu were months of intense religious observance	January/February
12	Addaru	The month of Ea-Enki's happiness. table-spread games, goddesses of war	February/March