

Difference Between Summer Solstice And Winter Solstice

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It is important to know the difference between summer solstice and winter solstice. Both of these days have a remarkable significance and are quite important from Geography's perspective. Questions can be expected from these topics in the competitive exam. The summer solstice is the tilt of the North pole of the Earth toward the Sun, the winter solstice is the tilt of the North pole of the Earth away from the Sun. There are numerous differences between summer solstice and winter solstice, few differences have been laid here:

Key Difference Between Summer Solstice And Winter Solstice	
Summer Solstice	Winter Solstice
The year's longest day and shortest night occur on the Summer Solstice.	The year's shortest day and longest night occur on the Winter Solstice.
The Summer Solstice takes place on 21st June every year	The Winter Solstice takes place in December. The dates might slightly vary every year. It usually marks its occurrence on 22nd June.
On this day, the Earth's tilt is maximised towards the Sun	On this day, the Earth's tilt is away from the Sun to its maximum, and the North Pole is farthest away from the Sun
During the midday hour or the noon, the Sun reaches its peak elevation and remains stationary directly over the Tropic of Cancer, located at 23.5 degrees latitude north.	In the Southern Hemisphere, the Sun remains stationary over the Tropic of Capricorn, reaching its southerly declination of 23.5 degrees.
It is called as the estival solstice, deriving its meaning from the literary term aestival meaning summer.	It is renowned as the hibernal solstice, deriving its meaning from the term hibernal associated with winters.

Definition Of Summer Solstice

The summer solstice is the occurrence of an astronomical event that marks the year's shortest night and longest day. It marks its occurrence on 21st

June. The sun's rays directly fall on the Tropic of Cancer. The summer solstice witnesses the longest day in the Northern Hemisphere.

Significance Of Summer Solstice

Since it marks the first day of summer or winter in the other hemisphere, this day is significant in many civilisations and traditions. Many rituals, celebrations, and functions are held to commemorate the occasion. The Summer Solstice was once thought to be in the middle of summer, especially in European countries. It is, however, the start of summer in northern countries. The fact that the summer solstice will fall on the same day as an annular solar eclipse, this year makes it even more remarkable.

Definition Of Winter Solstice

The winter solstice is renowned as the "hibernal solstice." The North pole of the Earth tilts away from the Sun, it is usually observed on 22nd December. The sun's rays directly fall on the Tropic of Capricorn. It marks the year's shortest day and longest night.

Significance Of Winter Solstice

The winter solstice was significant in ancient times because people's livelihoods depended on knowing how the seasons progressed. Starvation is widespread during the first months of winter, from January through April, and is known as 'the famine months.' The last feast celebration before deep winter is the 'midwinter' holiday.

Winter Solstice is known as Tropical Uttarayana in Hindu astrology. However, Sidereal Uttarayana begins on Makara Sankranti, and Devkal starts on this day, a favourable time to begin auspicious labour.