



# St. George's Day: A Cultural History of England's National Holiday

*Hanael Bianchi*

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## **St. George's Day: A Cultural History of England's National Holiday** Hanael Bianchi

In this remarkable book, Hanael Bianchi reveals how a religious feast commemorating a Middle-Eastern martyr became the national holiday of England. Previous attempts to explain the origins of St. George's Day have focused almost exclusively on the medieval period and, in large part, have neglected the five hundred years from the Reformation to the present. Bianchi delivers the authoritative history of St. George's Day based on his original investigation of the relationship between the medieval feast and the modern holiday.

Drawing on a variety of cultural sources, this work examines over a millennium of festivities, and readers will be intrigued by its many insights into English nationalism and the process of secularization. The thoroughly researched and richly documented text is a major contribution to the field of holiday studies, yet its lucid and accessible writing style makes it an enjoyable read for all individuals interested in English history.

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