

**Public Holidays.** Government departments are restricted to official public holidays. Private firms, especially in banking and insurance, may also take a day or half a day holiday on other designated days. The following is a list of official and other holidays in Venezuela :

**New Year's Day\*** — *January 1*  
**Epiphany** — *January 6*  
**Carnival** — *February 14 and 15*  
**Good Friday\*** — *April 1*  
**Easter Saturday\*** — *April 2*  
**Declaration of Independence\*** — *April 19*  
**Labour Day\*** — *May 1*  
**Ascension Day** — *May 12*  
**Corpus Christi** — *June 2*  
**Army Day (Battle of Carabobo)\*** — *June 24*  
**Independence Day** — *July 5*  
**Bolivar's Birthday\*** — *July 24*  
**Founding of Caracas\*\*** — *July 25*  
**Feast of Assumption** — *August 15*  
**Columbus Day\*** — *October 12*  
**All Saints Day** — *November 1*  
**Immaculate Conception** — *December 8*  
**Death of Bolivar\*** — *December 17*  
**Christmas Eve** — *December 24*  
**Christmas Day\*** — *December 25*  
**New Year's Eve\*** — *December 31*

\* *Official public holidays*

\*\* *Official holiday for municipal government employees only*

When a public holiday falls on a Sunday it is not observed on an alternate day. Business people should be aware, however, that when a holiday falls on a Tuesday, it is customary to make the preceding Monday a holiday and similarly, when a holiday falls on a Thursday, the following day, Friday, is often declared a holiday.

Visits should not be planned during the month of December, at Carnival time and during Holy Week.