

Leafy Legend



Kale is no ordinary leafy green. It's one of the healthiest foods on the planet. It's so dense with nutrients that one cup, at only 33 calories, has vitamins A, K, C, B1, B2, B3, and B6, as well as minerals calcium, manganese, potassium, magnesium, copper, and more iron per ounce than beef. With all this good news about the vegetable, it's no wonder kale has its own holiday, Kale Day, which falls on October 1 this year.

Why else is kale hailed as a superfood? It's high in antioxidants, which provide powerful anti-inflammatory benefits and can lower blood pressure. Kale has also been studied for its effects on lowering cholesterol and is loaded with substances known to fight cancer. Perhaps this is why kale is taking kitchens by storm. People have even taken to putting "Eat More Kale" bumper stickers on their cars and wearing kale T-shirts.



But kale is no passing fad. The healthiest way to enjoy kale is raw—in a salad or as a wrap for hot foods. But for those who may not like the slight bitterness of the greens, there are other ways to enjoy kale's many benefits. Steaming it softens the leaves. Baking the leaves in the oven with olive oil and spices produces kale chips. Or you can hide the kale. Blend it with fruit for a nutritious smoothie. Mince it finely, and add it to hamburgers or meat loaf. Do you like pesto with your pasta? Substitute kale for half of the basil.

Kale is also easy to grow in the fall, since it thrives in cool temperatures. It became a staple in Britain during World War II as a supplement to rationed diets. Today, kale enjoys its place as the centerpiece of many dinner tables.

October Birthdays

In astrology, those born between October 1–22 balance the scales of Libra. Libras seek harmony and value fairness and justice. Although they'd rather avoid conflict, they are excellent team players—tactful and polite at soothing those embroiled in an argument. If you're born between October 23–31, you are a Scorpio. Scorpions are powerful investigators who stay abreast of all the comings and goings of their peers, take control, and lead the way to success. Celebrities born in October include:

- Groucho Marx (comedian) – Oct. 2, 1890
- Margaret Thatcher (PM) – Oct. 13, 1925
- Roger Moore (actor) – Oct. 14, 1927
- Evel Knievel (daredevil) – Oct. 17, 1938
- Jennifer Holliday (performer) – Oct. 19, 1960
- Joyce Brothers (doctor) – Oct. 20, 1927
- Mickey Mantle (ballplayer) – Oct. 20, 1931
- Annette Funicello (performer) – Oct. 22, 1942
- Jonas Salk (scientist) – Oct. 28, 1914

Handle with Flair



Purses, pocketbooks, satchels, totes, clutches—whatever the handbag, it's worth celebrating on October 10, Handbag Day. Technically, a purse is only supposed to hold coins, whereas a handbag is a complete carryall. These days, anything goes in a handbag: wallet, keys, sunglasses, cell phone, mints, gum, pen, umbrella, baby toys.... Truly, some handbags carry as much as a small suitcase. The first handbags were made of leather, metal, or fabric studded with ornaments. The oldest surviving bag, dating back to c. 2500 BC, features beadlike rows of canine teeth on fabric. At just 700 years old, the bag pictured above (reputed to be a horseman's saddlebag) is intricately inlaid with gold and silver, depicting scenes of an enthroned couple, musicians, and hunters. It's kept for display at London's Courtauld Gallery.

Beach Creek Post-Acute

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Celebrating October

Halloween
October 31st

Facility Events

Friday Jams & Donuts
October 10th & 24th

Resident Group Outing
October 22nd

Birthday Bash
October 24th

Resident Council Meeting
October 30th

Beach Creek Spooktacular
October 31st

The Bright Side of October

Orange is one of the most iconic colors of the fall season. From the changing leaves to ripe pumpkins and Halloween decorations, it's everywhere in October. But beyond its seasonal spotlight, orange has an interesting history and set of associations that make it stand out year-round.

The word *orange* didn't appear in English until around the 1300s, borrowed from the Old French *orenge*, which came from Arabic *nāranj*—originally referring to the fruit. Before that, people in English-speaking areas would describe the color as "yellow-red." It wasn't until the fruit became common in Europe that the word was used to describe the hue. In many cultures today, it represents creativity, change, and enthusiasm.

In nature, orange often signals warmth and energy. It's the color of fire, sunsets, and autumn leaves. In October, orange becomes especially visible. Pumpkins, perhaps the most famous fall symbol, take center stage during Halloween. Originally, jack-o'-lanterns were carved from turnips in Ireland, but when the tradition came to America, pumpkins were more plentiful and easier to carve. Their natural orange color made them perfect for the holiday's spooky glow. Orange also pairs well with black, Halloween's other signature color. While black represents darkness and mystery, orange balances it with brightness and warmth, making the two a striking seasonal combo.

Aside from Halloween, orange pops up throughout fall in decorations, wreaths, seasonal foods, and clothing. It evokes the cozy, crisp feel of the season and reminds us of harvest time. Even sports teams and schools often use orange in their autumn promotions and uniforms to reflect that seasonal energy.

While orange is not everyone's favorite color year-round—only five percent of people choose it as their favorite—it has certainly carved out a place in October's spotlight. Whether you're admiring the leaves, carving a pumpkin, or just sipping something cinnamon-spiced, you're likely soaking in a little bit of orange this season.

