THE SYMBOLS OF BELTANE

Beltane, a celebration of high spring and the earth's fertile awakening, is rich with vibrant symbolism. Each sacred element carries deep meaning rooted in joy, passion, and connection. Here are key symbols of Beltane, a festival of fire, fertility, and the wild, blooming energy of life in its fullest expression.

The Sacred Union

Fire

Blazing with warmth and wild energy, the bonfire is Beltane's fiery heart: a symbol of purification and the creative spark of life. Its flames honor the sun's strength and the fertile fire of the season.

The Green Man

Leaf-crowned and untamed, the Green Man embodies wild vitality, representing nature's sacred union and the fertile spark at the heart of Beltane's blooming fire.

The May Queen

Flower-crowned and radiant, the May Queen embodies divine femininity, representing beauty, renewal, and the sacred union at the height of spring's passion.

May Pole

Tall and entwined, it represents sacred union and spring's divine fertile dance, weaving ribbons of life, love, and the season's vibrant spirit.

Primrose

This flower of gentle magic is a symbol of the youthful love and protection Beltane brings as spring bursts into full bloom.

Hawthorn

A sacred and protective tree, its thorns and branches evoke fertility and the veil between worlds at the peak of spring.

Hobby Horse

Playful and mysterious, the hobby horse dances between worlds, a symbol of mischief, fertility, and the spirited transition into summer's vibrant embrace.

Flower Crown

Woven with blooms and intention, the flower crown honors nature's beauty and feminine power, circling the brow in joyful celebration of Beltane's blossoming life and love.

Deer/Stag

With antlers held high and spirit untamed, the stag carries the wild vitality of masculine energy and the fertile pulse of spring.

Ribbons

Colorful ribbons are a main feature of most Beltane celebrations, weaving the maypoles, altars, and handfasting rites. Each strand carries wishes, blessings, and intentions that bind energy. They symbolize the union of souls and the sacred spiral of life.

Cattle

Guided through fire for blessing, cattle embody protection and prosperity, representing abundance and the sacred guardianship of life.

Candle jar

Glowing with herbs and flame, candle jars light the path of intention. They represent passion, transformation, and the radiant spark of Beltane.

Herbal bundles & sachets

Birch

Often used for maypoles and ritual brooms, it holds the power of renewal, cleansing, growth, and the vibrant stirrings of spring's awakening.