sabbath Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

sab·bath [sabbath sabbaths] BrE ['sæbə θ] * NAmE ['sæbə θ] * (often the Sabbath) noun singular

(in Judaism and Christianity) the holy day of the week that is used for resting and worshipping God. For Jews this day is Saturday and for Christians it is Sunday

• to keep/break the Sabbath (= to obey/not obey the religious rules for this day)

Word Origin

Old English, from Latin sabbatum, via Greek from Hebrew šabbāt□, from šāb□at□ 'to rest'.

Example Bank

- It was considered a sin to work or play on the Sabbath.
- The speaker advocated a less austere observance of the Sabbath.

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