

UKRAINIAN NATIONAL CHARACTER (РИСИ ХАРАКТЕРУ УКРАЇНЦІВ)

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За останній рік новини про Україну не сходять зі шпальт світових газет. У результаті цього думка про українців асоціюється тільки з поганим. Ця думка – хибна, адже український характер має багатотіпові та непорушні особливості. Душевність, працьовитість, колективність, дружелюбність – неповний список українських чеснот.

Optimistic and undemanding, Ukrainians see the brighter side of life, and have a proverb that explains it all – “Things will sort themselves out somehow”.

Ukrainians eat, drink and sing happy and romantic songs. Ukrainians have a sunnier disposition than other Slavs. When they get to know you, they have a great sense of humor, joke a lot, and laugh at their own troubles.

Ukrainians are close to the land and have a deep devotion to their native soil. They enjoy talking about nature and the beauties of their homeland. Emotional outbursts and florid excesses are not uncommon, while self-expression and alternative lifestyle are not accepted. Ukrainians are showing a renewed interest in their history, which they are seeking to relearn.

Many foreigners observe an abruptness in Ukrainian behavior. Service without a smile is the norm, not the exception. People appear less courteous and less appreciative in part because niceties like “thank you”, “you’re welcome”, “please” are not spoken with the same frequency.

Respect for elders is very much a part of Ukrainian life, and other people are disinclined to take advice from those younger. Women have a short image in the matriarchal Ukrainian culture and are idealized in literature.

More important than jobs and careers are family and friends. Personal relationships represent security against the dangers and difficulties of life. Having a friend who knows someone in the right place can mean the difference between success and failure, such as gaining government approval or obtaining something in short supply.