

TRADITIONS AND HOLIDAYS OF GREAT BRITAIN (ТРАДИЦІЇ ТА СВЯТА У ВЕЛИКІЙ БРИТАНІЇ)

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У доповіді йдеться мова про традиції і головні свята англійців. Історію виникнення та класифікацію традицій. Оскільки англійці народ консервативний, то краще за багатьох зберегли їх. Тому ця тема може зацікавити людей, які вивчають англійську і розширити їх світогляд.

Every nation and every country has its own traditions and customs. From Scotland to Cornwall, Britain is full of customs and traditions. A lot of them have very long histories. You cannot really imagine Britain without all its traditions, this integral feature of social and private life of the people living on the British Isles that has always been an important part of their life and work.

So the most popular holiday in Britain is Christmas. Christmas has been celebrated from the earliest days of recorded history, and each era and race has pasted a colourful sheet of new customs and traditions over the old. In Britain the most important meal on December 25th is Christmas dinner.

December 26th is Boxing Day. Traditionally boys from the shops in each town asked for money at Christmas.

In England people celebrate the New Year. The most common type of celebration is a New Year party, either a family party or one arranged by a group of young people.

Although the Christian religion gave the world Easter as we know it today, the celebration owes its name and many of its customs and symbols to a pagan festival called Eostre.

On October 31st British people celebrate Halloween. This day was originally called All Hallow's Eve because it fell on the eve of All Saints' Day. Every year the Celts celebrated the Druid festival of Samhain, Lord of the Dead and Prince of Darkness.

March 1st is a very important day for Welsh people. It's St. David's Day. On February 14th it's Saint Valentine's Day in Britain.

Midsummer's Day, June 24th, is the longest day of the year.

Londoners celebrate one of Europe's biggest street carnival. And for two days in August, Notting Hill is the West Indies.

April 1st is April Fool's Day in Britain. This is a very old tradition from the Middle Ages (between the fifth and fifteenth centuries).

The Highland Games – this sporting tradition is Scottish.