

Holiday Traditions

By Cassidy Radomski and Kenzie

Carl

Some people celebrate the holidays differently than others, we are going to show you some examples of other cultures and how they celebrate their holidays.

Poland

St. Nicholas is celebrated on December 6th. One of their ancient traditions is to display paintings in their cathedral and leave them up until Christmas Eve; winning entries get placed in their museum. Another tradition is to watch the sky on Christmas Eve, waiting for the first person to screech, "The star!" when someone screeches, everyone exchanges greetings and good wishes.

Germany

The tradition of the Christmas tree began in Germany. The tree is a symbol of Life. A glass pickle is placed on their tree last. Another unusual tradition is the carrot ornament

Switzerland

Crystal globes are placed on their tree to symbolize light and they put real white candles on to decorate it, and the star on the top of the tree is the star of Bethlehem. Each village competes with the next trying to get people to go to midnight mass.

Italy

At first Italy did not think an Evergreen tree should have anything to do with Christmas but after 60 years they finally decided it should be included in their tradition. La Befana travels through Italy on a broom to give gifts of candy, toys, or money. If they have been bad she places coal in their shoes.

Bosnia

On Christmas Eve, their meal consists of, stuffed turkey, stuffed cabbage, spinach pie, beats, mayonnaise salad, and pita. A gold coin is hidden in a loaf of bread and the grand wish is to a person who finds it. Instead of Santa, they call their gift giver, Grandfather Frost.