

# Holidays Around The World Customs Around The World

Welcome to a whirlwind journey around the globe, where we explore the diverse customs and traditions associated with holidays from different parts of the world. Get ready to immerse yourself in the rich tapestry of global cultures and discover the unique ways people celebrate various occasions!

## 1. Dia de Los Muertos - Mexico

In Mexico, the Day of the Dead, or Dia de Los Muertos, is a vibrant celebration that honors loved ones who have passed away. Families build altars, known as "ofrendas," adorned with marigolds, candles, photographs, and their deceased relatives' favorite foods and beverages. The atmosphere is filled with music, dancing, and laughter as people remember and celebrate the lives of their departed.

## 2. Boun Pi Mai - Laos

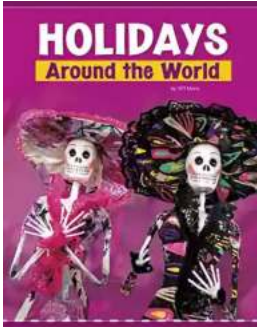
Boun Pi Mai, also known as the Lao New Year, is celebrated in Laos and other Southeast Asian countries. The festival lasts three days, during which people engage in song, dance, games, and religious ceremonies. Water plays a significant role in the festivities, as it symbolizes purity and the washing away of bad luck. Participants throw water on each other and engage in friendly water fights to welcome the coming year.

**Holidays Around the World (Customs Around the World)** by Holly Saari(Kindle Edition)

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 5589 KB



Screen Reader : Supported

Print length : 32 pages



### **3. Holi - India**

Holi, the Festival of Colors, is one of the most vibrant and joyous holidays in India. It marks the arrival of spring and the victory of good over evil. People joyously throw colored powders and water at each other, symbolizing unity and the breaking of barriers. The festival fosters a sense of togetherness and brings people from all walks of life together to celebrate with music, dance, and delicious traditional sweets.

### **4. Hanami - Japan**

Hanami, meaning "flower viewing," is a cherished custom in Japan. During this tradition, people gather under cherry blossom trees to appreciate their beauty and to welcome the arrival of spring. Parks and gardens become filled with picnicking families and friends. Hanami is not only about observing the blossoms but also an opportunity for relaxation, contemplation, and enjoying the transient nature of life.

### **5. St. Patrick's Day - Ireland**

The Irish celebration of St. Patrick's Day has become a global phenomenon, known for its parades, wearing of green attire, and merrymaking. This holiday, commemorating the patron saint of Ireland, embraces Irish culture and heritage.

From traditional music performances to lively street festivals, St. Patrick's Day offers an opportunity to celebrate all things Irish, including the iconic shamrock.

## **6. Christmas - Various Countries**

Christmas is celebrated in numerous countries around the world, each with its own customs and traditions. From Santa Claus and gift-giving in Western countries to the festive Posadas and piñatas in Mexico, the holiday spirit brings people together. Whether it's enjoying a Christmas feast, exchanging presents, or attending religious ceremonies, Christmas is a time to spread love, joy, and goodwill to all.

## **7. Songkran - Thailand**

Songkran, the Thai New Year, is the country's most famous festival and is celebrated with great enthusiasm and water splashing! The main highlight of Songkran is the nationwide water fight as people pour water on each other to cleanse and purify their souls for the coming year. The festival also involves elaborate processions, religious rituals, and paying respects to elders as a sign of gratitude.

## **8. Carnival - Brazil**

Carnival is Brazil's most extravagant and lively celebration, known for its samba parades, colorful costumes, and vibrant street parties. Held before Lent, Carnival is a time to let go and indulge before the solemnity of the Easter season.

Thousands of locals and tourists gather to dance, sing, and enjoy the electric atmosphere that pulses through the streets of Rio de Janeiro and other Brazilian cities.

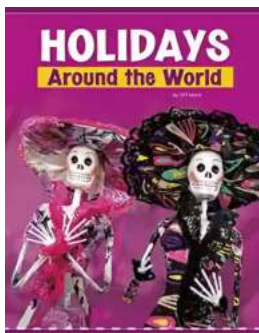
## **9. Dragon Boat Festival - China**

The Dragon Boat Festival, known as Duanwu, is an ancient Chinese tradition honoring the poet Qu Yuan. It involves boat races with elaborately decorated boats and teams rowing to the beat of drums. The festival also includes eating sticky rice dumplings called zongzi, tie-dyeing clothes, and hanging up herbs believed to ward off evil spirits. The Dragon Boat Festival showcases the Chinese values of teamwork, resilience, and remembrance of cultural heroes.

## 10. Thanksgiving - United States

Thanksgiving, a cherished American holiday, brings families and friends together to express gratitude for the blessings in their lives. It is a time for feasting on turkey, cranberry sauce, and pumpkin pie. The day often involves watching football games, parades, and engaging in acts of charity. Thanksgiving highlights the importance of appreciating the abundance in our lives and fostering a sense of community and togetherness.

As we conclude our journey through holidays around the world, we hope this glimpse into diverse customs and traditions has inspired you to learn more about the unique ways people celebrate across the globe. These celebrations reflect the shared human experience of joy, love, and coming together to honor special occasions. Let us embrace and celebrate the rich tapestry of cultural diversity that makes our world so vibrant and extraordinary!



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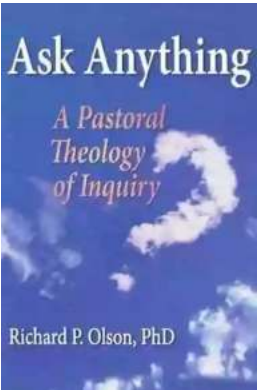
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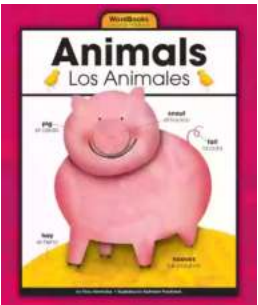


Get ready to celebrate! People around the world look forward to different holidays and honor them with special traditions. Learn about the many types of holidays and how they're celebrated in this engaging series that develops kids' understanding of our diverse global community and their place in it.



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