

CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS AROUND THE WORLD

ENGLAND-BRITAIN

After dark, the farmers go to the orchards, form groups around the oldest trees and sing carols while drinking beer. They also play clarions to ward off evil spirits, while years ago sweets were left around to appease the spirits and ensure a good harvest.

MEXICO

People take to the streets and go to church together singing Christmas carols and holding bells and candles.



IRELAND

Children leave big sacks on the night of the Eve near the fireplace and it is tradition to leave mints and a glass of Guinness for Santa to cool off!

RUSSIA

On Christmas night, they dress a girl in the house in white and make her play the Virgin Mary.

KENYA



The Christmas meal is reminiscent of a relaxing summer day since instead of eating turkey they have a barbecue in the garden. They also decorate the churches with balloons, flowers and ribbons.

ITALY

In Italian folklore, the **Befana** is an old woman who delivers gifts to children throughout Italy on Epiphany Eve (the night of January 5) in a similar way to Santa Claus or the Three Magi Kings.^[1]

Theofaneia Kitsopanidi

ROMANIA

On the night of the 5th of December, children take out their shoes and then Saint Nicholas with his elves visit people's houses. They leave sweets inside good children's shoes and coal or rotten potatoes inside naughty children's ones!



ENGLAND

In England they decorate the fireplace with classic bright red light bulbs. Also, they decorate the house with branches called "gi". They hang them from the ceiling and, according to tradition, the people who are standing under these branches should kiss each other. For English people the festive dinner table includes roast turkey served with potatoes, gravy and Brussel sprouts, pork sausages wrapped in bacon, minced pies and of course Christmas puddings for dessert!

For more interesting information about Christmas in the U.K. and around the world you should check the following videos:

<https://edpuzzle.com/media/61b8ec529ae0c542abb7b12c>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rhjHx05Vk2w>

