

CHRISTMAS IN SPAIN

Ies Playa San Juan



ORIGINS OF CHRISTMAS



THE ORIGINS OF CHRISTMAS

- The Christmas story seems to have the top in the year 320-353.
- It is the birth of Christ for Christian communities.
- Before this, the Romans also carried out their celebration days from December 17 to December 23 as festive days.



CELEBRATION DAY

- Since the end of the fourth century, Christianity began to celebrate Christmas tradition on December 25th.
- It should be understood that this is the combination of inherited customs and traditions.
- Customs, myths and legends have been added later over the centuries.



CHRISTMAS NOWADAYS

- Christmas today.
- It is also customary to attend Midnight Mass and celebrate with rockets and fireworks.
- Christmas is a time of great commercial activity and exchange of gifts.



SPECIAL DAYS



Christmas Eve

- Commemorates the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem.
- Christmas dinner is a feast.
- It is celebrated in honor of the birth of Christ, which took place at midnight.
- Traditionally we eat turkey, cod, pork, lamb or other dishes, depending on where they are held or the traditions of each family.
- The cribs, cribs or nativity scenes, representing the birth of Jesus.
- Christmas songs.
- The Christmas tree is a decorative element which is often used- a tree decorated with ornaments.



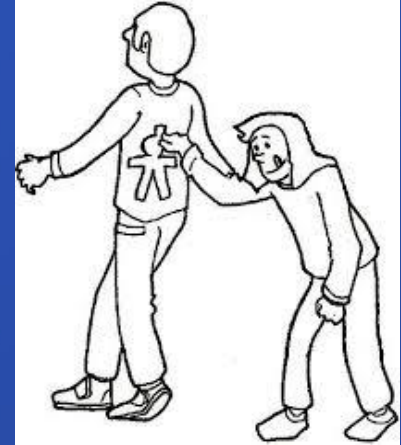
Christmas Day

- Is an annual festival commemorating the birth of Jesus.
- This celebration is on the 25th of December.
- The Christian ecclesiastical calendar contains many remnants of pre-Christian festivals.
- The Anglo-Saxons referred to the feast as "midwinter"



Day of the Holy Innocents

- Memorial to a fact of Christianity: the killing of children under two years of age, in order to get rid of the newly born Jesus of Nazareth.
- It is celebrated on Dec. 28th
- The celebration is based on jokes played on neighbours or people you know.
- In Spain it is customary to play tricks and jokes of all kinds.
- On this date you are free to unleash your sense of humor, an opportunity that you only have once a year.



New Year

- * Twelve grapes, one for each midnight stroke
- * Dinner with the whole family and a toast with Cava
- * Bad luck for those who don't eat the grapes



Eve of The Three Wise Men

- The evening of January 5, it's the Cavalcade of the Wise Men.
- Sweets for children, kings come from the East on their camels, guided by their pages.



Santa Claus

vs

The Three Wise Men



Santa Claus vs The Three Wise Men

Santa Claus



The Three Wise Men



Legend

Santa Claus:

- The night of 24 and 25 December
- He will come in his sleigh pulled by nine reindeer
- He bring gifts to children
- The children will get cookies and milk



The Three wise men:

- The night of 5 and 6 January
- They will come from the east, on camels following their pages
- They bring gifts to all the children,
- The children give them milk and carrots



History

Santa Claus:

- In the old times, the older gave presents to the children.
- In different communities of Spain, they had different traditions.
- Then, Washington Irving published a poem, in which he made a reference to Santa
- Thomas Nash did a drawing of Santa

The Three wise men:

- Three Wise Men who came from the East to worship little Jesus.
- On the night of 5 to 6 January.
- Children leave sweets to for the Three Wise Men and their camels



Differences

Santa Claus:

- It is celebrated on December 24th and 25th
- Traveling by sleigh pulled by reindeer
- Only brings gifts to good children
- From the North Pole

The Three Wise Men:

- It is celebrated on 6th and 7th January
- They travel on camels
- They bring gifts to all children
- Coming from the East
- They leave sweets for the Three Wise Men and their camels



TYPICAL FOOD





Christmas in Spain is a time to celebrate and enjoy endless meals with family and friends around a nicely decorated table.



During this period, we eat typical Christmas pastry that we don't usually eat the rest of the year, like...



“POLVORONES”

It's a kind of soft cookie made with flour, almonds, lard and sugar that turn into powder when you eat them.

The most famous ones are made in Estepa, Sevilla.



“TURRÓN ALMOND”

- It's a wafer stuffed with "turrón", similar to nougat, imitating the form of an almond.



- There are a lot of traditional biscuits. Every region of Spain has his specialty, like "almendrados"



"pestiños"



"roscos"



"perrunillas"



“TURRÓN”

- But the main protagonist of Christmas sweets is, without any doubt, the “turrón”
- It's a traditional sweet produced since the 15th century, mainly in the region of Alicante.
- The classic ones are the “turrón” from Alicante and the “turrón” from Jijona.





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- In Jijona, Alicante, are the biggest factories that produce most of the "turrón" for the rest of Spain.



“TURRÓN” FROM ALICANTE

- It's hard and it's made with whole peeled and toasted almonds, honey, sugar and egg white.



“TURRÓN” FROM JIJONA

- On the other hand, this one is soft and it's made with powdered almonds.



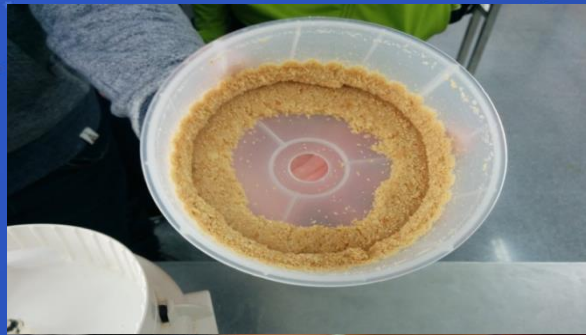
- Nowadays, there are a lot of different "turrones".



TURRÓN a la PIEDRA (STONE TURRÓN)



- Formerly, almonds and sugar were ground on a stone
• Now we use electric grinders.



- The Stone Turrón is made exclusively with toasted almonds, ground sugar, cinnamon and lemon zest. This nougat is granulated.



- Once we have grounded the almonds, we mix all the ingredients and knead them until they thicken, getting a malleable dough to shape it into tablets.



- We place the dough in the wooden boxes, covered with special paper.



A group of diverse students are gathered around a dark table, looking at several open cardboard boxes containing food items. The students are dressed in casual attire, including hoodies and t-shirts. One student in the background wears a grey t-shirt with the text "PIZZA MY HEART" and a pizza graphic. The scene suggests a food competition or a judging session. The text "The jury of the competition deliberate before making a decision on the verdict." is overlaid on the image in white font.

The jury of the competition deliberate before making a decision on the verdict.

A photograph of three young people in a kitchen. On the left, a young man with long dark hair and a grey button-down shirt holds two small metal cups. In the center, a young woman with light brown hair and a grey sweater is stirring a large wooden bowl with a spoon. On the right, a young man with short brown hair and a dark blue t-shirt with a graphic design stands with his hand on the counter. The kitchen counter has a white blender, a clear glass, a white bowl with blue liquid, and a white paper bag. The background shows a doorway and kitchen cabinets. Overlaid on the image is yellow text.

And the winner is.....

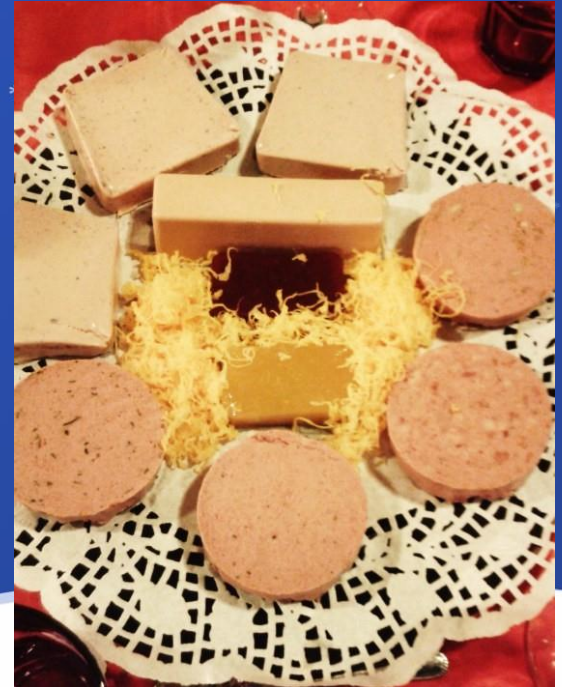
the Russian team!!!!!!

Would you like to taste it?



APPETISERS

- As for appetisers, we have Iberian cold meats ("jamón", "lomo", "chorizo", "salchichón"), cheese, paté or smoked salmon with crispbread among others.



STARTERS

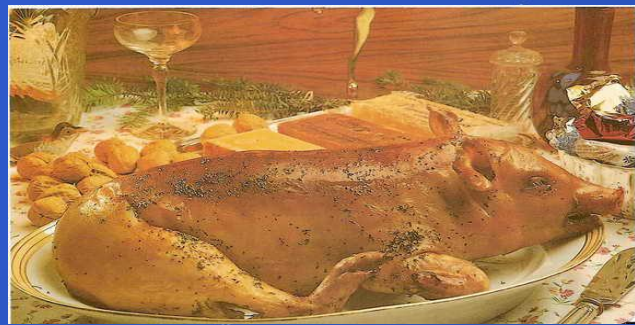
- Shellfish like prawns, oysters, clams and crabs
- "Caldo con pelota", traditional soup with big meatballs that are usually eaten on Christmas Day.



MAIN COURSES



Some of them are, roast lamb, roast stuffed turkey, "cochinillo", sirloin or also baked fish.



DRINKS



Christmas' meals and dinners are mainly accompanied by



- white wine and red
- cider
- "cava" or champagne.





12 GRAPES ON NEW YEAR'S EVE

- On 31 December at midnight, the tradition is to eat 12 grapes, one for each stroke, and to toast with "cava" to welcome the New Year and have good luck.



CHOCOLATE WITH 'CHURROS'

- In the morning of 1st of January, we usually take chocolate with "churros", long fried pastry fingers made with flour and water.



“ROSCÓN DE REYES”

- On 6th of January, we eat the traditional ring-shaped cake.
- Inside the cake are hidden, a figurine representing a king or characters and a bean.
- If you find the king you can wear the cardboard crown that accompanies the cake. If you find the bean you have to pay for the cake.



TYPES OF INSTRUMENTS



Zambomba

- In Spain, the zambomba is a very typical instrument at Christmas, accompanied by the singing of carols and popular songs.
- It has a more or less large hollow. The cylinder can be of different materials (ceramics, wood, etc.) with one end closed with a patch, which passes through the center with a rod which can be wood or other materials.



Tambourine

The tambourine is a musical instrument in the percussion family consisting of a frame, often of wood or plastic, with pairs of small metal jingles, called "zils".



Spanish Guitar

The guitar is a plucked string musical instrument consisting of a wooden box, a mast on which is attached the fingerboard or storage-usually a sound hole in the center of the lid (sound hole) - and six strings.



CHRISTMAS' CAROLS



What is a villancico (carol)?

It is a type of poem that comes from the Iberian peninsula and Latin America. In each of these places carols are interpreted in a different way, not the same carol.



Origins

The first compositions which can be called by this name emerged in the second half of the fifteenth century, during the Renaissance, as an evolution of much older popular musical forms. Similar forms were called ballads or songs in the XI century.

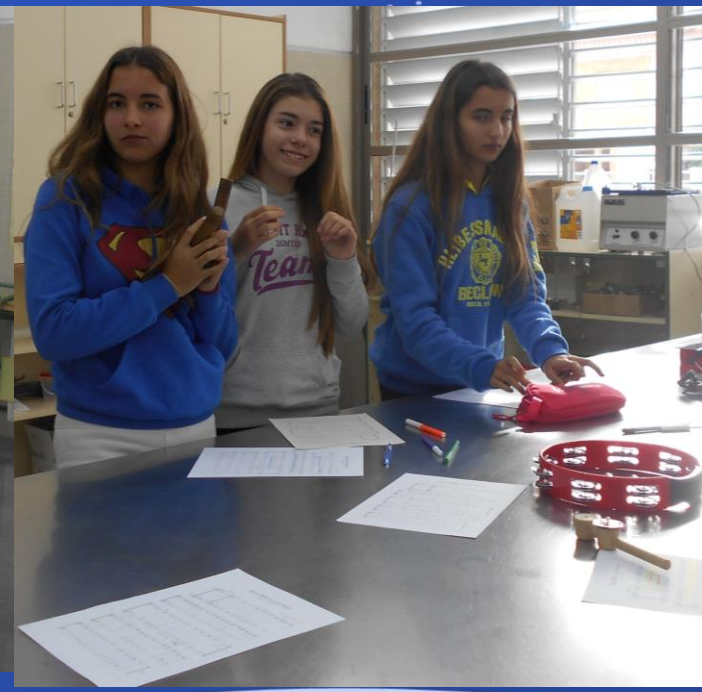


Evolution

- In the XV century the genre is poorly defined and there are all sorts of topics, the music of this period is simple, and seeks to adapt the text.
- In the seventeenth century Carol is a very popular genre, and by then will be the majority of the Spanish musical production of the time.
- The eighteenth century is the beginning of the decay of the genre, carols easily alter their initial structure and in 1765 carols are banned in religious acts.



Our carol



DECORATIONS



Nativity scenes

- 'Belenes' represent Jesus's birth with a lot of different figures in a stage.
- Valencia has characteristic figures like the "caganer".



Table Decoration



In Christmas we use bright colors.

It's often decorated with snowflakes, candy, Christmas prints, stars, Christmas decorations, candles, reindeer, snowman, Santa Claus toys.



Mistletoe

It's a custom
to kiss your
couple under
the mistletoe.



Santa Claus

Santa is a legend who brings gifts to children in Christmas.

Which even today his relics are preserved in the Basilica of San Nicola, Bari, Italy.



Christmas Lights

- The christmas lights have a lot of shapes like stars, Santa Claus, reindeers...
- We use lights to decorate streets and houses.



Christmas tree

The christmas tree
also has become
extensively popular,
to place it in an
illuminated corner
of the room.



PRESENTS



Presents

- Presents to the children
- Tip to the teenages
- The invisible friend to the adults



OTHER TRADITIONS





The "AIXAMES".
This is a tradition which
has stood the test of time.



The "AIXAMA" is a type of esparto torch which is swung around while the children cry out for their Christmas boxes on Christmas Eve.



Our students have prepared some AIXAMES for you. They combine green and dry esparto grass to form the torch.



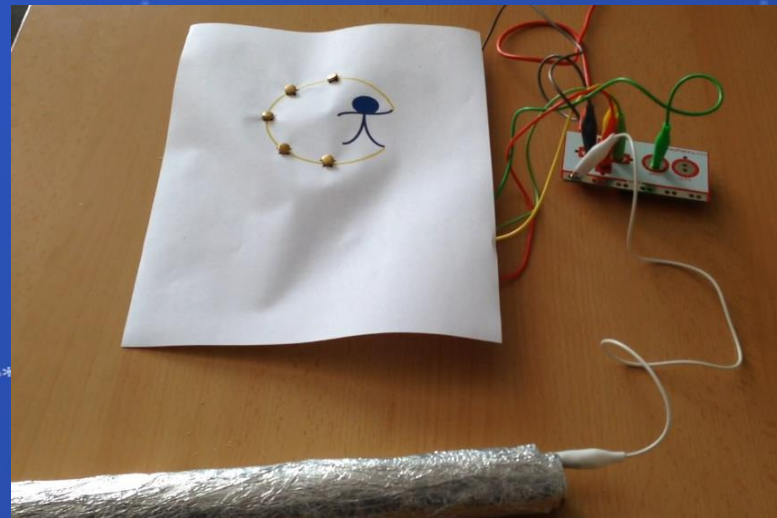
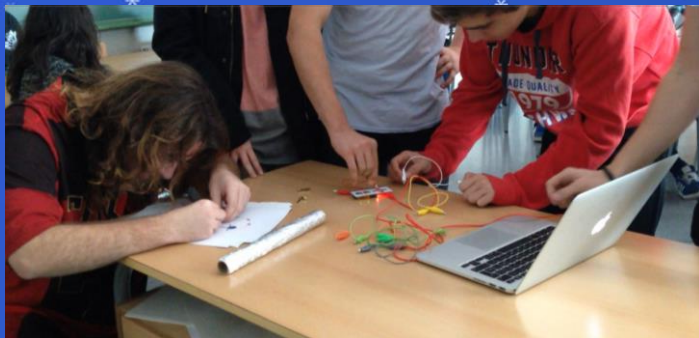
Would you like to swing them around with us?



And this is our present
to all of you



The "INCLUSION PROJECT" CAROL



MERRY CHRISTMAS

We hope you liked it.

