COMENIUS MULTILATERAL PARTNERSHIP PROJECT

ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP, TOLERANCE, INTERCULTURALITY – VALUES IN EDUCATION FOR EUROPE
ACTIVE FOR EU

"LEARNING FOREIGN LANGUAGES BY MEANS OF TRADITIONS AND FAMOUS THINGS FROM OUR COUNTRIES "

Auxiliary notebook

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This project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This publication [communication] reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

2011 - 2013

„Active citizenship, tolerance, interculturality – values in education for Europe”

ACTIVE FOR EU

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Nr. LLP link:
2011-1-FR1-COM06-24347 1
2011-1-FR1-COM06-24347 2 COM -11- PM – 227 – DJ - FR
2011-1-FR1-COM06-24347 3
2011-1-FR1-COM06-24347 4
2011-1-FR1-COM06-24347 5

Preface

Motto:

As a bird needs her wings to fly and her legs to land safe, people need language to find the others, but also tradition so they don't loose themselves.

This auxiliary notebook was created for educational purposes under the multilateral partnership "Active Citizenship, Tolerance, Interculturality - Values in Education for Europe" (ACTIVE FOR EU), made possible through the financial support of the European Commission, through the Comenius multilateral school partnerships programme, 2011 -2013.

Education in Europe is characterized by cultural and linguistic diversity and values. Therefore, the auxiliary notebook bears in mind the objectives mentioned in this project, which basically focuses on the importance of knowing foreign languages and aspects concerning traditions and customs of the countries involved, contributing to the awareness of the significance of both European cultural diversity and cultural identity, thereby reinforcing a European identity. It is addressed both to pre-primary and primary level students as well as to teachers.

The auxiliary notebook includes both representative aspects about traditions and holidays from Bulgaria, France, Portugal, Romania and Turkey as well as details for which these countries are famous for. The information is given in English, but we have also added some words in each country's mother language. At the bottom of each page there are blank lines intended to be filled by the students and teachers. The auxiliary notebook can be useful in teaching and in individual learning, as well as in revision and assessment classes.

The authors

This project is made with the financial support* of the *European Commission under the Comenius multilateral school partnerships programme, 2011 -2013.

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BULGARIA





John Anastasov - the first computer inventor





NATIONAL DAY

Bulgaria celebrates on March 3rd its National Day. Since 1888, March 3 has become Bulgaria's Day of Liberation and it was pronounced a National Holiday in 1978. Since 1990 the date March 3 is included in the list of Bulgaria's official holidays, according to a parliamentary decree.

Национален празник - National Day

Освобождение - Liberation

Военен парад - Military parade





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JORDANOVDEN

Jordanovden also called Bogoiavlenie is another holiday connected with the well-known belief that the previous night “the sky opens” and whatever you wish will come true.

After the church service the priest throws the cross in the river and it is taken out by young lads. It is believed that the first one to do that will be happy and healthy. He goes round the village with the cross and everyone give him presents.

There is superstition that if the cross freezes, the year will be healthy and fertile.

Кръст – cross
Здраве – health
Благоденствие -prosperity







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BABA MARTA

The first of March is the day when, as the ancient Bulgarian custom demands, we welcome symbolically spring and “Baba Marta”(Granny Marta) who visits peoples and crops dressed in a red tunic called “sukman”, with a red head cloth (zabradka) and a res woolen socks.

The white wool in the typically Bulgarian “martenica” promises long life and the red one- health and strength. Martenica is carried in the end of winter when life forces are running low.

The tradition goes that you have to carry your “martenica” until you see a swallow, a stork or a blossoming fruit tree where you have to hang it.

Мартеница – martenica

Символичен предмет, украшение, - symbolically object







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BULGARIAN FOLKLORE

Bulgaria is a country with distinctive folklore. More than 100000 natural songs have been recorded. Songs, which are marked by the magic of Orpheus!

Bulgaria's lively, rhythmic folk music is popular with folk dancers the world over. It is played on instruments that include the ***gaida*** (bagpipes), ***kaval*** (seven-hole reed pipe), ***gadulka*** (pear-shaped fiddle), ***tambura*** (fretted lute), and ***tupan*** (cylindrical drum).

The best-known Bulgarian folk dance is the ***horo,*** a fast, swirling circle dance.

distinctive folklore - самобитен фолклор







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BULGARIAN NATURE

Bulgaria is distinguished for its beautiful nature which has charmed everyone who has ever visited the country. Its territory is not that extensive at all, but being concentrated on such tiny space, natural landmarks are even more fascinating. The sublime mountains, age-old forests, lovely valleys, great plains, golden coastline and incredible sea-water make Bulgarian nature attractive. The air and water resources of the country are some of the purest in Europe. That is why Bulgaria takes pains to preserve its natural landmarks by turning vast areas of land into natural reserves and national parks.

beautiful nature - красивата природа





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BULGARIAN ROSE

The **Rose Valley** is a region in Bulgaria located just south of the Balkan Mountains . The valley is famous for its rose-growing industry which have been cultivated there for centuries. Bulgaria produces about 70% of all rose oil in the world.

The cosmetic products of Bulgarian rose found widespread acceptance of domestic and international markets - countries from Europe, Asia and America. They are exported in over 40 countries worldwide, including countries with a tradition of cosmetic production, namely: France, Italy, Spain and others.

cosmetic products - козметични продукти









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CYRILIC ALPHABET

In 855 the two brothers St.Cyril and St.Methodius were credited with devising the Glagolitic alphabet, the first alphabet, used to transcribe the Old Church Slavonic language.

The alphabet has official status with many organizations. With the accession of Bulgaria to the European Union on January 1, 2007 , Cyrillic became the third official alphabet of the EU.

Alphabet – азбука

Cyrillic - кирилица





А а	**Б б**	**В в**	**Г г**	**Д д**	**Е е**	**Ж ж**	**З з**	**И и**	**Й й**
/a/	/b/	/v/	/g/	/d/	/ɛ/	/ʒ/	/z/	/i/	/j/
A a	B b	V v	G g	D d	E e	J j	Z z	I i	Yy

к	**Л л**	**М м**	**Н н**	**О о**	**П п**	**Р р**	**С с**	**Т т**	**У у**
/k/	/l/	/m/	/n/	/ɔ/	/p/	/r/	/s/	/t/	/u/
K k	L l	M m	N n	O o	P p	R r	S s	T t	U u

Ф ф	**Х х**	**Ц ц**	**Ч ч**	**Ш ш**	**Щ щ**	**Ъ ъ**	**Ь ь**	**Ю ю**	**Я я**
/f/	/x/	/ʦ/	/tʃ/	/ʃ/	/ʃt/	/ɤ̯/	/◌ʲ/	/ju/	/ja/
F f	X h	Ţ ţ	ce	Ş ş	şt	Ă ă	I i	iu	ia

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JOHN ATANASOV – the first computer inventor



John Atanasoff is Bulgarian by origin and heart**.** He is one of Clifford E. Berry's students, in Iowa State College, during the 1940s, he created the ABC (Atanasoff-Berry Computer) that was the first electronic digital computer.

the first electronic digital computer - първия електронен цифров компютър.





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THE GOLDEN TREASURE OF PANAGYURISHTE

The Panagyurishte gold treasure is a Thracian beverage set made of 24-karat gold with a total weight of 6.164 kg. It is dated back to the end of the 4th and the beginning of the 3rd century BC.

The golden treasure consists of 9 ancient wine vessels that were used in religious ceremonies and feasts (with ritual function). The exquisite vessels are beautifully decorated with figures and scenes related to the Thracian mythology.

The Panagyurishte Treasure has traveled the world, most recently last year in Japan. When it's at home in Bulgaria, it is part of the permanent collection of the National History Museum in Sofia.

gold treasure - златно съкровище









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MINERAL WATERS AND SPA- SENTERS

Every kind of known mineral water may be found in Bulgaria!

The Bulgarian mineral waters are known for their greatly varied chemical composition and, mineralization, type of dissolved mineral salts, curative gases and biologically active micro components

- Bulgaria has about 600 mineral water deposits with over 1600 springs of varying physic-chemical composition, temperature (10°C - 103°C) and indisputable curative properties
- Bulgaria ranks second in the world by mineral water resources after Iceland.
- Bulgaria has about 65 balneological resorts and each resort has thermal springs, with curative effects on various organs and parts of the body.
- The most significant effects of the Bulgarian mineral waters: decreasing blood pressure, regenerative, strengthening the immune system and cardio-vascular system, improving metabolism and others.

Mineral waters with curative effects - Минерални води с лечебни ефекти










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Napoleon Bonaparte







FRANCE











NATIONAL DAY

The French national day is held on July 14th to commemorate the taking-down of the Bastille, a prison which stood in the heart of Paris. It marks the beginning of the French revolution in 1789.
It is often called 'Bastille Day' in English-speaking countries, while in the France it is formally called La Fête Nationale, or simply named it by the date: "le quatorze juillet".

Celebrations are held all over France. The oldest and largest regular military parade in Europe is held on the morning of 14 July, on the Champs-Élysées avenue in Paris in front of the President of the Republic, French officials and foreign guests.

Every single town in France actually commemorates the Bastille Day with excitement and pride as this national day represents the first step to the French Revolution which eventually led France to Republic. On July, 14th, patriotic feelings break out throughout the country, French people wear blue, white and red, "tricolore" clothes or make-up and sing the typical Marseillaise (the French anthem).

National day – La Fete Nationale, le quatorze juillet
Largest military parade – grande parade militaire





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PARIS –EIFFEL TOWER

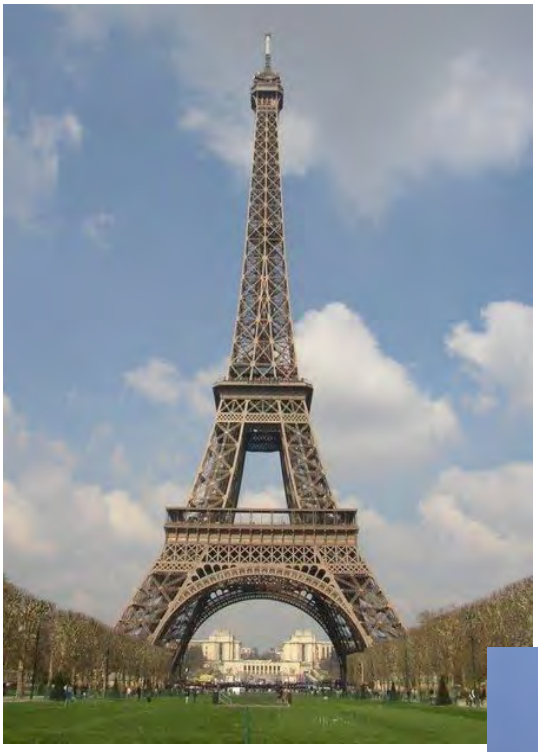
The structure of the Tower Eiffel was built between 1887 and 1889. She was to serve as the entrance arch to the Exposition Universelle (1889), a World's Fair that celebrated the centenary of the French Revolution. It was inaugurated on March 31st 1889 and opened on May 6th.

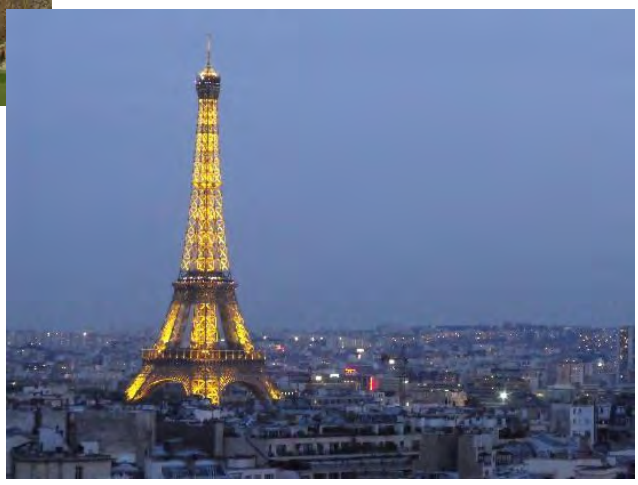
The tower is built from many steel bars attached to each other by rivets.

The monument takes its name from its designer Gustave Eiffel and is the tallest building in Paris. Along with the antenna of 24 meters, the tower measures 325 meters in height. When construction was completed in 1889, the structure was declared the tallest building in the world. Meanwhile other higher buildings were built. The tower is now the fifth building as high in France and the tallest in Paris and weighs over ten thousand tons.

Eiffel Tower has become a symbol of Paris and France recognized worldwide.

Tower – tour
steel - acier
iron – fer





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PARIS - FAMOUS CATHEDRALS

Notre Dame Cathedral (full name: Cathédrale Notre-Dame de Paris, "Our Lady of Paris") is a beautiful cathedral on the Île de la Cité in Paris. Begun in 1163 and mostly completed by 1250, Notre Dame is an important example of French Gothic architecture, sculpture and stained glass.

The Notre Dame is the most popular monument in Paris and in all of France. The famous cathedral is also an active Catholic church, a place of pilgrimage and the focal point for Catholicism in France - religious events of national significance still take place here.

The Basilique Sacré-Coeur (Basilica of the Sacred Heart) is a Roman Catholic church and familiar landmark in Paris, located on the highest point of the city in Montmartre. The church was dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, a cult that gained popularity after 1873. The foundation stone of the Basilique Sacré-Coeur was laid in 1875. It was consecrated in 1891, fully completed in 1914, and elevated to the status of a basilica in 1919, after the end of the First World War.

The most popular monument in Paris - le monument le plus populaire à Paris





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ROYAL PALACES

The Louvre, originally a royal palace, is now the world's most famous museum. Some of the museum's most celebrated works of art include the Mona Lisa and the Venus of Milo. The Louvre is a must-visit for anyone with a slight interest in art. Some of the museum's most celebrated works of art include the Mona Lisa and the Venus of Milo.

The privileged residence of the French monarchy from the period of Louis XIV to Louis XVI, the Castle of Versailles is located 16km south west of Paris. In 1624, Louis XIII, King of France, commissioned a hunting lodge in the village of Versailles Palace near Paris. In 1661, his son, Louis XIV, also named The Sun King, started the design of Versailles Gardens.

In 1685, 36 000 people and 6 000 horses were working on the construction of the 500 meters long Palace, which took altogether 50 years.

Palace of Versailles - The Hall of Mirrors - Château de Versailles - La Galerie des Glaces

Painting-peinture











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CASTLES ALONG THE LOIRE RIVER

Many castles were built for the Kings close to the Loire during the Renaissance era. On December 2nd, 2000, UNESCO added the central part of the river valley to its list of World Heritage Sites.

Loire Valley is: "an exceptional cultural landscape, of great beauty, comprised of historic cities and villages, great architectural monuments – the castles - and lands that have been cultivated and shaped by centuries of interaction between local populations and their physical environment, in particular the Loire itself."

Castle - château



Chambord



Chenonceaux

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LE MONT SAINT MICHEL

Le Mont-Saint-Michel is an island when the tide is high but you can go driving at low tide. It is a granitic rock (78 m height) in the Gulf of Saint-Malo (N-W of France) in the English Channel, where there are the most representative tidal phenomenon: during the tide, the island communication with the mainland is interrupted and at low tide it becomes peninsula, as sand comes under the water. On the cliff there is a village (41 inhabitants) and a fortified monastery (built from the eighth century until the twelfth and fourteenth centuries). He played an important role in the history of France, the only place that could not be conquered by the British army during the "War of 100 years." Today it is one of the most visited places in France (with 3.2 million visitors annually). A paved road ensures lately permanent contact with Brittany coast. Since 1979, Mont Saint-Michel is on the UNESCO World Cultural Heritage list.



Island – ile

péninsule



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BREAD AND PASTRIES

Bread is one of the most famous symbols of France. In French gastronomic culture, it is at the centre of every meal. Buying bread is a normal, familiar activity, as nine out of ten French people buy fresh bread every day. From French pancakes recipes to morning croissants to the crusty baguettes served with a late dinner, bread and pastry recipes are an important part of French cuisine.

Bread is made from flour, water, yeast or leaven and salt. There are many different types of bread, depending on the region, traditions and celebrations. The most widely eaten types of bread are baguettes, white bread, farmhouse bread, wholegrain bread and rye bread. Pastries are produced in the same way, but with the addition of butter and sweet ingredients. There are many different types of pastry, the best known of which are brioches, croissants, pain au chocolat and pain aux raisins.

Bread – Pain
Cake - Gâteau
Flour – Flour
Yeast – Levures
Leaven - Levain
Salt- Sel









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HOW MANY TYPES OF CHEESE ARE IN FRANCE?

Here are many types as days in a year, so 365 !
But actually more than 1000 !

France produces many of the world's finest cheese. Hundreds of regional varieties are enjoyed for their distinctive flavours, textures, shapes and appearances.

Here are brief descriptions of some varieties of cheeses:

Roquefort – A typical wheel of Roquefort weighs between 2.5 and 3kg and is about 10 cm thick. The mould that gives Roquefort its distinctive character is found in the soil of the local caves. Traditionally the cheesemakers extracted it by leaving bread in the caves for six to eight weeks until it was consumed by the mould. The cheese is white, tangy, crumbly and slightly moist, with distinctive veins of green mould.

Camembert – It is a soft, creamy, surface-ripened cow's milk cheese. The surface of each cheese is sprayed with an aqueous suspension of the mould ***Penicillium camemberti.*** It was first made in the late 18th century at Camembert, Normandy in northern France.

Valençay - It is a cheese made in the province of Berry in central France. Distinctive in its truncated pyramidal shape, Valençay is an unpasteurised goats-milk cheese weighing 200-250g and around 7cm in height. Its rustic blue-grey colour is made by the natural moulds that form its rind, darkened with a dusting of charcoal.

Fourme d'Ambert - is one of France's oldest cheeses, and dates from as far back as Roman times. It is a (usually) pasteurized cow's milk blue cheese from the Auvergne region of France, with a distinct, narrow cylindrical shape. The semi-hard cheese is inoculated with ***Penicillium roqueforti*** spores and aged for at least 28 days.







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VINEYARDS AND WINES

France is the largest wine producer in the world. French wine traces its history to the 6th century BC, with many of France's regions dating their wine-making history to Roman times. The wines produced range from expensive high-end wines sold internationally to more modest wines usually only seen within France.

France is the source of many grape varieties (Cabernet Sauvignon, Chardonnay, Pinot noir, Sauvignon blanc, Syrah) that are now planted throughout the world, as well as wine-making practices and styles of wine that have been adopted in other producing countries.

vineyards and wines - vignes et vins









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FASHION HAUTE COUTURE AND PERFUMES

Paris is the fashion capital and France is also known for its famous perfumes. Grasse is considered the world's capital of perfume. It has had a prospering perfume industry since the end of the 18th century. Grasse's particular microclimate encouraged the flower farming industry. Jasmine is a key ingredient of many perfumes and was brought to southern France by the Moors in the 16th century. Twenty-seven tonnes of jasmine are now harvested in Grasse annually.

International Perfume Museum was opened in 1989 and traces the evolution of techniques during the 5,000 year history of perfumery and the large contribution of the Grasse area to perfume making.










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Luis de Camoes - poet





PORTUGAL







TORRE DE BELÉM

The Belém Tower is a fortified tower located in the civil parish of Santa Maria de Belém in the municipality of Lisbon, Portugal. It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site (since 1983) because of the significant role it played in the Portuguese maritime discoveries of the era of the Age of Discoveries. The tower was commissioned by King John II to be part of a defense system at the mouth of the Tejo river and a ceremonial gateway to Lisbon. The tower was built in the early 16th century and is a prominent example of the Portuguese Manueline style, but it also incorporates hints of other architectural styles. The Belém Tower was built from lioz limestone, a light coloured, rare stone that is local to the Lisbon area. The building is divided into two parts: the bastion and the four story tower, located on the north side of the bastion. It has incorrectly been stated that the tower was built in the middle of the Tejo and now sits near the shore because the river was redirected after the 1755 Lisbon earthquake. In fact, the tower was built on a small island in the Tejo River near the Lisbon shore. The tower is about 12 metres (39 ft) wide and 30 metres (98 ft) tall. On the first floor interior of the Tower is the ***Sala do Governador*** (***Governors Hall***), an octagonal space that opens into the cistern, while in the north-east and north-west corners there are corridors that link to the bartizans. A small door provides access via a spiral staircase to the subsequent floors. On the second floor, the ***Sala dos Reis*** (***King's Hall***) opens to the loggia (to overlook the river), while a small corner fireplace extends from this floor to the third floor fireplace in the ***Sala das Audiências*** (***Audience Hall***). All three floor ceilings are covered in hollow concrete slabs. The fourth floor chapel is covered in a vaulted rib ceiling with niches emblematic of the Manueline style, supported by carved corbels.

This monument was elected as one of the Seven Wonders of Portugal on July 7, 2007.

Age of Discoveries: Idade dos Descobrimentos
World Heritage: património mundial
River: rio





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SINTRA

Sintra is a town in the Estoril Coast region of Portugal. It is one of the most delightful spots to go to mainly because of its wide range of greenery—the Serra de Sintra. It is a picturesque mountain range with breathtaking views of the coastline. No wonder Lord Byron called it a glorious garden.

Sintra is not only beautiful because of the Serra. It also boasts of priceless archeological remains especially from the Roman period. There are ancient manor houses, old-fashioned villages, and also artistic churches. Another thing that this town is famous for is their wine production of proven standard. It is also known for traditional confectionery and cooking.

This municipality was declared as World Heritage Site for the cultural landscape which includes: Pena National Palace, Sintra National Palace, Quinta de Regaleira, Monserrate Palace, Castle of the Moors,... These are spots you should not miss in case you get the chance to visit this paradise. Churches, museums, parks, and gardens… You would surely not run out of spots to check and explore.









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NATIONAL DAY

Portugal's National Day is celebrated annually on 10 June. This date commemorates the death of Luís de Camões, a significant figure in the history of Portugal. Camões is best known for his work on ***Lusiadas***, the national epic poem of Portugal that celebrates the nation's successes and rich history.

The ***Lusiadas*** is an epic poem that depicts the achievements of the Portuguese in world explorations in the 16th century. Portugal played an important role in the discovery of the new world during this century and their accomplishments have definitely put this European country on the map.

The awards and recognitions provided to various achievers form the crux of Portugal Day celebrations. The President also inspects the troops and praises their contribution to national issues. There are parades by the military. Orchestras and fireworks are traditional parts of the festivities.

Open air parties also happen where people come out on the streets and welcome each other. In case nothing special is happening people spend the day eating, singing, drinking and taking part in fun sports.

Portugal's National Day – Dia Nacional de Portugal

Country - País





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FREEDOM DAY

Freedom Day in Portugal is celebrated on April 25th, and it is the anniversary of Carnation Revolution in Portugal, in 1974.

The Carnation Revolution (Portuguese: Revolução dos Cravos), also referred to as the 25th of April revolution , was a military coup in Lisbon, Portugal, began on 25 April 1974 which overthrew the regime of the "Estado Novo". The revolution started as a military coup organized by the Armed Forces Movement, composed of military officers who opposed the regime, but the movement was soon coupled with an unanticipated and popular campaign of civil resistance. This movement led to the fall of the "Estado Novo" and the withdrawal of Portugal from its African colonies. This was a virtually bloodless, leftist, military-led coup.

After almost five decades of dictatorship (1937-1974), the Carnation Revolution, ended that regime, the longest dictatorship in Europe, changing the Portuguese political system from an authoritarian dictatorship to a democracy.

The name "Carnation Revolution" comes from the fact that no shots were fired and when the population started descending the streets to celebrate the end of the dictatorship and war in the colonies, carnation flowers were put into the muzzles of rifles and on the uniforms of the army.

Freedom day – Dia da Liberdade
Democracy – democracia
Revolution - revolução





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OCEANÁRIO DE LISBOA

Opened in 1998, the Oceanário was the centrepiece of the XXth Century's last World Fair, themed "The Oceans, a Heritage for the Future", and eternally binds Lisbon to the Oceans. With over one million visitors per year, the Oceanário welcomes the largest number of patrons anywhere in the country.

While walking through impressive and unforgettable exhibits, visitors are encouraged to learn fascinating things about the oceans and, more importantly, how to make decisions in their daily lives that actively promote the conservation of nature.

Like most modern aquaria, the Oceanário continuously develops new educational activities, focused on today's environmental challenges, which are the focus of the company's Mission. This is one of the reasons why the Oceanário supports multiple scientific research projects, most of which focused on conservation of biodiversity and a sustainable use of the oceans. A savvy team of phenomenal biologists and engineers also ensures the exhibits display state of the art technology, as well as unsurpassed animal welfare. This team is, in fact, hired frequently as consultants to other similar institutions.

The Oceanário also assumes, as an intrinsical part of its corporate growth, the implementation of an Integrated Management and Quality System. This philosophy granted the Oceanário the status of first public aquarium in Europe, to get a 9001, 14001 and EMAS (Eco-Management and Audit Scheme) certifications.

From both an architectural and engineering perspective, as from the biological and exhibits point of view, this project s is stems from two principal themes. These two concepts interlace beautifully as science and human values come together and emphasize the importance of the delicate balance between man and nature: "One Ocean" and "Life beyond imagination". Pollution and overexploitation of natural resources were some of man's actions that the founding fathers of EXPO'98 had in mind as they envisioned a large public aquarium. This aquarium was to maintain and perpetuate the message from Expo'98 while strongly supporting and contributing towards an enhancement of Portugal's cultural and educational heritage. Oceanário de Lisboa was thus born, a giant public aquarium entirely dedicated to the oceans and their conservation.

Pollution: poluição Aquarium: aquário Conservation of nature: conservação da natureza





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PORTUGUESE GUITAR

The Portuguese guitar is a plucked string instrument with twelve steel strings, strung in six courses comprising two strings each. It is one of the few musical instruments to still use the so-called Preston tuners. It is most notably associated with fado.

The Portuguese guitar now known underwent considerable technical modifications in the last century (dimensions, mechanical tuning system, etc.) although it has kept the same number of courses, the string tuning and the finger technique characteristic of this type of instrument. There is evidence of its use in Portugal since the thirteenth century (cítole) amongst troubadour and minstrel circles and in the Renaissance period, although initially it was restricted to noblemen in court circles. Later its use became popular and references have been found to citterns being played in the theatre, in taverns and barbershops in the seventeenth and eighteenth century in particular.

The technique employed to play the Portuguese guitar is what is historically called “dedilho”. This technique comprises playing solely with the thumb and the index fingers and it was inspired in the technique used to play "viola da Terra da Terceira". On the Portuguese guitar the strings are picked with the corner of the fingernails, avoiding contact of the flesh with the strings. The unused fingers of the picking hand rest below the strings, on the soundboard. Nowadays most players use synthetic materials in place of natural fingernails; these fingerpicks are usually made of plastic or tortoiseshell.

Portuguese guitar: guitarra portuguesa
Troubadour: trovador
String instrument: instrument de cordas





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FADO

Fado ("destiny, fate") is a music genre which can be traced to the 1820s in Portugal, but probably with much earlier origins.

Fado only appeared after 1830 in Lisbon. It was introduced in the port districts like Alfama, Mouraria and Bairro Alto. There are many theories about the origin of Fado. Some trace its origins or influences to "cantigas de amigo" (friends songs) from the Middle Ages or Moorish songs. Fado performers in the middle of the 19th century were mainly from urban working class and sailors, who not only sang, but also danced and beat the fado. During the second half of the 19th century, the African rhythms would become less important, and the performers became merely singers. In popular belief, fado is a form of music characterized by mournful tunes and lyrics, often about the sea or the life of the poor, and infused with a characteristic sentiment of resignation, fatefulness and melancholia.

However, although the origins are difficult to trace, today fado is regarded, by many, as simply a form of song which can be about anything, but must follow a certain structure. The music is usually linked to the Portuguese word ***saudade*** which symbolizes the feeling of loss (a permanent, irreparable loss and its consequent lifelong damage).

Fado was generally sung by one person called a fadista, and normally accompanied by the portuguese guitar and the classical guitar. The 19th century's most renowned fadista was Maria Severa.

More recently Amália Rodrigues, known as the "Rainha do Fado" ("Queen of Fado") was most influential in popularizing fado worldwide. Fado performances today may be accompanied by a string quartet or a full orchestra. Famous singers of fado include Amália Rodrigues, Carlos do Carmo, Mariza, Mafalda Arnauth, Ana Moura and Cristina Branco.

On 27 November 2011, Fado was inscribed in the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage Lists.

Fado singer: fadista

Middle Ages: Idade Média





Amália Rodrigues

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POPULAR SAINTS FESTIVITIES

The Popular Saints Festivities are one of the biggest traditional festivals celebrated all over the country and is still today the high social point of many regions. It is a traditional celebration (june 21st to 29th), dedicated to three saints St. John, St. Anthony and St. Peter.

This popular festivity is deeply lived and preserved. In Madeira, some streets and squares of Funchal downtown (Rua da Figueira Preta, Rua da Conceição, Travessa dos Reis and Largo do Carmo) are beautifully decorated in an atmosphere characteristic of the islands religious festivities. This occasion also provides the opportunity of experiencing a social gathering in which both locals and tourists can taste some of the regional delicacies while enjoying a very lively musical ambiance.

It is also time to show off the parishes'altar creativity, followed by a celebration of traditional folklore, food and drink. The celebrations begin with St. Antony in the beautiful Church of Santo António, with parades, traditional food and great entertainment. St. Anthony is the saint of Love and a match maker. During this festivity people make bonfires on the streets and jump over them as tradition, since it is said the highest leapers will be lucky in love. Many marriages also take place during this festival.

Saint John is the most popular saint celebrated all over the island. Funchal with its St. John's Altars 19th – 24th traditional celebration, where local shops prepare and show off their altar creativity, followed by a celebration of traditional "marchas populares", entertainment and great food.

Porto Santo island is one of the best-known tourist attraction during this big festivity with lots of interesting events including traditional parades, jumping over bonfires on the beach and balloon release.

Saint Peter, the protector of the fishermen, is mostly celebrated is in the fishing ports of Câmara de Lobos and in Ribeira Brava.

Popular Saints Festivities – Festa dos Santos Populares
Contest -Competição





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ARRAIAIS

Summer months are known for the traditional Madeira popular festivities and pilgrimages. Some are religious and some are not.

In Madeira Archipelago, all parishes celebrate religious festivals and pilgrimages. These popular gathering are events that join lots of people, where we can find drinks, traditional food and traditional music. These are gatherings for animation and events like these may last days and entire nights.

We have the traditional street processions and streets surrounding the churches or places are adorned with colourful flags that are placed on wooden masts ornamented at the base with laurel and boxwood. We also have plastic flowers mounted on wires that are placed in the streets where the festivities take place.

Street procession: procissão

Laurel: louro









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BRINQUINHO

The ***Brinquinho*** is an instrument used to compass the rhythm of Madeira folklore. It is also the most important and well-know instrument in the "***Bailinho***", the traditional folklore dance of Madeira Island.

The ***Brinquinho*** consists of a set of dolls, dressed in the typical Madeira costumes, accompanied by castanets hanging on the back of each doll and arranged in a cane, which is moved by vertical movements. The dolls are placed in circles, at non symmetric heights, and the provided castanets make the typical and unique sound we hear in the tradiotional ***Bailinho da Madeira***.

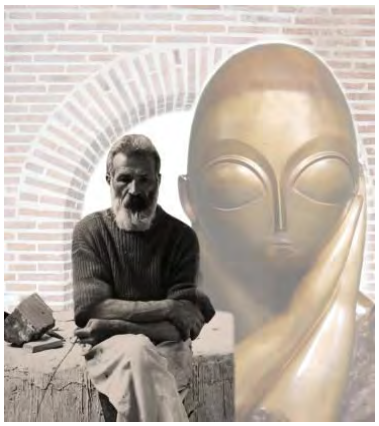
Musical instrument – instrumento musical
Traditional folklore – folclore típico





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Constantin Brâncuși - sculptor





ROMANIA







ANUL NOU – THE NEW YEAR

Ziua de 1 ianuarie, Sfântul Vasile, este ziua pe care toate familiile tinere, cu copii mici, o dedică moașei de neam , obicei care constă în a merge cu plocon la moașă, pentru darea (ridicarea) copilului la grindă. Copiii mici, până la 7 ani, sunt ridicați în brațe, cu un colac pe cap, spre tavanul încăperii, cu urarea de a crește mari. Copiii cântă Sorcova și primesc de la moașă daruri.

După ceremonial invitații se așază la masă și petrecerea începe, toți cei prezenți fiind cuprinși de bună-dispoziție. A doua zi, participanții se reîntâlnesc și petrecerea continuă.

Tot de Anul Nou, grupuri de colindători merg cu plugușorul pe la casele oamenilor și transmit urări pentru un an nou, bun , bogat.

On 1st of January, Saint Vasili, familis with small children visit a certain relative for doing a particular ritual: the children are risen up to the ceiling so that they will grow healthy and strong. On top of the child's head is held a pretzel. After this ritual they have dinner together and receive carol singers who sing Sorcova and Plugușorul, special carols for New Year. Sorcova also represents the paper flowers attached on a stick.

Colinde - Carols
Sorcovă - the paper flowers attached on a stick
Colac - Pretzel









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DRAGOBETELE

Se sărbătorește pe 24 februarie. Este sărbătoarea dragostei , echivalentă cu Ziua Sfântului Valentin.
Dragobetele este un personaj mitologic care aduce dragostea. Denumirea vine de la cuvântul Drag.
Tinerii îndrăgostiți își oferă daruri, flori.
Se spune: Dragobetele sărută fetele!

Dragobete – mythological figure representing love, similar to Cupid.
Dragobetele is held on 24th of February and is the equivalent of Saint Valentine's Day. Dragobetele is a mythological character who brings love. Young men offer flowers and gifts to their beloved ones.

Dragoste - love

Floare – flower

Cadou – gift

Dragobetele sărută fetele! - Dragobetele kissing girls!





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RUSALIILE

Este o sărbătoare creştină, la 50 de zile după Paşti. Semnifică POGORÂREA SFÂNTULUI DUH peste SFINŢII APOSTOLI, ziua când a luat fiinţă prima comunitate creştină.

Un obicei moştenit de la evrei este împodobirea caselor cu flori şi ramuri verzi de nuc sau de tei, care se impart la biserică, după ce au fost binecuvântate.

De Rusalii, este obişnuit şi faimosul joc al căluşarilor (executat de cete de flăcăi) pentru a scăpa de iele - zâne rele.

În România, prin decizia Parlamentului, sunt două zile libere de Rusalii: duminica Rusaliilor şi luni, a doua zi de Rusalii.

Rusaliile are a Christian celebration held at 50 days after the Easter, meaning the descend of the Holy Ghost on Jesus' Apostles and the first Christian Communion. Houses are decorated with walnut or linden branches which people receive from the priest. On Rusalii groups of young boys dance Călușul, an amazing traditional dance that protects against evil spirits.

On the first and the second day of Rusalii people do not go to work.

Ramuri de nuc, tei – Walnut or liden branches

CĂLUȘUL – Traditional Romanian dance (Oltenia)





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SFÂNTA MARIA – VIRGIN MARY

Principala Sărbătoarea a Fecioarei Maria este pe 15 August -Sfânta Marie Mare, când Biserica Ortodoxă sărbătorește Adormirea Maicii Domnului, iar pe 8 Septembrie este Sfânta Marie Mică, atunci sărbătorindu-se Nasterea Maicii Domnului.

În 15 august este celebrată şi Ziua Marinei, deoarece Maica Domnului este ocrotitoarea marinarilor. La malul mării, dar şi în oraşele dunărene sunt organizate ample serbări.

În unele zone ale ţării, în dimineaţa acestei zile, femeile merg la biserica, unde împart struguri, prune, faguri de miere, şi merg în cimitir pentru a tămâia mormintele.

În România Sfanta Maria Mare, 15 August este sarbatoare liberă legală.

Persoanele cu numele Maria, Marin îşi sărbătoresc ziua numelui – onomastica.

On 15th of August the Orthodox Church celebrates the Virgin Mary's Death while on 8th of September they celebrate Her birth. Virgin Mary is the protector of the seas and sailors therefore at the seaside many parades are organized on this day. At the countryside women offer fruits, loaves of bread for the souls of the dead ones. People having names derived from Mary celebrate themselves.

On this day, Romanians do not go to work.



Ziua Marinei - Navy Day

Onomastica – ziua numelui – the names's day





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ZIUA NAȚIONALĂ – NATIONAL DAY

Ziua Națională a României se sărbătorește pe data de 1 Decembrie. Alegerea zilei de 1 decembrie, a făcut trimitere la unirea Transilvaniei, Banatului, Crișanei și Maramureșului cu România în 1918, respectiv la Proclamația de la Alba Iulia, care a avut loc la 1 decembrie 1918.
De Ziua națională au loc numeroase festivități, parada militară, depunere de flori la monumentele eroilor țării, programe artistice.

Romania's National Day is celebrated on December 1. Election Day December 1, referred to the union of Transylvania, Banat, Crisana and Maramures with Romania in 1918, that the Proclamation of Alba Iulia, which took place on 1 December 1918. National Day held numerous celebrations, military parade, laying flowers at the monuments of the heroes of the country, artistic programs.

Unire - union







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DELTA DUNĂRII – DANUBE DELTA

Delta Dunării (3446 km²), aflată în mare parte în Dobrogea, România, și parțial în Ucraina, este a doua ca mărime și cea mai bine conservată dintre deltele europene.

Delta Dunării a intrat în patrimoniul mondial al UNESCO în 1991, este clasificată ca rezervație a biosferei la nivel național în România și ca parc național în taxonomia internațională a IUCN. Vegetația Deltei este reprezentată în mare parte de o vegetație specifică mlaștinilor și ocupă 78% din totalul suprafeței. Există și păduri de plop, frasin, ulm , stejar brumăriu.

Fauna este reprezentată de peste 350 specii de păsări, numeroase specii de pești de apă dulce și sărată și alte animale . Acesta este locul unde milioane de păsări din diferite colțuri ale Pământului vin să cuibărească. Dintre animale se pot enumera vidre, vulpi, lupi, iepuri, mistreți și două animale mai rare în România, câinele enot și sacalul.

The Danube Delta (3446 km ²), located mostly in Dobrogea, Romania and partly in Ukraine is the second largest and best preserved European deltas.

The Delta was declared an UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1991 and is a biosphere reservation in Romania and accordingly to the international taxonomy in the IUCN it is a national park. The Delta's vegetation consists largely of specific vegetation and wetlands occupy 78% of the total. There are forests of poplar, ash, elm, gray oak.

Fauna includes over 350 species of birds, many species of freshwater and saltwater fish and other animals. Millions of birds from different corners of the earth come to nest. Some animals are otters, foxes, wolves, rabbits, pigs and two rare animals in Romania, raccoon dog and jackal.

Pelican – pelican
Egret – egretă
Crane - cocor
Otter – vidră
Raccoon dog – câine enot







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PALATUL PARLAMENTULUI DIN BUCUREȘTI

THE PALACE OF THE PARLIAMENT

Palatul Parlamentului din București, România este o clădire multifuncțională, unde își desfășoară activitatea ambele camere ale Parlamentului. Conform ***World Records Academy***, Palatul Parlamentului este **cea mai mare clădire administrativă pentru uz civil ca suprafață** din lume, **cea mai scumpă clădire administrativă** din lume și **cea mai grea clădire** din lume, intrând de trei ori în Cartea recordurilor.
Palatul , măsoară 270 m pe 240 m, 86 m înălțime, și 92 m sub pământ. Are 12 nivele la suprafață și alte 8 subterane.

The **Palace of the Parliamen** in Bucharest, Romania is a multi-purpose building containing both chambers of the Romanian Parliament. According to the World Records Academy, the Palace is the world's largest civilian building with an administrative function, most expensive administrative building, and heaviest building.
The Palace measures 270 m (890 ft) by 240 m (790 ft), 86 m (282 ft) high, and 92 m (302 ft) underground. It has 1,100 rooms, 2 underground parking garages and is 12 stories tall, with four underground levels currently available for the general public and in use, and another four in different stages of completion. The floorspace is 340.000 $m^{2.}$

Palace of the Parliament - Palatul Parlamentului
Largest civilian building – cea mai mare clădire civilă
Most expensiv administrative building – cea mai scumpă clădire administrativă
Heaviest building – cea mai grea clădire





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DANUBE RIVER AND THE STONE STATUE OF DECEBAL

Statuia regelui dac Decebal are 55 m înălțime și este situată pe malul stâncos al Dunării, între localitățile Eșelnița și Dubova, lângă Orșova, România. Statuia lui Decebal reprezintă ultimul rege al Daciei și este sculptată într-o stâncă. Este cea mai mare sculptură în piatră din Europa. Omul de afaceri și istoricul amator Iosif Constantin Drăgan a fost cel care a promovat și finanțat ideea acestei lucrări efectuate în perioada 1994-2004. Au lucrat 12 sculptori alpiniști, în ciuda pericolelor reprezentate de înălțimi, căldură și vipere. Executarea acestei lucrări a fost realizată sub conducerea sculptorului român Florin Cotarcea. Pe malul golfului Mraconia unde este aceasta se poate ajunge doar pe apă, cu barca. Pentru modelarea stâncii, a fost folosită peste o tonă de dinamită.

The statue of Dacian king, Decebal, has 55 m high and is situated on the rocky bank of Danube, between Eşelniţa and Dubova, near the town Orşova from Romania. Decebal is the last ancient king of Dacia who is famous for his fights against the Romans between the years 101-102, 105-106 BC. His portrait is carved into rock and is the highest stone sculpture in Europe. Businessman and amateur historian Iosif Constantin Dragan was the one who promoted and financed the idea of this work conducted during 1994-2004. The work was made by 12 sculptors who had to climb the rock, despite the dangers of heights, heat and vipers.

The execution of this sculpture was supervised by the Romanian sculptor Florin Cotarcea. On the dock of the Mraconia bay can be reached only by boat. For modelling the rock over a ton of dynamite was used.

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rock sculpture – sculptură în stâncă
Dacian king Decebal – Regele Dac Decebal





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TRAIAN VUIA
1872 – 1950

A fost un inventator român, pionier al aviației mondiale. La 18 martie 1906 a făcut primul zbor autopropulsat (fără catapulte sau alte mijloace exterioare) cu un dispozitiv mai greu decât aerul. la Montesson, lângă Paris.

După o accelerație pe o distanță de 50 metri, aparatul s-a ridicat la o înălțime de un metru, pe o distanță de 12 m, apoi a aterizat.

Multe ziare din Franța, Statele Unite și Marea Britanie au scris despre primul om care a zburat un aparat mai greu decât aerul, echipat cu sisteme proprii de decolare, propulsie și aterizare.

Was a Romanian inventor, pioneer of global aviation. On March 18, 1906 he made the first self-propelled flight (without catapults or other external) with a device heavier than air, at Montesson, near Paris.

After an acceleration over a distance of 50 meters, the machine rose to a height of one meter, a distance of 12 m, then landed.

Many newspapers from France, the United States and Britain have written about the first man to fly a device heavier than air, equipped with their own systems of takeoff, and landing propulsion.

Inventor – inventator
A device heavier than air – un dispozitiv mai greu ca aerul
First self-propelled flight – primul zbor autopropulsat





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TRANSFĂGĂRĂȘANUL

Transfăgărășanul (de la prefixul „trans-” + Făgăraș) face parte din *Drumul Național 7C* (DN7C) și este unul din cele mai spectaculoase drumuri din România și din Europa, numit și „drumul din nori”, care leagă regiunea istorică a Munteniei cu Transilvania.

Este un drum asfaltat care traverseaza Munții Făgăraș din Carpații meridionali, iar în apropierea tunelului de lîngă Lacul Bâlea, ajunge la altitudinea de 2042 m. Transfăgărășanul este situat pe locul al doilea ca altitudine în România după șoseaua Transalpina (DN67C) cu 2145 m din Munții Parâng. A fost construit între anii 1970 – 1974, inaugurarea având loc în data de 20 septembrie 1974.

Transfăgărășan (the prefix "trans-" + Fagaras) is part of the National Road 7C (DN7C) and is one of the most spectacular roads in Romania and in Europe, called the "way the clouds ", which links the historical region of Wallachia with Transylvania.

It is a paved road that crosses Fagaras Mountains from the South of the Carpathians. Near the tunnel in the proximity of Balea Lake it reaches 2042 m altitude. Transfăgărășan is the second highest road in Romania after Transalpina (DN67C) which is at a height of 2145 m in Parang Mountains.

Transfăgărășan was built between 1970 –1974 and its inauguration took place on September 20th 1974.

way the clouds - drumul din nori
spectacular roads – drum spectaculos





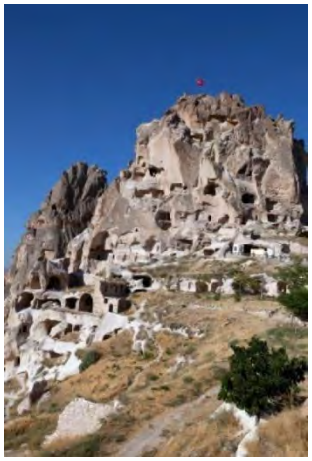
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Mustafa Kemal Ataturk









TURKEY







NATIONAL TURKEY DAY

29 OCTOBER
(Cumhuriyet Bayrami)

Many people in Turkey celebrate Republic Day on October 29 by attending performances and participating in traditional processions with flags and musical bands. The Turkish Republic's founder Mustafa Kemal Atatürk proclaimed Republic Day as Turkey's most important holiday.

Many people go to local stadiums on October 29 to watch performances dedicated to Republic Day in Turkey. Such performances usually consist of theater sketches, poetry readings and traditional Turkish dances. Many school children participate in school performances for parents and teachers. Parades may take place in some cities and politicians may give public speeches on this day. Many people also lay wreaths to Atatürk's monuments or visit Atatürk's mausoleum in the country's capital, Ankara.

In the evening of October 29 many cities have traditional processions with flags and musical bands to commemorate Republic Day in Turkey. The processions usually end with fireworks, which begin after dark.

Public administration buildings, schools, post offices and many small businesses are usually closed on this day. Public transport schedules may vary. Public transport routes may change in the event of street performances and processions. The afternoon of the previous day, October 28, is also an official holiday.

Ulusal türkiye gün - national turkey day
Bayrak - Flag
Anit - Monument





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FAMOUS TURKISH CULINARY

YOGHURT AND KEBAP "BEST FRIENDS"





"BAKLAVA"

THERE IS NO PLACE WHERE YOU CAN'T TASTE IT!





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ASHURA

Ashura is a holiday celebrated annually in Turkey. It signifies many events for Muslims, amongst the most significant being the day Noah's Ark set on dry land. The month long festivities center on promoting friendship, good relations between neighbors and universal peace and understanding. In Turkey, a traditional dish is prepared during this month known as Noah's pudding. It is meant to symbolize the celebratory meal Noah made when he came off the Ark. It is a sign of peace, of community, of peace, and of a bright future.

Puding = Pudding
Pace = Peace
Arkadas = Friend





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FAIRY CHIMNEYS

Cappadocia is a dreamy slice of central Turkey dotted with ‘fairy chimneys’ (rock formations), has a history every bit as remarkable as its landscape. Volcanic eruptions created this surreal moonscape: the lava flows formed tuff rock, which wind and rain sculpted into sinuous valleys with curvy cliff faces and pointy fairy chimneys. Cappadocians chiselled homes in the soft rock, paving the way for cave-dwelling hippies and today’s boutique fairy-chimney hotels.

The place ıs a gıft from nature.(Nevşehir, Cappadocıa)

Volcanic eruptions - volkanik patlamalar





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ISTANBUL

Istanbul is the largest city in Turkey, constituting the country's economic, cultural, and historical heart. With a population of 13.9 million, the city forms one of the largest urban agglomerations in Europe and is the second-largest city in the world by population within city limits. Istanbul's vast area of 5,343 square kilometers is coterminous with Istanbul Province, of which the city is the administrative capital. Istanbul is a transcontinental city, straddling the Bosphorus—one of the world's busiest waterways—in northwestern Turkey, between the Sea of Marmara and the Black Sea. Its commercial and historical center lies in Europe, while a third of its population lives in Asia.

Economic, cultural, and historical heart - Ekonomik, kültürel ve tarihi merkezinde.





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WISWER WORDS

TURKISH WELL KNOWN HUMOROUS.

“YA TUTARSA” (IF IT HAPPENS)

CHARACTER ADVICE US NOT TO LEAVE OUR HOPES.



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“SÖZ GÜMÜŞ İSE SÜKUT ALTINDIR”

SOMETİMES SPEECH IS SILVER BUT SILENCE IS GOLD



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“KÖTÜ HABER TEZ DUYULUR”

„BAD NEWS DELIVERS FAST”



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“İKİ HOROZ BİR KÜMESTE OLMAZ”

A COUPLE CAN’T HAVE HAPPINESS IF THEY WANT TO DOMINATE EACH OTHER.



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“SAKLA SAMANI GELİR ZAMANI”

DON’T THROW EVERYTHING, YOU WILL NEED IT ONE DAY.



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“MEYVE VEREN AĞAÇ TAŞLANIR”

IF YOU PRODUCE SOMETHING THAT OTHERS DON’T IT IS NORMAL TO BE CRITICIZED.



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