



**Welcome to...**



**CHRISTMAS  
HOLIDAY**



# Brazil

Merry Christmas

Feliz Natal



# Brazil

In Brazil they call  
Father Christmas  
'Papai Noel'



Christmas there is very hot  
because it comes at the  
beginning of their  
Summer.

Father Christmas wears red  
silk because it is too hot for  
him to wear the same  
clothes as he does in the  
UK.



# China

Christmas

Shang Dan Jiang



# China

How do Christians in China decorate their houses for Christmas?

They use bright coloured paper lanterns to decorate for Christmas. They put candles inside and the light shines brightly through the coloured paper.





# China

Chinese children hang up stockings in the hope that Sheng Dan Lao Ren will visit them and fill them with presents.



Who do you think Sheng Dan Lao Ren is?



Christmas Day is not a public holiday in China like it is in England. People go to work and children go to school. This is because China is mainly a Buddhist country. Their biggest celebration is Chinese New Year which usually falls sometime in January or February.



# Malta

Merry Christmas

Il-Milied it-Tajjeb

(eel mileed ittayyeb)



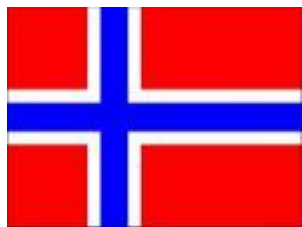


# Malta

Do you know who preaches the sermon at Midnight Mass instead of the priest on Christmas Eve in Malta?

It is a child aged between 7 and 10 years old. The child will be chosen from the altar servers months in advance and has to learn the 15 minute speech off by heart.

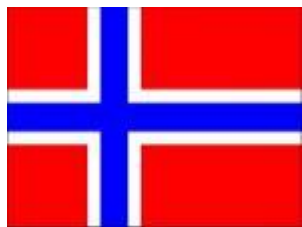
Once they have finished their sermon they are given a gift by the parish priest which is usually a statue of the baby Jesus lying in a manger.



# Norway

Merry Christmas

God Jul



# Norway

It is traditional in Norway to 'circle the tree' before opening presents. Families stand in a big circle around the Christmas Tree, hold hands and walk or dance around the tree whilst singing Christmas carols.





# Norway

Every year the people of Oslo, Norway give London a huge Christmas tree which is put up in Trafalgar Square. During the Second World War King Haakon of Norway was forced out of the country when Hitler invaded and came to Britain. Since 1947 we have been sent a giant Norwegian Spruce as a great big thank you for looking after him so well.





# Australia

What pulls Santa's sleigh  
around Australia instead of  
Reindeer?

Santa's sleigh is pulled by  
six white kangaroos!

CLUE

Australians sometimes  
call these animals  
"Boomers" ...





# Australia

It is summer in Australia at Christmas so it is very, very hot. Families often go to the beach on Christmas Day and instead of having a hot roast turkey dinner they have a barbeque!





# France

Merry Christmas

Joyeux Noel



# France

Let's learn some French Christmas Words!

Marie

Joseph



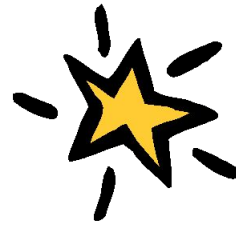
le bébé Jésus





# France

les bergers



l'agneau



# France

les rois





# France



le sapin



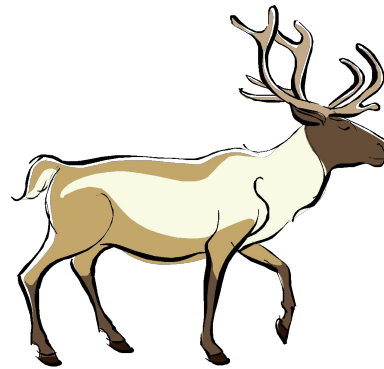
Père Noël



un cadeau



un ange



un renne



un traîneau



# France



le  
bonhomme  
de neige

Le bonhomme de neige

Il est très joli et beau

Il a deux yeux, un nez, et  
une bouche

Et sur la tête un grand  
chapeau!



# Netherlands

Merry Christmas  
Zalig Kerstfeest



# Netherlands

The main Christmas celebration in the Netherlands is on St. Nicholas' feast day which is 6<sup>th</sup> December.

Dutch people celebrate Sinterklaasavond which is like our Christmas Eve.

Did you know?

The name Santa Claus comes from the Dutch word for St. Nicholas – Sinterklaas.





# Netherlands



What do you think Dutch children leave instead of stockings for Sinterklaas to fill?

On Sinterklaasavond children leave out their shoes in the hope that Sinterklaas will fill them with presents. They also leave a carrot with their shoes for Sinterklaas' horse.



# Germany

Merry Christmas

Fröhliche Weihnachten



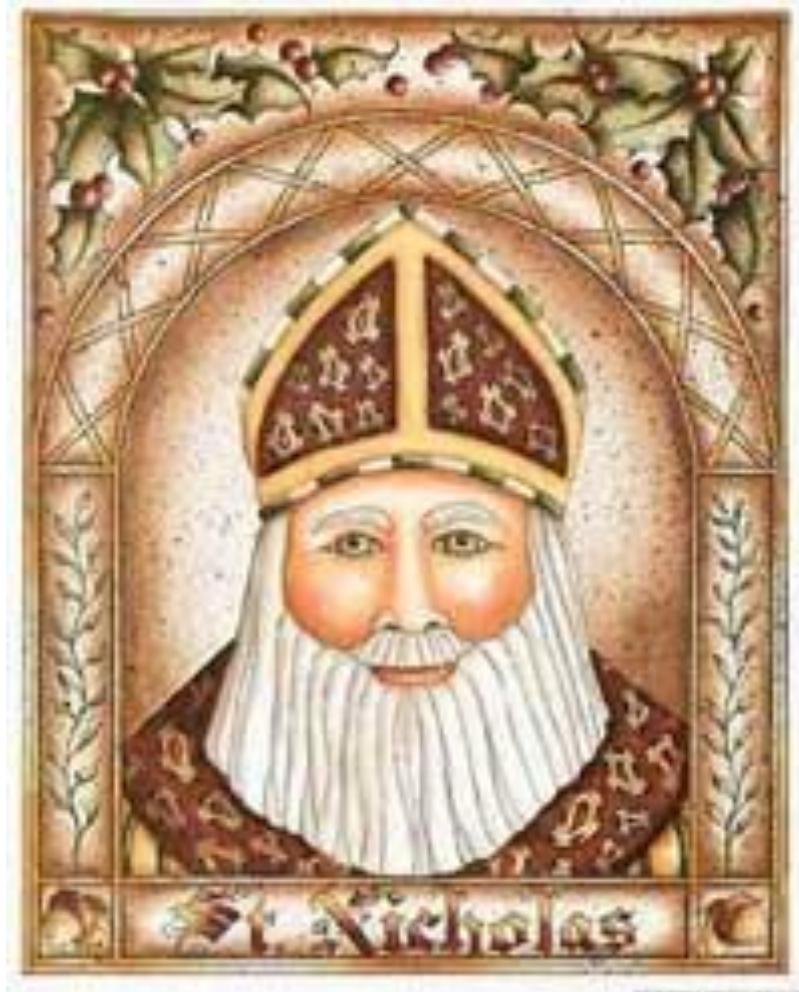


# Germany

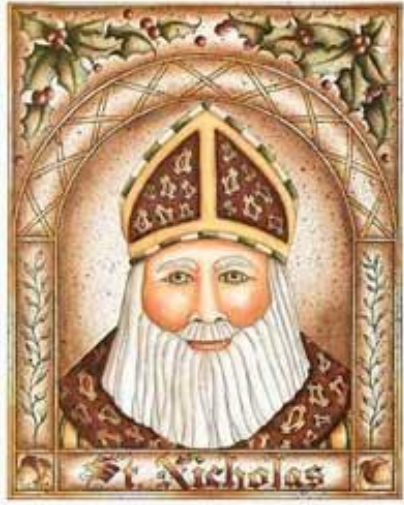
German children also put their shoes out in the hopes that they will be filled with presents, just like Dutch children.

If the children have been good when they come down on St. Nicholas' Day their shoes will have been filled with sweets and chocolates.

If the children have not been good then they might receive slaps by St. Nicholas' companion Knecht Ruprecht.



**St. Nicholas**



# St. Nicholas

St. Nicholas' Day is celebrated in many countries around the world on 6th December every year.

St. Nicholas was born during the 3<sup>rd</sup> century, about 700 years ago. His parents were very wealthy and he was raised to be Christian. While St. Nicholas was still young both his parents died and left him all their money. Nicholas obeyed Jesus' words to "sell what you own and give the money to the poor" and he used ALL the money his parents had left him to help the poor, the sick and the suffering. He dedicated his whole life to serving God and became known throughout the land for his generosity to the those in need and for his love for children.



*(sung to the tune of 'Jingle Bells')*

Christmas bells

All is well

We're all having fun.

Games and jokes and things to eat

Joy to everyone.

Oh, Christmas bells

All is well

We're all having fun.

It's party time for the new-born babe

And everyone's welcome.



Dear God,  
Thank you for fun, for getting  
together with friends and  
family.  
For presents and games and  
things to eat and drink.  
Thank you that you want us to  
celebrate and have fun at  
Christmas time.  
Thank you that we're all invited  
to the party.  
**Amen.**