

THE MOST FAMOUS TRADITIONS IN THE WORLD

Every country in the world has its unique customs and traditions that distinguish it from other nations. These customs are passed down from generation to generation and play a significant role in shaping the cultural identity of a country. Ukraine, for example, has many customs and traditions that are rooted in its history and culture. This article discusses some of the unique customs of Ukraine and other countries around the world.

Ukraine has a rich cultural heritage, which was formed by its turbulent history. The country has a long-standing tradition of celebrating holidays and festivals that reflect its cultural identity. Some of the most significant Ukrainian customs and traditions include:

Easter: Easter is the most important religious holiday in Ukraine, and it is celebrated with great fervour. People in Ukraine decorate their homes with traditional Easter eggs called «pysanky», and they attend religious services to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ [12].

Christmas: In Ukraine, Christmas is celebrated on January, 7 according to the Julian calendar. People celebrate by singing carols, decorate their homes with traditional ornaments, and prepare a special dish called «kutya», which is cooked from wheat, honey, and poppy seeds [11].

Wedding traditions: Ukrainian wedding is steeped in traditions and is typically multi-day celebrations. The wedding ceremony itself involves several customs, including the exchange of rings, crowning the couple with floral wreaths, and the breaking of a ceremonial bread [13].

Vyshyvanka Day: This is a relatively new holiday that was founded in 2006 in honour of the traditional Ukrainian embroidered shirt called «vyshyvanka.» On this day, people wear their vyshyvankas to celebrate their

cultural heritage [7].

Malanka: Malanka is a traditional Ukrainian holiday that is celebrated on January, 13. It is a day of fun and mischief, and people dress up in costumes and go from house to house, singing and dancing [6].

Like Ukraine, other countries of the world also have unique customs and traditions that are an essential part of their cultural heritage. Some of these customs include:

Dia de los Muertos, Mexico: Dia de los Muertos, or Day of the Dead, is a Mexican holiday that celebrates the memory of deceased relatives. The holiday is celebrated on November, 1st and 2nd, and people build altars in their homes to honor the dead. They also visit cemeteries and participate in parades and other holidays [2, p. 40].

Oktoberfest, Germany: Oktoberfest is a famous beer festival that takes place in Munich, Germany, every year. The festival lasts 16 days and attracts millions of visitors from all over the world. People come to enjoy traditional German food, beer, and music [8, p. 22].

Cherry Blossom Festival, Japan: The Cherry Blossom Festival is a Japanese tradition that celebrates the beauty of cherry blossoms. The festival takes place in March or April and includes picnics under cherry blossom trees, known as «hanami», and traditional Japanese performances such as dance and music [10].

Holi, India: Holi is a Hindu festival that celebrates the arrival of spring. At the festival, people throw colored powder and water at each other, dance and enjoy traditional Indian food. Holi is a day of forgiveness and new beginnings [4, p. 27].

Tomatina is a Spanish festival that takes place in the town of Buñol, near Valencia. It involves throwing tomatoes at each other in the streets and is an interesting way for people to reduce stress [9].

Chinese New Year, China: Chinese New Year is the most important holiday in China, and it is celebrated at the end of January or at the beginning of

February. The holiday involves dragon and lion dances, fireworks, family gatherings, and the exchange of red envelopes filled with money. Each year is associated with one of the twelve animals of the Chinese zodiac [1, p. 15].

Diwali, India: Diwali, also known as the Festival of Lights, is a Hindu festival that celebrates the victory of light over darkness. The festival is celebrated by lighting diyas, small oil lamps, and candles, decorating homes with colorful rangolis, and enjoying traditional Indian sweets [3].

Bastille Day, France: Bastille Day is a French national holiday dedicated to the storming of the Bastille, a symbol of royal tyranny, on July 14, 1789. The holiday is celebrated with parades, fireworks, and street parties [5, p. 10].

Customs and traditions play an important role in shaping the country's cultural identity. They provide a connection to the past, preserve cultural heritage, and bring people together to celebrate their mutual history and traditions. Ukraine, like many other countries, has a rich tradition of celebrating holidays and festivals that reflect its cultural identity. It is important to preserve these traditions and pass them on to future generations. By learning about the customs of other countries, we can better understand and appreciate of their culture and history.

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