

# Christmas Around the World



## Christmas Around the World



### India

In India, people like to decorate their houses and streets with colourful, folded paper stars.



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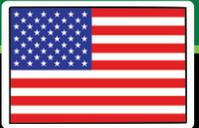


### Ireland

In Ireland, people like to light candles in the windows of their homes to act as a guide for Joseph and Mary to travel to their resting place.



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### USA

In the south-west of the USA, people display 'luminarias' or 'farolitos' to celebrate the birth of Jesus. These are small paper lanterns with a candle inside.





## Brazil

Each Christmas, thousands of people go to see the world's tallest floating Christmas tree on water in Rio de Janeiro. It is 85 metres tall and contains 3.1 million bulbs.



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## Australia

As well as Christmas trees and other decorations, Australians decorate their houses with 'Christmas Bush'. This is an Australian plant with white flowers that turn a deep, shiny red at Christmas time.



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## Guatemala

Lots of people in Guatemala build a Nativity with their family.

The nativity scene is called a 'Nacimientto'.



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## Sweden

In Sweden, the biggest celebrations around Christmas time is St. Lucia's day, on December 13<sup>th</sup>. A girl is dressed up in a white dress with a red sash around her waist and a crown of candles on her head. The food eaten for breakfast on St. Lucia's day is a saffron bun called 'Lussekat', which means 'Lucia's cat'.



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### Mexico

Just before Christmas, during the 'Festival of Radishes', Mexican farmers carve radishes to make Nativity scenes.



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### Italy

Italian children are very lucky because they receive presents twice during the Christmas period. On the 6<sup>th</sup> of January, they are visited by the Befana, a good, magical old lady which brings sweets and small presents and stuffs them in stockings. If the children have not been good, Befana will bring only coal and garlic.



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### United Kingdom

In the United Kingdom, people decorate their homes and towns with Christmas lights. Lots of people also attend Nativity plays and carol services.



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### The Philippines

Christmas carols are played on the radio and many people put up Christmas trees and decorate their homes with lights and a lantern ornament called a 'parol'.

Parols are most often star-shaped but they can come in lots of different shapes and sizes.



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## Nigeria

The Christmas meal in Nigeria is usually roasted goat meat and chicken with rice. There is a festive atmosphere with lots of sparklers and fireworks to celebrate the day.

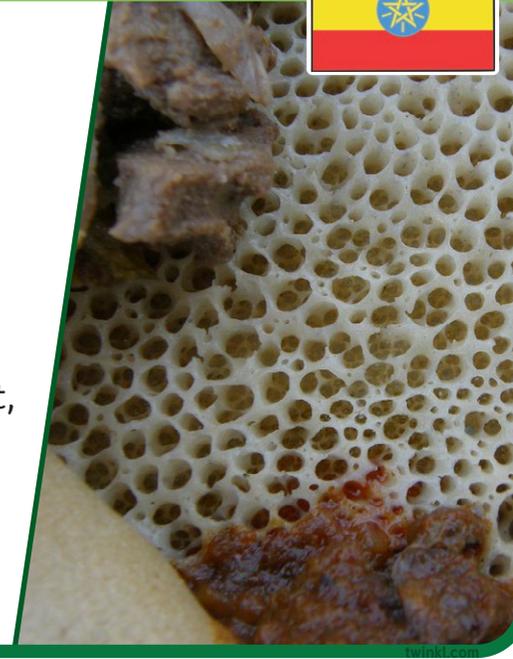


## Ethiopia

Christmas is celebrated on 7th January in the Ethiopian Orthodox Church. It is called Ganna or Genna.

The Christmas feast often includes injera (a traditional Ethiopian flatbread) and w'et, a stew made with chicken, beef, lamb or other meat, plus vegetables and peas or lentils.

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## Hong Kong

Christmas services are held at the cathedral and other churches. Some services are in Cantonese and some are in English.

Hong Kong is decorated with lots of lights and decorations. Shops and attractions take part in a big celebration called 'Winterfest'.



## Botswana

Many people in Botswana travel to spend Christmas with their families.

Seswaa is a stew made with beef or goat meat that is very traditional at Christmas. Barbecues or braai are also becoming more popular. People share their feasts with the whole family or sometimes even the whole village.

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