

Russian Traditions - Russian Federation

Russia is a truly unique country, which along with a highly developed modern culture carefully preserves the traditions of its nation, deeply rooted not only in Orthodoxy, but even in paganism. The Russians still celebrate pagan holidays, believe in many of the popular superstitions and legends.

Christianity gave Russians such wonderful holidays as Easter, Christmas and the rite of Baptism, and paganism - Maslenitsa and Ivan Kupala.

Easter in Russia

Easter is a bright holiday of the resurrection of Christ. This holiday came to Russia from Byzantium along with Epiphany at the end of the Tenth century. Since then, this Christian holiday has been widely, beautifully and solemnly celebrated throughout Russia.

On the eve of Easter, all churches hold all-night vigils and a procession around the Church. By this time, all the houses had already baked traditional holiday cakes - cakes that symbolize the body of Christ, and painted eggs. And right in the morning, the faithful go home with treats, giving each other colored eggs, saying: "Christ is risen!" "He is truly risen!" This custom greeting, followed by hugging and kissing, is called the "kiss of peace". The festival of Christian Easter lasts for seven days and is called Holy week or the seventh Week.

Easter is a day of abundant food. After Great Lent, a variety of delicious dishes are put on the table on this day. And among them, the first place is occupied by ritual dishes. And, above all, these are Easter cakes, cakes and painted eggs.

The egg, which was traditionally painted in red colors and its shades, became a mandatory attribute and symbol of the Christian Easter from the XII century. And the cake was always baked from yeast dough, high and round. On top of the cake is decorated with the image of a cross. It is believed that if the Easter bread is successful, then all will be well in the family. When eating, the cake is cut not lengthwise, but across, keeping the top intact to cover it with the rest of the cake.

And, of course, according to the old Russian custom, gifts were sent and distributed on these Easter days to the poor and indigent, relatives and strangers in poorhouses, orphanages, hospitals and prisons. The poor Wanderers were also not deprived, because the people said that "from Easter to ascension, Christ and his apostles roam the earth, testing the mercy and kindness of everyone."

Christmas in Russia: Christmas fast, Christmas eve, Yuletide, Epiphany

Christmas is the feast of the birth of Jesus Christ, the Savior of the world, with whose coming people have found hope for mercy, kindness, truth and eternal life. The Orthodox Church celebrates Christmas according to the Julian calendar on January 7, in contrast to Western churches that celebrate it on December 25 according to the Gregorian calendar.

Ivan Kupala in Russia. Russian Kupala rituals

Since ancient times, all the peoples of the world celebrated the peak of summer holiday at the end of June. In Russia, such a holiday is Ivan Kupala. On the night of 23-24 June, everyone celebrated this mystical, mysterious, but at the same time rampant and cheerful holiday, full of ritual actions, rules and prohibitions, songs, sentences, all sorts of secrets, divination, legends, beliefs.

Even in the time of paganism, the ancient Rus' people had a deity named Kupalo, who personified summer fertility. In his honor in the evenings and sang songs, and jumped over the fire. This ritual action has become an annual celebration of the summer solstice, mixing pagan and Christian traditions. Ivan Kupalo deity was called after the baptism of Russia, when he was replaced by none other than John the Baptist (more precisely, his folk image), who baptized Christ himself and whose Christmas was celebrated on June 24.

Kupala rites

On this day, people were girded with flower sashes, and wreaths of herbs were put on their heads. They led dances, sang songs, and built bonfires, in the middle of which they placed a pole with a burning wheel attached to it — the symbol of the sun.

On the day of Ivan Kupala, girls curled wreaths of herbs, and in the evening they let them into the water, watching how and where they float. If the wreath sinks, then the intended one has fallen out of love and will not marry him.

On Midsummer's day, it was customary to pour dirty water over anyone you met. It was believed that the more often a person runs to bathe, the purer his soul will be. Bathing was also prescribed at dawn: then bathing had healing power.

On a bathing night, cleansing fires were lit. People danced around them, jumped over them, and those who were more successful and taller would be happier. In the Kupala bonfires, mothers burned shirts removed from sick children, so that the diseases themselves would burn along with this linen. Young people jumped over the campfires and arranged noisy fun games, brawls, and running races. They were always playing with burners.

The people believed that all the miraculous and healing herbs bloom just on the night of Ivan Kupala. Therefore, knowledgeable and experienced people, and especially village healers and healers, under no circumstances missed Midsummer night and collected medicinal roots and herbs for the whole year.

It was rumored that at midnight a fern blooms at the bathing area. A wonderful fire flower can show a lucky person the location of all the treasures, no matter how deep they were buried. Around midnight, a Bud appears on the broad leaves of a fern, which rises higher and higher, then wobbles, turns over and begins to "jump". Exactly at midnight, the ripened Bud opens with a Bang and a fiery red flower emerges from it. A person cannot pluck it, but if he sees it, all his wishes will be fulfilled.

People associated Ivan Kupala day with the idea of miracles. On the night of bathing, it was impossible to sleep, as all the evil spirits came to life and became active: witches, werewolves, ghouls, mermaids... It was believed that on Ivan Kupala witches also celebrate their holiday, trying to do as much harm to people as possible.

Maslenitsa rites in Russia

Perhaps the most fun holiday in Russia can be called Maslenitsa. This holiday is considered an echo of pre-Christian times, when the Slavs were still pagans.

In the old days, Maslenitsa was considered a holiday of commemoration of the dead. So the burning of Maslenitsa is its funeral, and pancakes are a memorial treat. But time passed, and the Russian people, greedy for fun and recreation, turned a sad holiday into a raunchy Maslenitsa. But the tradition of baking pancakes remained-round, yellow and hot as the sun, and it was supplemented by horse-drawn carts and sledges from the icy mountains, fist fights, mother-in-law gatherings. Maslenitsa rites are very unusual and interesting, as they combine the end of the period of winter holiday rituals and the opening of a new, spring period of holidays and rituals that were supposed to contribute to the production of a rich harvest.

Maslenitsa is celebrated the whole week before Lent. Moreover every day of the Shrovetide week was dedicated to special rituals

tradition of Russia. From the origins to the present day

Russia is a country with a long history. Moreover, this history is reflected not only in official Chronicles and Chronicles, but also in popular culture -in the traditions of Russia, which were formed and rooted over a long time

The traditions of Russia, which the country is now famous for and proud of, have a mixed origin. Some of them came from ancient pagan times, when the inhabitants of Russia worshipped the forces of nature and believed in their unity with their native land, another part came from Christian rites and customs, and the third became a kind of "fusion" of pagan and Christian cultures.

The traditions of Russia, which came from pre-Christian times, can be attributed to the holiday of Maslenitsa, to the Christian-Easter.

But Christmas in Russia gradually lost its true religious meaning, because it was "mixed" with a typically pagan fun -carols on the night of January 6 to 7, when young people go home, sing ritual songs and beg for treats from the owners.Unfortunately (or perhaps, on the contrary, fortunately), not all the customs and rituals that were used by our ancestors have been preserved to this day. Some traditions of modern Russia are not suitable at all, so they are only left in the historical ones

Chronicles and memories of old-timers. However, some customs and traditions of Russia have passed through the centuries and are

popular even now.

Interesting customs of Russia:

Carnival

The story about the customs and traditions of Russia can be conducted for a very long time. Some customs of Russia have already sunk into Oblivion and can only be restored based on descriptions in literature or memoirs of old residents, while others still operate to this day, so that they can be admired "live".

Perhaps one of the most striking and popular customs of Russia, which came to us from pagan times, is Maslenitsa. Seeing off of winter and meeting of spring in Russia from time immemorial took place on a Grand scale. Both in the villages and in the cities, festive treats were prepared all week, rosy and fragrant pancakes were baked. There were sleigh rides down the mountain, and fistfights for the amusement of the public. The apotheosis of the holiday week came on Sunday,

when the people burned an effigy of Shrovetide, thus driving away the

tired winter and calling for spring as soon as possible. In the modern world

Maslenitsa is not celebrated as widely as it used to be. However

the traditions of this holiday, which precedes Lent, are still observed. It is difficult to find such a house, in which the

Shrovetide would not be baked pancakes, and straw scarecrows

are still burned in the cities during folk festivals. In short,

Maslenitsa has remained one of those customs of Russia that are not afraid of either the years or historical changes.

Culture and traditions of Russia. Russian character

Undoubtedly, the culture and traditions of Russia have a huge influence on the character of the country

people who live on the territory of the country. Russians, like any other nation, have their own special characteristics, known all over the world. In particular, one of the main national characteristics of the character is Russian hospitality. Welcoming guests has long been considered one of the main cul

tural traditions of Russia. And although meetings with bread and salt are a thing of the past, the Russians, as before, show great hospitality and friendliness towards their guests. Another character trait that very clearly characterizes the culture and traditions of Russia is the love of one's homeland.

Homeland for Russians is not an abstract concept, but a concrete place where a person was born and grew up. If in

Внимание! Этот перевод, возможно, ещё не готов.

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