

#### **Festivals**

being at festivals is like standing inside of a culture

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# Cultures

When you think about different cultures, what is the first thing that comes to your mind?



#### 50 Greatest Festivals in the World



http://www.buzzfeed.com/ashley perez/23-world-festivals-you-wontwant-to-miss



http://traditions.cultural-china.com/en/14Traditions286.html

## Saint Patrick's Festival, Dublin

Saint Patrick's Day is celebrated on March 17<sup>th</sup> in the memory of Saint Patrick. It is a festival for all the Irishmen. Department stores are all decorated with green shamrock, a three-leaved plant which symbolizes the day. People get dressed and painted in bright green, some wear costumes with red wigs and green caps, and arrange lavish

parades.
This is a magical day

when winter dreams

begin to turn into

summer!

http://www.funonthenet.in/festivals/unique-festivals-world.html



# Dragon Boat Festival, China

 The Dragon Boat festival, also known as the Dwanwu Festival, has been celebrated in China for more than 25,000 years! The date is on the fifth day of the Fifth lunar month. Legend says that a Chinese patriot Qu Yuan threw himself into the Mi Lo river to protest against the corrupt empire in the period of 475-221 BC. In order to save him and prevent the fish from eating him, the locals threw rice patties into the river. Ever since then rice dumplings or zongzi are prepared and eaten during this festival season. Other activities include drinking realgar wine and dragon boat

racing.

## Carnival of Venice, Italy

• The tradition of carnival dates back over 900 years. Everybody was free to do things desired all year without any guilt thanks to the masks. The most popular is the Carnival of Venice which is famous for masks. Venetian masks were wore first in the 15th century to remove social and sexual differences. The nights are full of parties and

masked balls.



## Las Fallas, Spain

 Las Fallas held every year in Valencia, Spain. The origin of Las Fallas dates back to the 16th century. The focus of this festival is to create and destroy ninots (puppets or dolls), which are statues made out of cardboard, wood, paper-mache, and plaster. These ninots are lifelike and usually demonstrate satirical scenes at corrupt politicians and Spanish celebrities. The ninots remain intact until March 19th, after which men stuff them with fireworks. All the streetlights are switched off and the ninots are set on fire at 12 am exactly. When at midnight Valencia goes up in flames with about 300 ninots being burnt!

# The Fringe Festival, Edinburgh

• The Edinburgh Fringe Festival is the world's largest art festival, which makes Edinburgh one of the most beloved places in UK. From 3 to 27 August, the year's festival will involve over 25,000 artists with over 40,000 performances! The Fringe Festival originated when some artists weren't accepted to participate in the official Edinburgh's international festival. They then decided to set up an alternative event. The major events include Music, Dance & Physical Theatre, Musicals & Opera and Children's Shows.





## Night of the Radishes, Mexico

One of the most colorful festivals of Mexico, commonly referred to as 'Noche de los Rabanos', is celebrated on December 23rd. The Radish Night festival lasts only a few hours due to limited lifespan of vegetables as folk art. Farmers carve the radishes into imaginative shapes in order to attract people into buying the produce at the market. Some of these radishes are giant about 50cms in length. Dozens of booths display carvings representing animals, saints, dancers, cathedrals, the Virgin Mary, nearly any imagination!





#### **Thanksgiving**





https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YsdzjdT\_LkY



History of Thanksgiving Day: by Studies Weekly

#### Christmas around the world



- Christmas In British Isles
- Christmas In Germany
- Christmas In France
- Christmas In Netherlands
- Christmas In Spain
- Christmas In Italy
- Christmas In Australia

http://www.the-north-pole.com/around/

#### Christmas on Fu Jen Campus





#### Festivals in Taiwan



Discovery Channel

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ymEzRyN-ugY



http://www.eventaiwan.tw/cal\_en/cal\_19954



# From Diwali to Oktoberfest, Carnival to Christmas . . .

There's always a celebration happening somewhere across the globe. Now, check your knowledge of some international festivals around the world:

http://travel.nationalgeographic.com/travel/countries/holidays-festivals-quiz/

#### Works Cited

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- ➤ Tourism Bureau, Republic of China http://eng.taiwan.net.tw/m1.aspx?sNO=0000204