

KONU FOOD AND FESTIVALS

READING TIME 1: FESTIVALS AROUND THE WORLD

1. Chinese New Year

Chinese New Year is the greatest festival of China. It is the largest festival and holiday for the country as the celebrations run from Chinese New Year's Eve, the last day of the last month of the Chinese calendar, to the Lantern festival on the 15th day of the first month. It is also known as the Spring Festival. The arrival of the new year is celebrated. Dragons, fireworks, symbolic clothing, flowers, lanterns, etc. are displayed during the celebrations. The traditional lion dance is also performed at the festival.

2. Pingxi Sky Lantern Festival: Taiwan

Pingxi Sky Lantern Festival is one of the biggest cultural events in Taiwan. It falls on the 15th day after the Chinese New Year. The exact event location is announced by the municipality every year. The purpose is to bring people together to make wishes and be part of incredibly beautiful scenes and moments. There are, of course, other events within the festival but the main festival event is group releasing events. Groups release lanterns into the sky, with their wishes attached to them. The Bureau of Tourism provides lanterns at some certain points.

3. Diwali

Diwali is India's biggest and most important holiday of the year. It is as important to people of India as the Christmas is to Christians or Eids to Muslims.

Originally, it is a spiritual, religious festival, but over the centuries, it has also become a national festival. As India is diverse in faith, the festival means different to all, but the main reason for the celebration is the victory of the good over evil. A large colorful statue of an Indian elephant forms the special part of the decoration at the festival.

There are different activities for each day of the festival. On the first day, people usually clean homes, shop for gold and kitchen utensils because they believe it will bring good luck. The second day is for home decoration with clay lamps and creating design patterns on the floor with colored powders or sand. Time for

the family gathering and feasts is the third day. Firework festivities are also on this day. The fourth day is the first day of the new year. Friends and relatives visit each other to give gifts and best wishes. The last day is for brothers to visit their married sisters and to have a big meal.

4. Winterlude

Winterlude is Canada's, especially the Capital's, annual winter celebration. The purpose is to bring fun and joy to the winter. It lasts for three weeks with intensive weekend activity programs.

During the festivals, snow and sculpture competitions are arranged, snow playgrounds are constructed, sporting and skating events are organized. Sports, arts, fun, excitement await you during Winterlude.

READING TIME 2: WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE CUISINE?

Because of the need for traveling more often, knowledge about world cuisines has become more important recently. You may complete your business trip without any problems at all, or may have to spend a lot of time in local restrooms instead of your destination due to digestive problems. Food traveler Gary Richards advises travelers to learn about general characteristics of the world's well-known cuisines. "Knowing about the basic ingredients and components of a cuisine may help you much as a traveler. You may enjoy more or suffer." says Richards.

We have searched for you. Here are general features of some of the world's best-known cuisines:

Thailand: Like any other Asian cuisine, rice is the main component in this cuisine. It is known for the perfect balance of all four

main taste senses including sweet, sour, bitter and salty. Thai dishes are normally prepared with less spice. Some of the most popular Thai dishes to try are shrimp soup, green papaya salad, Tom Kha Kai (chicken in coconut soup), red curry, fried rice, Thai style fried noodles, and green chicken curry.

Japan: Soup, sushi, meat and tofu are some of the best-known Japanese cuisine members. Rice is considered as the health saver in Japan and eaten very often. The Japanese are also keen on seafood. Japanese cuisine is popular because it is low in fat and light to digest. The Japanese focus more on health than taste, yet, Japanese food is consumed all over the world and chefs have tried to create new trends of the traditional dishes.

Spain: People generally turn to Spanish food when they want something light and leafy. It is famous for fish, meat and leafy vegetables. Oil is used in higher amounts in most dishes probably to balance the heavy seafood influence. Spanish cuisine offers a typical Mediterranean diet. You should try croquettes (with Atlantic cod fish), tortilla Espanola (Spanish omelet), pisto (Spanish ratatouille), octopus, famous Spanish bean stews and salads, paella and fried milk if you go to Spain.

Turkey: Turkey is very serious about taste for its food. Turkish people cook every single vegetable in the world, and in the tastiest way possible. Due to the location of this country, some seafood influence cannot be ignored. Turkish cuisine is also famous for its desserts free of sugar. Different flavors are used to make desserts sweet, healthy and tasty. Iskender kebab, Turkish delight, mantı, baklava, shish kebab, karnıyarık, simit (street food similar to pretzel and bagel), Turkish ice cream and Turkish coffee will leave unforgettable tastes in your mouth.



SORULAR:

Although distinctions in culture and customs can be wide-ranging, there's at least one thing that combine people across the planet– the desire to celebrate. Holidays and festivals have long been part of the human tradition, commemorating the spiritual, sacred and at times just plain curiosity. Traveling for a holiday can give you the unique opportunity to take a deep dive into another country and make new friends along the way.

1. The author states clearly in the passage that - - - .

- A) if you wonder a country, you can go only for celebration
 - B) one can learn a culture by attending a festival
 - C) every country and nation have similar festivals
 - D) the celebrations make people come closer
 - E) holidays are good times for having a rest
- Cevap: D**

2. We can understand from the passage that - - - .

- A) the number of festivals changes according to cultures
 - B) customs and cultures are the same all over the world
 - C) festivals haven't been celebrated enough nowadays
 - D) traditions have been fading as the time passes
 - E) to learn a culture, travelling is a unique way
- Cevap: E**

3. The title for the text is - - - .

- A) Human Traditions
 - B) Travel and Festivals
 - C) Cultural Differences
 - D) Reasons for Travelling
 - E) Where to Go for Holiday
- Cevap: B**