


CHRISTMAS IN GREECE



Καλά Χριστούγεννα!



CHRISTMAS ,THE MOST BEAUTIFUL DAY OF THE YEAR

MODERN LIFE AND NEW WAYS OF
COMMUNICATION HAVE REMOVED MANY
TRADITIONS OF CHRISTMAS. SOME ,INSIST
ON MAINTAINING THE TRADITION

CHRISTMAS TREE

THE DECORATION OF THE CHRISTMAS TREE IS THE ESSENCE OF CHRISTMAS. THE CUSTOM IN GREECE HAS FOREIGN ORIGIN AND WAS IMPORTED BY THE BAVARIANS, THE FIRST TREE WAS DECORATED IN THE PALACE OF KING OTHON IN 1833 AND THEN IN ATHENS. SINCE WORLD WAR II, ALL GREEK HOUSES DECORATE THE TREE WITH COLOURED BALLS.



BEFORE 1833 GREEKS
USED TO DECORATE FOR
CHRISTMAS TIME A SHIP



CHRISTMAS PASTRY

Apart from the Christmas tree, the housewives prepare the christmas pastry too.

- Christmas pastry are: melomakarona, christopsoma, kurabiedes, diples, etc



Christmas day lunch

- Greeks use to go to the church on christmas early in the morning. Some years ago, they used to eat chicken soup when they were returning from the church. Nowadays they eat turkey , lamb, pork, salads and they drink red or white wine.

However, several areas in the country keep the custom in eating chicken soup, especially in our area, Thessaly.



CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Who doesn't sing carols as a child!

In Greece, children sing the carols on christmas eve and on new year's eve, going from house to house. People give them tips and wishes for christmas and the new year's day. The children use some instruments to play the carols, like triangle.

Καρόλ Αποκριών

Carols in old times



Καλά Χριστούγεννα!

Carols in nowadays



Santa

Claus!!!

Our Santa

Claus is saint

Vasilios



IN ORTHODOX CHURCH THE SAINT VASILIOS WAS THE BISHOP OF CAESAREA

He founded in his area hospitals, orphanages, nursing homes and spent all his property to help people.

His name is connected to the new year's cake that we make.

Tradition says that he wanted to return to the people of the province, precious jewels that had been given to him. (He was going to give these jewels to the Roman officials who threatened to destroy the region). The Romans got away from the area without taking the jewels. He wanted to return the jewels, but he didn't know which jewels belonged to whom. Therefore, he ordered to put each of them in a pie and to share the pies to the people. So, everyone took a pie with a jewel inside.



KING CAKE

- WE CALL KING CAKE THE PIE WE MAKE WITH A COIN IN IT , ON NEW YEAR'S EVE AND WE CUT AND SHARE IT SHORTLY AFTER THE NEW YEAR GHANGE. WE DO IT AS A MEMORY OF SAINT VASILIOS PIES.



Spórua Þorhildá



2010

Kauzino Kaktismata





CHRISTMAS CARDS

The christmas and new year's cards are an integral complement to the holidays. The cards are displayed primarily the birth of Christ in the manger, the three wise men with the gifts, angels and stars! The wish is: "Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year".

In Greece , the cards were presented in the early 20th century by Greek immigrants in the United States and Australia.









CHRISTMAS IN SCHOOL
1ST PRIMARY SCHOOL
OF PLATYKAMPOS






















CHRISTMAS IN OUR CITY

LARISSA

André-Jean Vézina











MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW
YEAR 2010!

