



Culture of the United Kingdom

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Plan:

- English festivals
- English food
- Traditional clothes and costumes
- Sport

Introduction

Culture is how groups of people live in society according to their religion, custom or belief. This influences attitudes, values and behaviour. Each culture varies, having differences, such as, language, norms, values and expectations. This can be demonstrated in lots of ways, for instance, types of clothes worn, food eaten, wedding ceremonies and celebrations. Cultures normally have traditions that have been followed for centuries.



English festivals

- **Boxing Day** – 26th December, a public holiday
- **New Year's Eve** – celebrating of coming of the year at midnight on 31st December
- **St. Valentine's Day** – 14th February, sending cards, flowers and chocolates to someone you love
- **Ash Wednesday** – the day in February, the Christian period of Lent begins
- **Pancake Tuesday** – the day before Ash Wednesday, people eats lots of pancakes



- ***Pentecost*** (Whitsunday) – 10 days after Ascension Day, the coming of holly spirit
- ***Harvest festival*** - Thanksgiving ceremonies and celebrations for a successful harvest, usually in September
- ***Halloween*** – 31st October – holly evening, connected with witches and ghosts, strange costumes, pumpkin lantern
- ***All Saints Day*** – 1st November
- ***All Souls Day*** – 2nd November
- ***Bonfire Night*** – 5th November, the anniversary of the Gunpowder plot, huge fireworks, burning an effigy



New Year is the [time](#) or day at which a new [calendar year](#) begins and the calendar's [year count](#) increments by one.

Many cultures celebrate the event in some manner and the 1st day of January is often marked as a [national holiday](#).

In the [Gregorian calendar](#), the most widely used calendar system today, New Year occurs on January 1 ([New Year's Day](#)). This was also the case both in the [Roman calendar](#) (at least after about 713 BC) and in the [Julian calendar](#) that succeeded it.



Pancake Day in the UK is pancake racing. People run in a race with a pancake in a pan. As they run, they have to toss the pancake (throw the pancake in the air and catch it in the pan) several times. In some pancake races people dress up in fancy dress costumes. The most famous pancake race takes place in a town called Olney, in the middle of England. People say that Olney has been celebrating pancake races since 1445!



Thanksgiving day

Thanksgiving, or **Turkey day**, is a [national](#) holiday celebrated on the fourth Thursday of November^[1]. It originated as a [harvest festival](#). Every year on November 26th, families get together and celebrate Thanksgiving. They celebrate Thanksgiving thinking about the pilgrims and how they survived in America. They think about how they grew crops and found the food, and then had a huge feast afterward.



English food

Traditional English food

Traditional foods have ancient origins, such as bread and cheese, roasted and stewed meats, meat and game pies, and freshwater and saltwater fish. English cuisine is one of the simplest cuisines in all the European cuisines it is shaped by the countries climate and geography. English breakfast is popular worldwide because is also called as morning meal its very heavy breakfast consisting of eggs, grilled or poached fish, tomato, mushrooms, hash brown and bacon . In English cuisine popular preparations are steaks, grilled fish, and sausages. Sunday roast is popular all over England.



Three main meals a day



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graph TD; A[Three main meals a day] --> B[breakfast]; A --> C[lunch]; A --> D[dinner];
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breakfast

lunch

dinner

A typical English **breakfast** - a bowl of cereals, a slice of toast, orange juice and a cup of coffee

A 'packed lunch' - this typically consists of a sandwich, a packet of crisps, a piece of fruit and a drink

A typical British meal for **dinner** is meat and usually the vegetables (one of the vegetables is almost always potatoes)

Pictures of Christmas Dinner



Roast turkey



Brussel Sprouts and chestnuts



Stuffing



Roast potatoes



Parsnips and Swede



The Christmas pudding

Sports

An important part in the life of Englishmen
A popular leisure activity
Many of the world's famous sports began in England, including cricket, football, lawn tennis and rugby
England's national sport is **cricket**
To many people **football** (soccer) is seen as their national sport

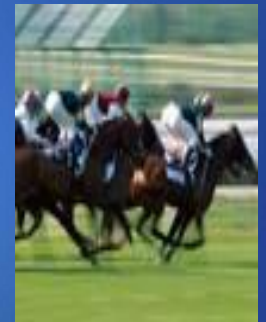
Rugby is similar to football but played with an oval ball
The world's famous **tennis** tournament is Wimbledon

Horse racing, the sport of Kings, is a very popular sport (The Grand National)

Polo is played by men on horses.

Table tennis (ping pong) was invented in England in 1880

Fishing (angling) is also one of the most popular sports in England



Traditional costumes and clothes

England has no national dress
Some people think men in
England wear suits and
bowler hat but it isn't true,
English customs and traditions
involve a variety of costumes
– *Beefeaters* (the nearest
thing to English national
costume)



„Typical Englishman“



Beefeater

Conclusion

United Kingdom is an industrialized country and a leading trading and financial center of the world. It is one of the most beautiful tourist destinations in Europe. It is blessed not only with a treasure of spectacular landscapes, including serene lakes and beautiful beaches, but also boasts of many castles, mansions, and cathedrals. It has a number of other tourist attractions, such as art galleries, royal palaces, national parks, and museums; all of which add to the fascination that prompt people from all over the world to visit, every year. But, these are not the only attractions for the tourists. Many people visit United Kingdom to experience its interesting and distinctive culture.

References

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