

New year in Germany

Celebrations, dishes, traditions,
characters.

Celebrations

- New Year (German: Neujahr) - one of the calendar holidays in Germany, is celebrated on the night of December 31 to January 1 of each year. New Year's Eve in Germany is called Sylvester (German: Silvester, less often Sylvester) in honor of a Christian saint who died on December 31, 335.
- There are no special New Year characters in Germany.

Congratulations

In Germany, congratulations on the New Year even before it, wishing others a “good glide” (German: Guten Rutsch) on holidays. After the new year, congratulations is replaced by Frohes Neues! ("Happy New Year!").

Since the main winter holiday in Germany is Christmas, celebrated on December 25, the main greetings and gifts will be at Christmas. For the New Year, it is customary to give small things (or exchange them) that should bring happiness in the new year: small figures of a pig, four-leaf clover, chimney sweep, pfennig.

Traditions

- Unlike Christmas, which is a family holiday and celebrated traditionally with family, the New Year in Germany is usually celebrated in a noisy company. Especially among young people it is customary to celebrate in the company of friends at home or in a club, at specially organized parties. Among the older generation, on New Year's Eve, restaurants, New Year's balls, theater performances or concerts are in great demand.

Fortune telling on tin

- Fortune telling is also a fortune-telling on tin - molten tin is poured into cold water and they are trying to predict what is waiting for the owner of the figure in the new year using the frozen figure.



Holly day meal

- Roasted goose with red cabbage and dumplings
- Ice Beine - pork knuckle baked in the oven
- Aintopf - Christmas meat soup in a pot
- Baked carp with mushrooms
- Christstollen, or Dresden Stollen

Roasted goose with red cabbage and dumplings

- One of the most popular dishes in Germany is fried goose with red stewed cabbage and airy dumplings. You can meet it in all restaurants in Germany and, of course, repeat it in your kitchen. By the way, red cabbage is so popular among Germans that tourists talk about it as one of the country's sights.
- Dumplings - soft balloons are made from yeast dough and steamed. As an independent dish, they are rarely consumed and served as a side dish for meat dishes.



Ice Beine - pork knuckle baked in the oven

- This is a traditional German dish. Translated Eisbein means "ice foot." This is what it is called because it is most often served on the table in winter, and the fried crust of the finished "Icebane" glistens like ice. In each region of Germany, the shank is prepared in its own way, but some rules have been established: meat must be carefully pickled, and it must be taken only from the front of the carcass.



Aintopf - Christmas meat soup in a pot

- Appetizing rich soup “Eintopf” is often served at the Christmas table in Germany, which was invented by German women in order to feed husbands and children tasty and satisfying. The secret of cooking also lies in its name - Eintopf translates as “one pot”, in which almost all the products that are at hand in the house are cooked. But our recipe is more refined!



Baked carp with mushrooms

- There are also fish dishes on the Christmas table in Germany: it is often served at the table in a stew, smoked or cooked form for lunch. But there are special holiday dishes that will delight guests. For example, baked carp with mushrooms or other vegetables is considered a traditional Alsatian dish. It is this fish that has been caught in local ponds since the 12th century and is prepared in every possible way.



Christstollen, or Dresden Stollen

- The most famous version of the German Christmas cake is the Dresden Stollen. It is traditionally baked before Christmas and is insisted for several weeks until Christmas. It is believed that this dish symbolizes the "baby of Christ in swaddling clothes." From the history of the dish, we know that in 1500 Dresden Stollen began to be regularly sold at the Christmas market in Dresden. And in 1730, the King of Saxony, Augustus the Strong, even ordered the baking of a giant stollen weighing 1.8 tons. But we have a small cupcake recipe!



Celebrations at home

- In case of celebrating the New Year at home or at a party, the gathering of guests takes place on the evening of December 31. At the same time, feasts in Germany are not as plentiful as during the celebration of the New Year in Russia. Typically, the Germans are limited to light snacks, the traditional dishes in Sylvester are raclette and fondue. The remaining time until midnight is spent watching the traditional comedy sketch “Dinner for One” and playing board games.
- At midnight, it is customary to raise glasses with champagne and wish each other happiness and good luck in the new year. After that, the people of Germany go out to watch or start the fireworks, then continue the celebration.

Firework

- An important attribute for the celebration of the New Year is the fireworks at midnight. In large cities, fireworks are organized in central squares where spectators gather. Many bring their own pyrotechnics, which are officially allowed to run on December 31 and January 1 to people over 18 years of age. The sale of pyrotechnics in trading enterprises starts seven working days before December 31. In recent years, actions have often been held in which residents of Germany are encouraged to spend money on charity instead of buying fireworks on them.

TV program on hollyday

- A few hours before midnight, the main channel hosts a live broadcast with Germany's largest party in Berlin at the Brandenburg Gate, which annually brings together about 1 million people. Also, a few hours before the New Year, the New Year's appeal of the Federal Chancellor to the people is broadcast on television.
- Among the programs on New Year's Eve, the most popular are: the episode "New Year's Punch" from the television series "One Heart and One Soul" and the British comedy sketch "Dinner for One." In addition, entertainment programs are broadcast: the hit parade of the outgoing year, New Year's parties, symphony concerts.

Thanks for attention.