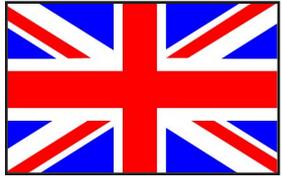


Father Christmas

Around the World



twinkl



United Kingdom

Father Christmas

Considered to be the same as '*Santa Claus*'. Traditionally he is thought to land his sleigh and reindeer on the roof and come down the chimney to leave gifts for well behaved children, usually these are left under the tree or in stockings.





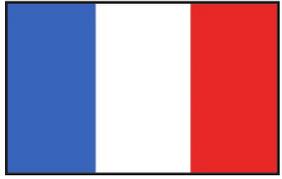
Netherlands

Sinterklaas

'Saint Nicholas'



A traditional figure based on Saint Nicholas who rides a white horse. Sinterklaas is celebrated in the Netherlands on December 5th by the giving of gifts.



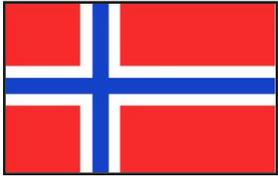
France

Le Père Noël

'Father Christmas'

Children leave their shoes by the fireplace filled with carrots for Père Noël's donkey Gui. If the children have been good he will leave them presents, traditionally these are small enough to fit into the shoes.





Norway

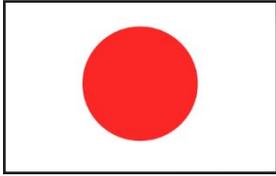
Julenissen

'Christmas Pixie'



Thought to be the spirit of the house or farm, he does not come down the chimney but through the front door delivering gifts to the household.

A similar spirit also visits homes in Denmark, Sweden and Finland.



Japan

Hoteiosho

Hoteiosho is a Buddhist monk who acts like Father Christmas. He brings presents to each house for children. Some think he has eyes in the back of his head!





Russia

Ded Moroz

'Old Man Frost' or 'Father Frost'

De Moroz brings his presents in person to children at New Years Eve celebrations. Snegurochka, is his granddaughter and helper. He is the only traditional Christmas figure with a female helper.

