

Explore: Easter in Ireland



Easter is an important festival in the Christian calendar. It is also a time to celebrate the new life that spring brings. It takes place in March or April each year.

Easter traditions

Long ago, Irish people cleaned their houses before Easter. Some ladies wore hats called Easter bonnets to mass.

Everyone had eggs for breakfast on Easter Sunday. Children decorated hardboiled eggs.

Nowadays Easter is a fun time for all the family. People give chocolate eggs to their family and friends.

Children enjoy Easter egg hunts outside. Some people go to Easter parades.

Many families eat hot cross buns on Good Friday. Simnel cake is also popular – it is a fruit cake with marzipan.

Some families eat roast lamb on Easter Sunday.



Easter bonnet



decorated eggs



hot cross buns

A. Ask a grandparent or older person these questions.

1. Did you have any Easter traditions when you were young?

2. Did you enjoy Easter? Why?

B. Write about Easter in your home.



Explore: Easter Around the World

United States of America (USA)

The President of the USA lives in the White House. Each year on Easter Monday there is an egg rolling contest in the garden. Children push decorated hardboiled eggs through the grass with a long spoon.



Greece

Children in Greece play a game with their red eggs. Players tap their egg against another player's egg. The player whose egg did not crack is the winner.



Sweden

In Sweden girls dress up as 'Easter witches'. They go from door to door and people give them money and sweets. At home children search for hidden eggs. These are made from cardboard and are full of sweets.

**A. Write a sentence about Easter in each of these countries.
Use the word box to help you.**

witches tap decorate sweets White House eggs

USA:  _____

Greece:  _____

Sweden:  _____