

# Unique Holidays

Read the two paragraphs about Holidays

## Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving is one of the most popular and oldest holidays in the US, celebrated on the fourth Thursday of November. It originated as a harvest festival, and was celebrated for the first time by the Pilgrims in 1621. That particular feast lasted for three days, and was attended by Native Americans as well.

The holiday became known as the day of thanking God for blessings such as a good harvest, plenty of food or a military victory, but today it is more cultural than religious. Although it is debatable whether the Pilgrims ate it at the time, turkey has become the most ubiquitous food served on Thanksgiving. Other traditional foods are mashed potato, cranberry sauce and pumpkin pie.

## Three Kings Day

Mexican people traditionally celebrate Christmas for twelve days – from Christmas evening on December 24th, to the Three Kings Day on January 6th (also called the Epiphany. Epiphany literally means a sudden moment of understanding).

The Three Kings Day commemorates the end of these celebrations. This holiday was inspired by the biblical story of the three kings from the East (also referred to as three Wise Men or Magi), who spotted a bright star in the sky the night Jesus was born, and came to see baby Jesus.

This holiday is so important for Mexicans that they often give additional gifts on this day, even though it is shortly after Christmas.

Another custom specific for this holiday is baking the Rosca, a sweet bread ring in which a small baby Jesus figurine is placed. Whoever finds the figurine has to host another holiday's party in February.

1. Write down the name of the Holiday according to the description given

1. The day of thanking God: \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Inspired by the biblical story of the three kings from the East: \_\_\_\_\_.
3. People give additional gifts on this day: \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Mashed potato is a traditional dish on this day: \_\_\_\_\_.
5. It is celebrated on the fourth Thursday of November: \_\_\_\_\_.
6. It is celebrated on January 1st: \_\_\_\_\_.
7. "Baking the Rosca" is a costume for this Holiday: \_\_\_\_\_.

2. What is a traditional Holiday in your country?

Complete the following chart about it.

Holiday	Traditions	Food