

Holi, the Festival of Colors

Amala from Delhi, India

Holi is the most popular festival in my country. It is usually in March. During the festival, we say goodbye to cold winter and (say) hello to warm spring. We celebrate the festival everywhere for two days. On the first day, people gather around a big fire at night and sing and dance. The main event begins the next day. Children and adults chase each other with *gula*. What is *gula*? It is blue, yellow, green and pink powder. It's a lot of fun to run around and throw colorful powder at everyone. We also join street parades!

White Nights Festival

Victor from St. Petersburg, Russia

Have you heard of the *White Nights*? Every summer, this amazing thing happens in my hometown. The night sky does not get completely dark. During that time, we hold the White Nights Festival. It usually starts in May and lasts for about a month. During the festival, there is a ballet or an opera almost every night. The most popular event is the Scarlet Sails celebration. A boat with red sails slowly appears on the river. Soon, fireworks begin and a water show follows. You can also hear musicians playing beautiful live music.

Kiruna Snow Festival

Ebba from Kiruna, Sweden

Winter is my favorite season because of the Kiruna Snow Festival. The festival starts in the last week of January and goes on for five or six days. The largest event is the snow design competition. The artists shape huge piles of snow into animals, buildings, and other beautiful artworks. People watch the artists shaping their works from beginning to end. My favorite activity is the dog sled ride.

It is amazing to fly through a world of snow on a dog sled.

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