

Festivals in Cuenca

Cuenca's Christmas Eve Pase del Niño parade, or the Procession of the Child, is a colorful mixture of the religious and the profane. It is a festival of thanksgiving that combines Catholic and indigenous traditions.

The parade usually lasts more than eight hours, and it includes floats and cars decorated with flowers, fruits and vegetables. Bands, dancers, street performers, and various Biblical characters participate, and the infant Jesus is carried through towns and villages. The parade takes place on Christmas Eve but the Pase del Niño celebration begins the first Sunday after Advent and continues until Carnival in March. Besides this celebration, Christmas in Cuenca also means nightly firework shows, concerts, and craft sales.

READ THE TEXT AND WRITE TRUE OR FALSE.

THE PASE DEL NIÑO PARADE IS A TRADITION OF CHRISTIAN PEOPLE.

THE PARADE LAST 8 WEEKS.

BANDS, DECORATED CARS, FLOATS, AND PEOPLE DANCING OR PERFORMING BIBLICAL CHARACTERS ARE PART OF THE PARADE.

WRITE THE COUNTRY WHERE THESE TRADITIONS ARE COMMON DURING NEW YEAR'S EVE.

ECUADOR – CHINA – PHILIPPINES – SPAIN – DENMARK – JAPAN – MEXICO



Eat 12 grapes, gather in main squares and pass around bottles of cava.

The whole family makes sure that they have Bacalao, Buñuelos, Ponche, punch drink and Tamales.



Throwing plates and glasses against the doors of family and friends to banish bad spirits.

In this country the New's Year coming is celebrated seven days, all types of lanterns are lit throughout the streets, and people fill red envelopes with money to be given to children or unmarried adults with no job.



Set fire to scarecrows filled with paper at midnight on New Year's Eve and wear red, yellow or green underwear clothes.

In this country everything must seem round- shaped. Many families display piles of fruit on their dining tables and eat exactly 12 round fruits at midnight. People also wear polka dots for luck.



Bells ring out 108 times across all temples in a ritual called joya no kane