

"The Novenas Tradition in Ecuador"

In Ecuador, people celebrate Christmas with a tradition called Las Novenas. Las Novenas means nine days of prayers before Christmas. Every night families and friends meet to pray, sing, and eat together. Many families set up a small nativity scene, called a pesebre. The pesebre shows baby Jesus, Mary, Joseph, and animals.



Each night, people gather in a different home. They pray, read stories about the birth of Jesus, and sing songs. After the prayers, they eat traditional treats, like bread with coffee and empanadas. On the last night, Christmas Eve, families have a big dinner with special dishes like turkey or pork.

- How many days does Las Novenas last?
- Who meets to pray, sing, and eat together during Las Novenas?
- What is a pesebre, and what does it show?
- Where do people gather each night during Las Novenas?
- Name two traditional treats people eat after the prayers.
- What special dishes do families prepare on Christmas Eve?