

Read the text below. Match choices (A-H) to (27-32). There are two choices you do not need to use.

MOST UNUSUAL FESTIVALS IN THE WORLD

27. Las Bolas de Fuego, El Salvador

Each year on the evening of 31st August, residents of Nejapa gather around to throw fireballs in commemoration of the 1658 El Playon volcanic eruption. History has it that it forced the villagers of the old town to flee and settle in their current location. Today, residents split themselves into two teams to paint their faces like skulls and begin the festival by hurling palm-sized fireballs of kerosene at the opposing team. Though dangerous, Las Bolas de Fuego has been running for more than 100 years now and falls among the top unusual festivals worldwide.



28. Bun Festival, Hong Kong

The Bun Festival is the biggest and busiest event in Cheung Chau. What originally started as a celebration for the end of the plague on the island has transformed into one of the most popular cultural events today. The festival runs for almost a week housing a vibrant yet traditional parade along with the famous Bun Scrambling Competition – where the participants conquer a massive 60-foot bamboo tower covered with buns, trying to grab as many buns as possible. Record state that Kwok Kam Kee – the official bun supplier for the event makes more than 60,000 buns that are scaled by three trained men.

29. Underwater Music Festival, Florida

For all divers and music enthusiasts, Florida Keys Underwater Music Festival is the place to be. Bill Becker, founder, coordinator and music director of UMF took music festivals to a whole new level with the aim to create awareness for coral preservation. The quirky celebration held in July at Looe Key Reef has been running for more than 25 years welcoming hundreds of snorkelers. The event houses pre-selected radio playlists and ocean-themed songs streaming live from underwater speakers along with musician-divers and local artists playing whimsical instruments giving an absolute visual treat for all.

30. Boryeong Mud Festival, South Korea

Get ready to splash some mud at Boryeong Mud Festival. Situated 200 kilometres from Seoul, the village of Boryeong is widely popular for its mud cosmetics. What began as marketing even in 1998 later turned into a renowned festival drawing in millions of visitors every year. While immersing yourself in mud can seem a bit odd, Boryeong's mud stands out for its rich natural minerals and

nutrients that have incredible benefits for the skin known worldwide. The annual festival held in July runs ten days straight housing a series of activities that will get you drenched in the mud such as mud pools, mudslides and mud skiing along with an array of makeover and massage facilities as well.

31. Lopburi Monkey Banquet, Thailand

Head down to experience the money madness at Lopburi Monkey Banquet, also known as Monkey Buffet Festival. With the aim to bring good luck to the area and its people, the Lopburi Province north of Bangkok prepares a grand feat comprising 4,000 kilograms of fruits, vegetables, cakes and candies that feed close to 2,000-3,000 macaque monkeys every year. The festival first occurred in 1989, run by a local businessman who thought of this unique way to pay gratitude to monkeys and also bring in tourism – luckily for him and the monkeys, it worked!

32. Up-Helly Aa, Scotland

Up-Helly Aa is a fire festival typically held every year between January to March among various communities in Shetland, Scotland that marks the end of the Yule season. Shetland boasts of its Norse connection and celebrates Viking culture by parading down the cobblestones, blazing torches held up high, as they make their way through the dark streets. The Festival that began in the 1880s draws thousands of locals and tourists alike to honour the rich heritage for the world to see.

Which festival is connected with the event ...?

- A** *that requires cooking delicious foods*
- B** *that started after the natural disaster*
- C** *which popularizes tourism and is beneficial to animals*
- D** *participating in which is beneficial to your health*
- E** *that started after the epidemic*
- F** *that honors the country's history*
- G** *which purpose is the protection of ocean riches*
- H** *that honors the family traditions*