

FESTIVALS AROUND THE WORLD

PHILIPPINES



CHRISTMAS

Watch a short video on how Christmas is celebrated in the Philippines and take part in activities from that culture.

COUNTRY QUIZ TIME

Q1. True or false: The Philippines is named after a person?

True. The country was named after King Phillip II of Spain after A Spanish explorer discovered the country.

Q2. True or false: In the Philippines, it is considered rude to open gifts after everyone leaves?

False. it is considered rude to open gifts immediately as they may cause the giver to be embarrassed or 'lose face' if the receiver dislikes the gift.

Q3. True or false: The Philippines is the largest supplier of nurses?

True. The Philippines supplies approximately 25% of all overseas nurses worldwide.

Q4. True or false: A Traditional Filipino male garment, the barong, is made from plants?

True. The embroidered male garments are woven from pineapple fibres and worn at formal occasions.

Q5. True or false: A favourite Filipino street food dish is fish eggs?

False. A favourite Filipino street food dish is boiled duck eggs

Q6. True or false: There are over 120 languages spoken in the Philippines?

True. There are about 120 individual languages spoken in the Philippines aside from English and Filipino.

ACTIVITY TIME:

One: Colour in people wearing their wearing traditional clothes

<https://www.inkjets.com/printablelearning/flag-of-the-philippines>

Two: Create a star that is decorated all over the Philippines at Christmas.

<https://www.littlepassports.com/blog/craft-diy/make-beautiful-filipino-parol-lantern/>

Three: Cook a traditional Leche Flan that is a dessert served at Christmas.

<https://panlasangpinoy.com/leche-flan/>

VIDEO EXPLAINING CHRISTMAS IN THE PHILIPPINES

When is it celebrated?

Christmas in the Philippines begins from September and finishes in January! The whole country will be full of lit up trees, parols (star lanterns) and carols will be heard everywhere. It has the longest festive season in the world.

Why is it celebrated?

Most Filipinos are Christians with about 80% of people being Catholics. It's the only Asian country with so many Christians. Because of this, Christmas is the most important holiday in the Philippines.

How is it celebrated?

Simbang Gabi is a tradition where Filipinos attend a nine-day series of mass in preparation for Christmas. It starts from the 16th of December until Christmas Eve. If you make a wish, attend all masses, you can have your wish granted. On Christmas Eve, straight after mass the whole family come together for Noche Buena, a midnight feast. Traditional foods are roasted pig, ham, fruit salad, rice cakes (bibingka and puto bumbong), other sweets and steamed rice

Christmas celebrations official ends on the first Sunday in January when Epiphany or the Feast of the Three Kings is celebrated. A parade is held where the kings brings gifts to the children.



PRAYER TIME:

1. People: Give thanks to God for the Filipino people, whom he made and loves. Pray that we can love them too.
2. Children: Pray for the Filipino children, that they will get to know the love of Jesus as they grow up.
3. Place: Pray for believers in the Philippines to confidently share about the salvation of Jesus to their family and friends during Christmas.

