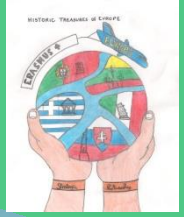


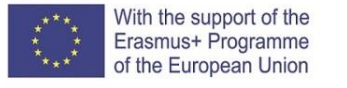


# *Historical treasures of Europe*

CALENDAR  
2020



Created for Erasmus+ project by Greece, Italy, Lithuania, Slovakia and Portugal for project Historical treasures of Europe 2018 - 2020





## Greece

### Vasilopita

It's a special cake or pie cut on New Year's Day. A lucky coin is hidden inside and whoever gets it in their piece is expected to have luck throughout the year. This cake is made in honor of Saint Basil who shared his wealth with the poor by putting money or jewelry in small pies.



## Lithuania

On 13 January 1991 armoured Soviet Forces drove through peaceful crowd which gathered to protect the symbol of Lithuania's independence -the Vilnius TV Tower.



### Epiphany

It is celebrated on the sixth of January. The most important ritual is " the blessing of the waters". In seaside or lakeside a priest throws a cross into the water and swimmers jump in water to recover. It is believed that whoever captures the cross will be blessed for the whole year. At the same time the priest releases a white dove as a symbol of the holy spirit.



## Slovakia

### Fašiangy

In Slovakia we have period called Fašiangy after Christmas. It is time full of sweets and carnivals.



## Italy

### La Befana

Italy's traditional Christmas season celebrations come to an end with La Befana, an old witch who arrives on her broom stick during the night of January 5th with toys and sweets for the good children and lumps of coal for the bad ones.



## Portugal

### The three Kings

In Portugal we celebrate The Three Kings Day like in Spain although Christmas Eve is more important. It is a family party, a dinner gathering. By this time, we all celebrate the beginning of the New Year. Janeiras it's a tradition of forming groups to go to the street to sing the entrance of the new year from door to door



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Page created by the Greek team.

# Carnival time

In the meeting in Slovakia students created the collage about Carnival time in Europe together.





## Greece

### Apokries

Apokries which literally means no more meat is the word used for the Greek Carnival. People dress up in colourful costumes and swarm about the streets of the city in an attempt to forget their everyday problems and enjoy themselves.



### Kathara Deftera

Clean Monday (or in Greek Kathara Deftera) is the first day of Great Lent. The feast day of Clean Monday is a public holiday in Greece and celebrated with outdoor excursions, consumption of delicious fasting foods, as well as the widespread

custom of flying kites.



## Italy

### Carnival

Carnival is celebrated throughout Italy and each Region has its own traditions. Venice, Viareggio, Cento and Putignano are some of the most important traditional carnival festivals in the world. In north Sardinia, the Carnival of Tempio is the most important allegorical Carnival of the island.



## Portugal

### Valentine's Day

Typical Portuguese Embroidery to celebrate Saint Valentine's day. Very old tradition. Girls used to offer an embroidered handkerchief to their valentine.



# FEBRUARY

## Slovakia

### Folk costumes

Folk costumes typical for region Vráble.



## Lithuania

### Užgavėnės

From early morning, on the day of Užgavėnės people in costumes begin roaming – devils, witches, reapers, goats, beggars and others. They usually visit homes, sometimes businesses as well, play pranks, act, sing, try to snatch something and then demand payment, throw water or if they catch someone, they bathe them in snow. After the pranks, the ones in costume ask for pancakes or money. The traditional food of the holiday – pancakes.



16 February – Day of Restoration of Lithuania's Independence



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Page created by the Greek team.





Greeks celebrate spring with an age-old tradition of *martis*, a red and white bracelet made of thread, which is worn during the whole month of March. The white symbolizes purity while the red represents passion and life.



Across Italy, several regional variations to desserts can be found, and sometimes they even become works of art. Here are some biscuits in the shape of women wearing the traditional costume from Nuoro and Desulo. In Sardinia, the decorated bread is still part of the wedding traditions and it's given to the bride and groom as a blessing.

# March



Portugal

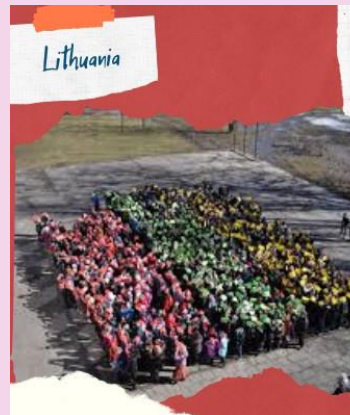
## *Dia da Espiga*

It is a Portuguese celebration that begins with a morning stroll in which ears of various cereals, country flowers and olive twigs are harvested to form a branch, called an ear. According to tradition, the branch should be placed behind the entrance door, to celebrate Spring, and should only be replaced by a new one on the ear of the following year.



## *Arbour Day*

It's a holiday in which individuals and groups are encouraged to plant trees. This day is celebrated mostly in schools and by environmentalist institutions or groups.



Lithuania

On 11 March 1990, the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania adopted an Act on the Restoration of an Independent State of Lithuania.

**Spring is coming.**



Slovacchia

*Morena* is tradition in Slovakia when people in the past used to say goodbye to winter and welcome spring.

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# Different traditions

In the meeting in Slovakia students created the collage about different traditions in Europe.





# April

**Greece**



On Easter Sunday, families are gathered together and roast the lamb on the spit eating and dancing all day long.

**Italy**



The week running up to Easter Sunday is called *La Settimana Santa*, or *Holy Week*. The church bells are tied and kept silent in remembrance of Jesus' death. In Aggias, at 12:00 o'clock children still run through the village holding a traditional instrument called *baroniga* in order to inform people that midday has come.



**Portugal**



The *Carnation Revolution* (April 1974) was initially a military coup in Lisbon which overthrew the authoritarian regime. The revolution led to the fall of the government, terminated the Portuguese Colonial War, and started an evolutionary process that would result in a democratic Portugal. Its name arose from the fact that no shots were fired, and carnations were offered to the soldiers when the population took to the streets to celebrate the end of the dictatorship. In April, Easter festivities are also a great tradition.

**Lithuania**



For Lithuanian Christians, Easter (*Velykos*) is the most sacred of holidays. It follows 40 somber days of Lenten moderation and marks the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The main attraction of the day is *eggs decorating*. The egg has long been seen as a symbol of fertility and life. Lithuanians have deep traditions of eggs decorating. One more playful tradition is *eggs rolling*. Boiled and painted eggs are taken into competition.

**Slovakia**



Before Easter we celebrate Palm Sunday in Slovakia. The tradition is to paint eggs. Typical meal is smoked ham.

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# Easter

Collage created by students in the meeting in Slovakia.

**GREECE**  
On Holy Friday, people take the epitaph around the church and in the sea in some islands.

**ITALY**  
EASTER BREAD IN SARDINIA HAS AN EGG IN THE MIDDLE AS A SYMBOL OF REBIRTH  
*La Tellimama Lanta*  
Holy week  
Easter is coming - only last week is so it.

**Portugal**  
Our traditional EASTER meal.

**Lithuania**  
• For decorations we wax.  
• We decorate with Baltic sig.

**Slovakia**  
On Easter we paint Easter eggs. Painted eggs are typical decoration on Slovakia during Easter.  
Our meal: smoked ham

**EASTER**

**Palm Sunday**  
It is Sunday before Easter in Slovakia

**Eggs decorating**

**Easter Bread**

**Decorations**





## Lithuania

The folk costume in Klaipėda region were mostly dark in colour and revealed several characteristic features which distinguished them from the other provinces of Lithuania. Skirts had narrow vertical stripes or checks. Almost every woman and girl in the Klaipėda region had an especially decorative handbag, called delmonas, which they fastened at the side or front of the waistband.



# May



## Slovakia

On the 1st May boys in Slovakia build "May" to the girl who they like. It is a very large decorated branch set into ground.

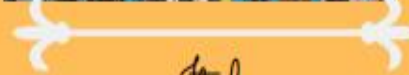


## Greece

"Flower wreath of May" In the first day of May people make flower wreaths to celebrate spring  
Symbolizing the rebirth of nature

## Portugal

May is the month of academic festivities all over the country. The "Ribbon Burning" organized by the Academic Association of Students is a week that starts with a serenade and ends with the burning of the faculty ribbons to mark the end of the studies. The portuguese tradition of burning the ribbons goes back to the 50s.



## Italy

The festival of Sant'Efisio takes place in Cagliari on May 1st. It celebrates the saint to whom the people of Cagliari turned after a devastating plague in 1652.



# Portugal

With festivities all over the country to welcome Summer, Saint Anthony, Saint Peter and Saint John are the 3 most commemorated popular saints by the Portuguese people. Nobody can refuse the invitation: people get together in the most typical neighbourhoods, decorated with arches and colourful balloons; live music, fireworks, and many food sheds with delicious snacks.



## The National Day of Portugal

This day is celebrated by Portuguese people throughout the world, commemorates the Portuguese nation and the Portuguese communities all over the world and the death on June 10, 1580 of Luís de Camões, a poet and national literary icon.



# Slovakia

Craft in Slovakia - Weaving baskets from wickers.



# Italy

The cork is the oak's bark. We extract it in June and we use it to make different products such as cork stoppers, cork handcrafts, etc.



# Lithuania

Joninės – or Saint John's Eve – is an exciting midsummer's celebration that brings communities together in the outdoors around blazing bonfires. This, the shortest night of the year, is filled with magic – the festivities include making oak leaf wreaths and leaping over flames.



# Greece

"Saint John Lambadiaris"

On this day, fires are usually lit at neighborhood crossroads, with a competitive mood, each neighborhood wanting to light the biggest fire. They also throw in the flower wreath of May.



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# July



July is the month of holiday and vacations in Slovakia. People travel to relax and know some sights and natural beauties.

In Italy in July during the reaping we cut the corn, while during the threshing we separate the corn from the corn ear.



Statehood Day is an annual public holiday in Lithuania celebrated on July 6 to commemorate the coronation in 1253 of Mindaugas as the only King of Lithuania.



In Slovakia we remind St. Cyril and Method on 5th July.



In Greece July has sometimes taken the name Alonaris, because then the crops are threshed.



In Portugal Rock Festivals are a great tradition all over the country to celebrate high temperature and summer.



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# August

August is the time of harvest in Slovakia.

The symbol of finishing of harvest is the festival called „Dožinky.“

The symbol is the wreath.



In Italy we remind the Parade of Saint Isidoro's memory, the farmer's patron saint. The Parade represent the scenes of countrylife and celebrate the harvest.

In Lithuania we remember The Baltic Way. It was a peaceful political demonstration that occurred on 23 August 1989.



In Slovakia we remind also Slovak National Uprising, which started on 29 August 1944.



In Portugal August is the time for fairs and popular festivals and pilgrimes.

In Greece the Sardine Day is organized in different seaside villages. On the day of celebration big amounts of sardines are offered for free to all visitors.



People dance and sing under the traditional songs played by the local bands.

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Page was created by Slovakian team.



# September



## GREECE

The harvest of grapes begins so September is known as "Vintager"



## PORTUGAL

September is the month of the harvest. The Douro Region was the first wine-producing region in the world that was demarcated, in 1756. The area is a World Heritage Site, title awarded in 2001 by UNESCO.



## ITALY

The "Festa Manna" (the big feast) is one of the most important festivals in Luogosanto. We celebrate the Virgin Mary nativity for three days, on 7th, 8th and 9th September.



## SLOVAKIA

Day of science and knowledge (September 1st) is the universal start of schoolyear in Lithuania, also followed by most universities. Kids bring flowers to their teachers and there are no lessons but a short introduction.



## SLOVAKIA

Crafts in Slovakia - Weaving of carpets on the weaving machines - „krosná“ in Slovakian language.

# Traditional costumes

Collage created by students in the meeting in Slovakia.





# October



## LITHUANIA

Straw gardens represent one of the Lithuanian traditional art forms. The most usual forms are of four-side pyramid and other derivative intrinsic structures as well as stars and spheres.



## PORTUGAL

October 5th in Portugal is known as "implantação da República". It celebrates the proclamations of the Portuguese First Republic in 1910.



## ITALY

On the first Sunday in October, the patron saint is celebrated in Aggius. Celebrations include a Mass accompanied by traditional chorus songs, a procession in the village streets to honor Nostra Signora Del Rosario and Santa Vittoria, horse races, concerts, entertainment and tasting of local food.



## GREECE

Tsipouro is made by distillation of what is left of the grapes after pressing and extracting the must for wine production.



## SLOVAKIA

Grape Harvest or Vintage after collection of grapes in Vráble region in Slovakia.

# November

In Lithuania and Slovakia people remember All Saints' Day on 1 November and Day of the Souls on 2 November. It's a quiet and peaceful time.

People go to cemeteries to put candles on tombs and say a prayer to their loved ones.



In Portugal it is usual the existence of popular festivals and each region has its traditional costume. Magusto is a popular festival as the celebration according to regional traditions.

Groups of friends and families gather around a campfire where they roast chestnuts, adults drink jeropiga or new wine, play games, sing songs.

In Italy in the past, on November 2nd, poor people used to knock on the door of the rich asking them for food. Starting from 1960s, in many villages of Gallura, on the same day children started to run around door to door to collect candies, dried fruit and some cash in honour of all the dead.



In Greece according to Greek mythology the first olive tree was planted by goddess Athena at the Acropolis.

In November the harvest of olives begins and olive oils is produced.





# Christmas time is coming in all European countries. **December**

In Lithuania - Christmas Eve (*Kūčios*, December 24th) is even more celebrated than the Christmas itself. Whole family reunites to eat a special vegetarian (fish permitted) supper that must include at least 12 meals, and every participant should taste each meal.



In Italy- The nativity was first created by Sant Francis of Assisi. Traditionally we make it at Christmas time by the Christmas tree and it represents Jesus Nativity. Here's one made of cork.

In Slovakia on 6th Dcemer St. Nicholas is coming and bring sweets for good children. During Christmas families are together, people decorate houses, Christmas tree, which is the symbol of Christmas. We realize Nativity festival at school every year before Christmas.



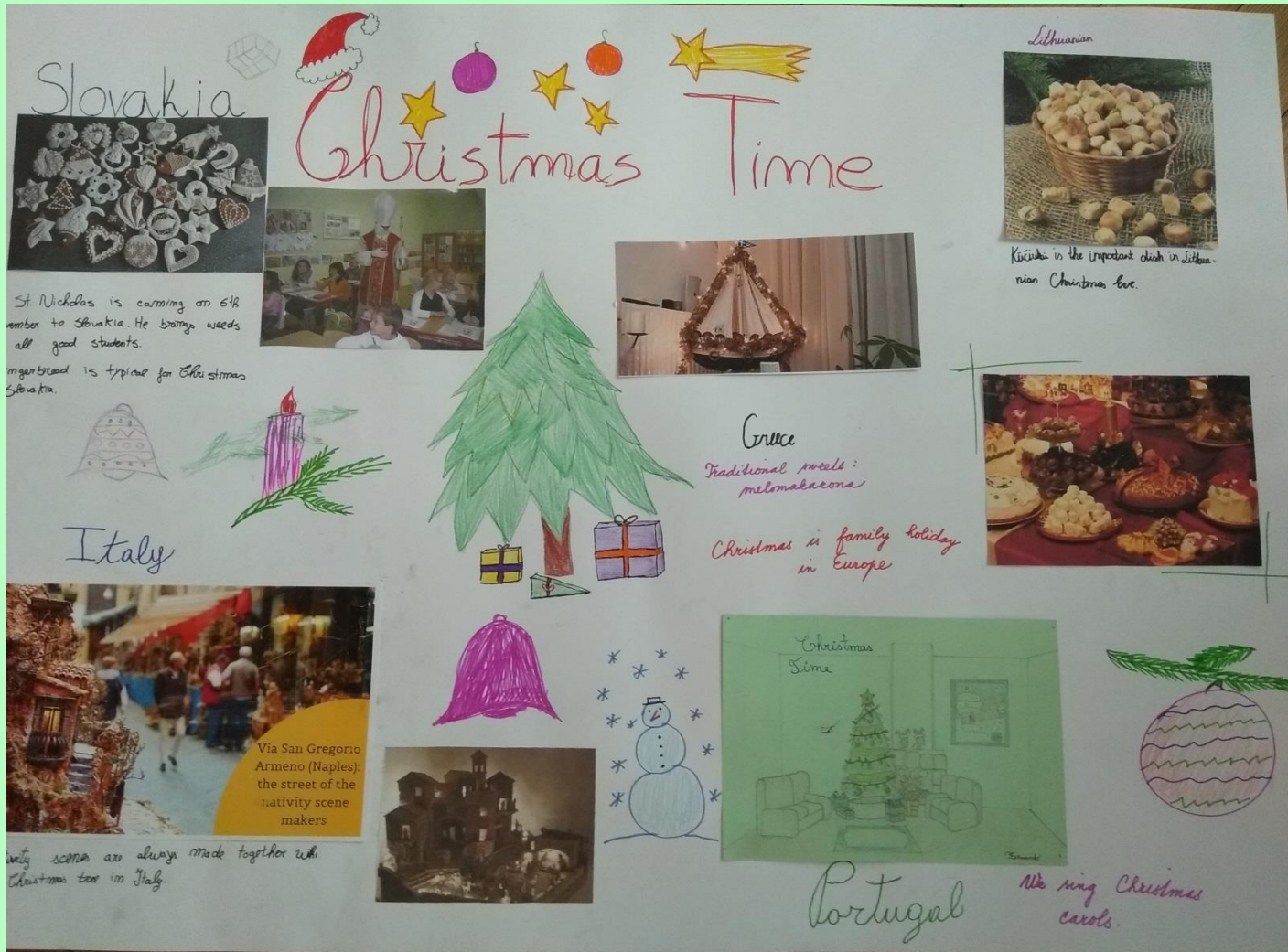
In Greece traditional sweets for Christmas: melomakarona, kourabiedes and diples.

In Portugal people have a lot of Christmas traditions, including gathering family and friends, singing Christmas carols, lighting with Christmas lights, trees and other decorations, wrapping, exchanging and opening presents and general preparation for Christmas Day.



# Christmas in Europe

In the meeting in Slovakia students created the collage about Christmas in Europe together.





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