

**Winter holidays for
Romanians!**



C R Ă C I U N U L

The feast of the Birth of the Lord, first attested in 354, was set on December 24 in the 4th century by Pope Julius. The inscriptions from the V-VI century prove that in ancient Dacia Christmas was celebrated.

C O L I N D E L E



Caroling means going from house to house with different wishes for abundance, health and fulfillment. The carols are the songs with which people meet Christ on earth. They tell of the troubled life of Jesus, from birth to crucifixion. She sings in the group. They contributed to the unity and perpetuation of the Romanian spirit.

Bradul de Crăciun



- In Romanian mythology, the fir tree is considered a tree of life, wedding and birth, fertility and a tree of good luck.
- After the First World War, the custom also spread among the Orthodox. Today, the fir tree loaded with toys and gifts is present in every house.

The star



Between Christmas and Bobotate, the collidators walk with the star. These carols remind of the life of the Lord.

They come from various sources: from the Byzantine Orthodox world, from the tradition of the medieval Catholic church or from the cultural creations of our nation.

Plugușorul



It is a carol specific to the New Year. He talks about old agrarian ceremonies related to the worship of the Geto-Dacian sun and about a mythical hero, Trojan. He is probably a god of winter, whose name left in Romanian the word that shows the snowballs around the New Year. Trojan has the powers of god of winter, but also of character of the rebirth of nature, of the rich fruit of the pastures.



- At times, is accompanied by the dramatization of the moment.
- The one who hates is wearing a miniature plow on his arms, a stick with two jackets representing the plow's horns.



The hatred with the rogue is accompanied by "buhai": A wooden vessel like a little one, provided with a well-stretched goat's leather bottom, through which a stream of horse hair passes. The noise produced by pulling this stream from the fingers of a stealer (soaked in the bumblebee) mimics the bull's whisper - a symbol of fertility, fruitfulness



Plugușorul is a habit that generates a general joy, giving off an atmosphere of optimism, an atmosphere amplified by bells, barges and other musical instruments.

Wishing with sorcova



Carrying an apple or hair branch, decorated with colored papers, passing through people's homes, children wish them many years, health, strength of iron, beauty of the rose, etc.

GOAT



Costume and played by a flame that imitates the animal's walking in two or four legs, hidden under the shell, it rhythms the game, acting the muzzle of wood.



From the combination of dance steps and wood strokes, polyrhythmia with special effect is obtained. The actions and gestures of the characters that accompany the goat announce the arrival of spring, the resurrection of nature and the idea of fertility of the fields.



Who is Santa Claus?



The Romanian legend of Santa Claus says that the Mother of God, looking for a place to give birth, asked for shelter for Christmas, a man dressed, who drove her away. But Christmas, good-hearted, secretly housed him in the stall, where he served as a midwife to the baby. When he found out about it, Christmas, furious, cut off his hands, but the baby Jesus, touching her with his hands, stuck them in place. Seeing this miracle, Christmas worshiped the Lord and became the first believer, becoming a merciful and

M O S C R Ă C I U N



Romanians see Santa Claus in the face of an old man, with a snow-white beard. Santa is the announcer of his arrival. It is said that he was the bachelor in the service of Santa Claus, the master of the station where the Mother of the Lord gave birth to Jesus Christ.

● Merry Christmas!