

## Legend of Saint Martin



Martin was a brave Roman soldier who was returning from Italy to his homeland somewhere in France.

Riding on his horse he was passing on a road to cross a very high mountain range, called the Alps, and up there it was very, very cold, wind and bad weather.

Martin was dressed normally for the time: he had a red cape, which Roman soldiers usually wore.

Suddenly, a very poor man appeared to him, dressed in clothes already old and broken, full of cold that begged him.

Unfortunately, Martin had nothing to give him. Then he took the sword, lifted it, and struck his cloak. He cut it in half and gave half to the poor.

Suddenly, the clouds and bad weather disappeared. It seemed like it was summer!

It was like a reward from God to Martin for being good.

That is why every year, at this time of year, even though it is Autumn, for about three days the weather gets better and warmer: it is the Summer of Saint Martin.

At this time it is celebrated with roasted chestnuts ...

