

CHRISTMAS TIME!

Italian and German Christmas traditions

ANKE WISCHER 19. DEZEMBER 2018, 06:53 UHR

The Christmas Nativity scene

This Christmas tradition, in Italian "presepe", is a representation of Jesus' Nativity that is put in all catholic church and in our house. It's composed of statuettes that represent Jesus in a manger, his mother Maria, his father Giuseppe, the ox, the donkey (these five characters are placed in a cave or hut) and the three wise men. There could be also other characters like craftsmen, sellers, shepherds with their sheep and angel. The statuette of Jesus is usually put in the Nativity scene at midnight between the 24th and 25th December instead the three wise men on the 6th January, in the Epiphany day.

This tradition has ancient origin: San Francesco (saint patron of Italy), in 1223 arrived in Greccio and decided to reproduce the Nativity scene because the town remembered him Betlem, where Jesus was born and where he had just come back from. Now there is also the living Nativity scene, a representation where real people act the part of a character.

Camilla



Christmas tree

The christmas tree is special for Christmas in Germany. It's a needletree which you have to fell sometimes, but often you buy it in a store. In Germany we put it in the livingroom. Then the whole family is going to decorate the christmas tree. The main decoration is on the top of the tree (often a star). You decorate the christmastree for example with christmas balls and a light chain. When christmas comes, santa clause puts the presents under the tree.

Merry Christmas!
(Emily and Paula)

Advent calendars

Advent calendars are calendars with different Gifts behind 24 closed small doors, of wich one is opened day by day between the 1st and 24th of december. The Kids or even adults get Advent calendars at the beginning of December because it is supposed to shorten the waiting time up to christmas. There are different Kinds of calendars like Picture calendars or calendars with different Gifts like candy, chocolate, make -up and anything you desire.

Mia and Rona :)



Christmas market

A typical christmas market in Germany has many small wooden houses. In these houses you can get something to eat (fries, "Bratwurst", "Bier" and candys), soap, christmas decoration, hot punch and spices. There are many funny attraction for little children. For example: carousels, puppet theatres and a fairytale forest. On the market there is always a very very big christmas tree. It always smells like sweets and like a lot of christmas.

Alina, Tara, Ann-Mariel and Maylin

