

New Year Traditions From Around the World

Some of the following countries have more than one tradition!

Belgium

Farmers bless their cows on New Year and wish them a Happy New Year!

Bolivia

Coins are hidden in cakes; whoever finds them has good luck.

Brazil

Brazilians release white flowers into the ocean for the Goddess of the Sea.

Chile

Many people go to the cemetery at midnight.

China

Chinese New Year begins on the new moon that appears between January 21 and February 20.

Denmark

The Danish smash plates on New Year Eve for good luck.

Ecuador

They burn paper filled scarecrows at midnight.

Egypt

New Year is only celebrated once the crescent moon is sighted.

Finland

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The Finns throw cast molten tin into a bucket of water and 'interpret' the result!

France

They eat piles of pancakes!

Germany

Drinking 'Bowle' (punch) watching 'Dinner for One', eating 'Berliners'

Greece

Onions are hung on the front doors signifying rebirth & regrowth.

Italy

People wear red underwear to be lucky in love in the New Year.

Japan

New Year Buddhist bells are rung exactly 108 times at midnight.

Romania

People wear real bear skins and dance through snowy streets to ward away evil spirits.

Scotland

People swing large fireballs around for the 'Hogmanay' festival.

Siberia

Trees are planted underneath frozen lakes and rivers as a symbol for starting over.

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South Africa

In some parts of South Africa they throw furniture out of the window.

Spain

At the strike of midnight, 12 grapes are eaten to ward off bad luck.

Switzerland

Ice cream is dropped on the floor.

Thailand

They throw buckets of water and gray talc at each other.

Turkey

Pomegranate seeds are thrown in the air for good luck.

USA

Kissing on New Year's Eve & singing Auld Lang Syne. (This tradition is followed in many other countries too).
