

CHRISTMAS!

Content:

- The day of Christmas;
- Congratulations on Christmas;
- Christmas food;

THE DAY OF CHRISTMAS!

- ❖ The day of Christ's birth according to the Christian tradition. It's the second biggest holiday in Christianity after Easter. Churches that use the Gregorian calendar, including all Catholic, Protestant and most Orthodox churches, celebrate it on December 25th. The churches that use the Julian calendar, including the Macedonian Orthodox Church, celebrate Christmas on January 7. We love this day!

CONGRATULATIONS ON CHRISTMAS!

❖ **We have special congratulations for Christmas. They are:**

- a) Christ was born! - He was truly born!
(Hristos se rodi!- Navistina se rodi!)**
- b) Merry Christmas!-Merry Christmas!
(Srekjen Bozikj- Srekjen Bozikj!)**
- c) For many years, Christmas! - For many years!
(Za mnogu godini Bozikj!- Za mnogu godini!)**

CHRISTMAS FOOD!

❖ For Christmas we eat meat, most often lamb roast, sarma and drink wine and hot brandy (rakija). We eat chestnuts, almonds, apples and the like.

SARMA



LAMB ROAST



WINE



HOT BRANDY



CHESTNUTS



ALMONDS



KOLEDE!

- ❖ **On the 6th January (the day before Christmas), young children in Macedonia go door to door in groups and the hosts give them “kolacinja” (special home-made pastries), seasonal fruit (apples, chestnuts, walnuts, oranges, mandarins) and coins. They do this in the morning and they sing Christmas songs. They are called “koledari” and the custom is called “odenje na kolede”.**

BADNIK!

- ❖ On Christmas Eve (6th January) people look forward to the special Christmas meal that will be eaten in the evening. The meal contains no dairy, meat or animal products. Dishes might include nuts, fresh and dried fruits, baked cod or trout, bread, kidney bean soup, potato salad, Ajvar (red-pepper dip), Sarma (cabbage leaves stuffed with rice and spices) and pickled vegetables. Coin bread or Christmas Cake with a coin in it is eaten at the end of the meal. The coin bread is shared and the person who gets the piece with the coin is believed to be the luckiest that year. Another belief is that a lot of trash should be made during the dinner (food remains, peel from the fruit) so that the new year is prosperous.

Badnik`s dinner

