

# Easter in Hungary



# Easter

- Easter is one of the most important Christian holidays, where we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ.
- It has deep roots in Hungary. It has greatly intertwined with our folk traditions.
- The holiday also celebrates spring and the renewal that comes with it. There are many colourful interesting traditions related to it in Hungarian culture.

# Easter traditions in Hungary

## Sprinkling

- Easter in Hungary is not just a religious thing its also a celebration. There are many traditions that make it more interesting. The most famous one is the sprinkling that still very much exists in the Hungarian countryside.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tMFyG2GS7Ms> (4:51-8:00)
- The sprinkling can be traced back to an old fertility ritual, that represents the cleaning and renewing power of water.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E7U5cOUBcnA>



# Easter traditions in Hungary

## Sprinkling

- According to the tradition on the morning of easter Monday, men and boys visit their relatives and "sprinkle" the woman and girls.
- At the start the sprinkling was done with water, but today its mostly done with cologne water. In return the girls give boys a painted and decorated eggs. This egg is a symbol of fertility. The boys also tell girls so called sprinkling poems and they get an egg painted red, some pastries or some drinks in exchange.

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wfin2003mEc>

- (0:26-1.00, 1:17-1:40)



# Easter traditions in Hungary

## Egg painting

- One of the most popular easter traditions in Hungary is the gifting of painted eggs.
- There are many techniques used to decorate eggs such as: using onionshells, using wax or scratching patterns and things into it.
- They often use flowers, birds and geometric patterns. These often have symbolic meanings.

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tMFyG2GS7Ms> (0:00-0:47-ig)





# Easter decoration

## Easter wreaths, flowers and plants

- The easter wreaths are used to decorate tables, doors and windows. They are made with fresh or fake flowers, painted eggs and ribbons, they are mostly made out of willow sticks as it symbolises eternity and renewal.
- Spring flowers, like tulips, daffodils and hyacinth are essential parts of easter decoration.



# Easter decoration

## Table decoration

- The decorations on the table are also important. The table cloth and napkins have patterns revolving around spring. At the center there is often some nice eggs or a wreath.





# Easter foods



- The most common dishes are eggs, meat or some kind of pastries.
- At the end of the lent there comes a celebrational feast where they mostly eat: ham, eggs, horse-raddish and cake.
- The ham is the most important part of the Hungarian easter cuisine. Its mostly smoked and served with hard boiled eggs and grated horseraddish.



# Easter foods

- One of the special and traditional dishes we eat in easter is jelly. Its made with pork leg cooked with different seasonings and vegetables and its bound together with gelatin.
- Recipe: <https://kolbaszaruhas.hu/kocsonya-recept-fustolt-csulokkel>



# Easter games and other customs

- There are many games and customs associated with easter:
- For an example egg rolling is a fun game kids can play outside. In this game kids go on top of a hill and roll their painted eggs down.
- Egg searching is also a very popular game here too. Its a game where parents hide eggs and the kids go out to find them.
- Children's song about egg searching: <https://youtu.be/g0DnofQXd4A>



- The origin of sprinkling girls