

Travelling Around the World



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<https://vimeo.com/129301207>

Festivals

of the World



1 Every summer, on the last Wednesday of August, thousands flock to Buñol in Spain to take part in the tomato festival. The thrilling climax of the festival is a huge food fight where people throw tons of tomatoes at each other. Legend has it that this strange tradition began in the 1940's when a squabble in the town got out of hand. Although it was outlawed for a number of years, the festival now attracts about thirty thousand visitors.

2 The Oniro Fire Festival is one of the largest fire festivals in Japan. It takes place every year on January 7th. Also known as 'Demon's Night', the purpose of the festival is to cleanse the local Shinto temple of evil spirits. During the festival, which is over 1,500 years old, six giant torches weighing over a ton each are set alight one by one as spectators pray for health and happiness in the coming year.

- A Call of the Wild
- B Bringing the past to life
- C A tribal gathering
- D Illegal no more
- E New Year's good luck
- F A tradition revived
- G Sporting Success
- H Variety and tradition

3 The Hermanus Whale Festival is a four-day festival held in South Africa every September in honour of the annual return of the Southern Right whales to the waters of Walker Bay. Apart from whale watching, the festival also has many concerts, art performances and other attractions for festival-goers to attend. While visitors are enjoying the attractions they don't need to worry about missing out on whale spotting, as Hermanus boasts the world's only 'whale crier' who alerts visitors to the arrival of whales on his kelp horn.

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4 The largest medieval festival in England is held over the August bank holiday at Herstmonceux castle in Sussex. It includes a wide range of activities which really bring history to life for the visitors. There are battle reenactments, archery displays and spectacular parades as well as medieval taverns where visitors can sample medieval dishes. Youngsters are also well catered for at the festival and they are sure to enjoy the opportunity to learn more about life in the middle ages.

5 The Venice Carnival is a pre-Lenten festival where for one week the city is transformed into a huge costume party with music, dancing and acrobatic shows. The festival is an old tradition that went into decline in the 19th century but was brought back to life again in the 1970's. The modern carnival is not as rowdy as the original affair but it is still very colourful, with participants wearing fabulously elaborate masks and costumes. The carnival is so popular that the number of people staying in Venice doubles during the week of festivities.

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6 The Teuila Festival, named after the national flower of Samoa, is an annual event celebrating the art and culture of the South Pacific islands of Samoa. Visitors to this unspoilt tropical paradise can enjoy a wide range of activities at the festival. There are many displays of traditional carving, weaving and dancing, as well as Samoan cricket tournaments, long boat races and a floral parade. There are flights from many places in the South Pacific to the Samoan capital of Apia, but the most accessible route is to take one of the direct flights that operate from New Zealand.

7 For a truly unique festival experience, come to The Festival of a Thousand Stars held every December in the centre of the Rift Valley in Ethiopia. The event attracts over 50,000 visitors a year, many from remote areas, who come to watch and take part in this festival of indigenous art and music. The main objective of the festival is to bring together the many different tribes of the Rift Valley region and to promote the wealth and diversity of its artistic traditions.

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Check the answers:

- 1) D
- 2) E
- 3) A
- 4) B
- 5) F
- 6) H
- 7) C

Vocabulary Work

2 Choose the correct word.

- 1 The **origins/basis** of this tradition have been lost.
- 2 According to **legend/history**, King Arthur will return one day.
- 3 They hope to **appeal/attract** more tourists to the area.
- 4 These **unique/single** plants are found only in this part of the world.
- 5 Most of the **audience/spectators** were angry about the result of the match.
- 6 The restaurant has a wide range of **plates/dishes** to choose from.
- 7 We do our best to **supply/cater** for the needs of all our visitors.
- 8 If I was given the **opportunity/luck**, I would travel around the world.

3 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs below.

alert	cleanse	boast	regain
flock	sample	outlaw	operate

- 1 The doctor says I must stay off work until I my strength.
- 2 Last summer, record numbers of tourists to the island.
- 3 I do meditation to help me my mind of negative thoughts.
- 4 I really enjoyed the different kinds of cheese at the dairy farm.
- 5 The government some types of hunting already.
- 6 The police were to the gang's activities by an informer.
- 7 The train service from 8 am until midnight.
- 8 Simon couldn't resist about his promotion.

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- 1) Regain
- 2) Flocked
- 3) Cleanse
- 4) Sampling
- 5) Have outlawed
- 6) Alerted
- 7) Operates
- 8) boasting

Vocabulary Work

5 Fill in: main, year, bank, party, direct, event, alight, wide.

Make your own sentences using the phrases.

1 range

2 objective

3 set

4 holiday

5 annual

6 the coming

7 flights

8 costume

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Make your own sentences using the phrases.

1 wide range

2 main objective

3 set alight

4 bank holiday

5 annual event

6 the coming year

7 direct flights

8 costume party

Homework

- Essay on the topic «Travelling Broadens our Mind»