# Project «Russian Holidays»

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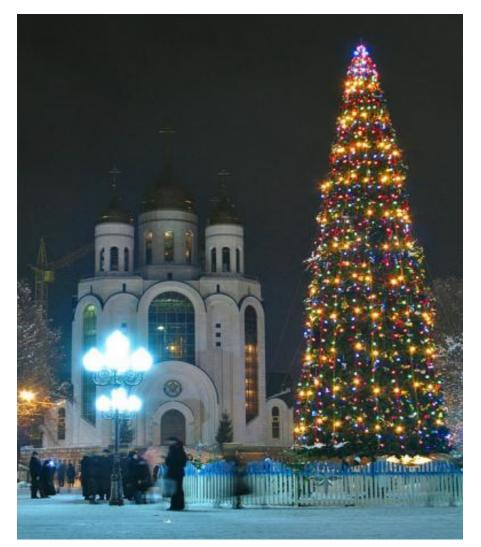
Altaisk 2008

 New Year
Until 988 year people in Russia have been celebrating New Year in March.

The custom to begin year from September came to Russia from Vizantia in the 10<sup>th</sup> century. In 1492 people began to celebrate New Year on the first of September.



Nowadays on the first day of the New Year there is a special service organized in church and named as "action of new year". This holiday turned into special ceremony which was conducted in the Kremlin.



# The 8<sup>th</sup> of March

- At first this holiday was celebrated in 1913 under the slogan of struggle for economic and political equality of women's rights.
- What is a history of this holiday?



The history of women's day was begun in the ancient Rome. On this day women in Rome were liberated from any work and accepted gifts and signs of attention.

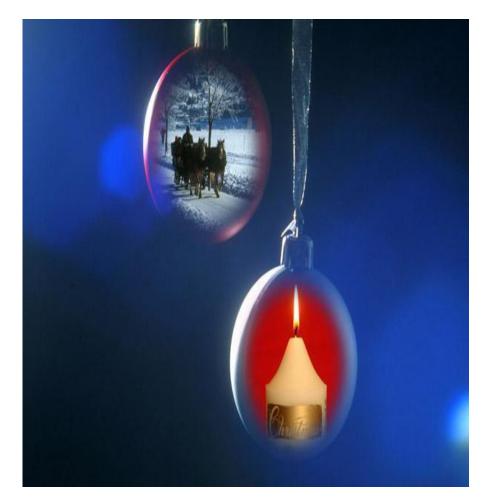


International Women's day by its roots going away to the struggle of women for participation in the social life like men.



## Christmas

 Christmas is one of the main holidays of the Orthodox church.
In the Orthodox calendar it is the second important holiday after Easter.



People celebrate Christmas on the 25<sup>th</sup> of December (Catholic) or the 7<sup>th</sup> of January (Orthodox). The **Orthodox Church have** been celebrating this day as a birthday of J. Christ. Christmas is celebrated after the Lent.



#### Easter

Easter is a great holiday in the church's calendar. It is very solemn and joyful holiday. In the Ortodox religion Easter is the most important holiday "The King of days".



 Easter means the recollection Christ's death on the cross and his following rising. This day people colour eggs and cook tasty national dishes.



### Shrovetide

Shrovetide is festival of winter's ending and meeting of spring. Shrovetide start on the 56<sup>th</sup> day before Easter and last a week . Among calendar's holiday the Shrovetide occupy a special place.



 It was the oldest national holiday. There were many fun activities at the Shrovetide: riding troika, climbing a pole for a gift , playing snowball.



So we have tried to tell you about Russian Holydays and traditions.

# Welcome to Russia and celebrate them with Russians!

Thank you for attention.