

Halloween in Asia

Costumes & Makeup



Halloween in China

Halloween came to China not so long ago and it is popular mostly among young generation. Besides, Chinese have their own alternative to Halloween - The Feast of the Hungry Ghosts, or guǐ jié 鬼节. Nowadays, in China these two holidays merged with each other and everybody who wants to have fun and try out new costumes doesn't really care what holiday it is. That's why the range of the characters for a costume is from European common options like skeletons and vampires to traditional national ghosts and monsters.



Chinese teens love making Halloween-themed videos!
Let's watch some spooky tiktoks from China:



Halloween in Japan

As other Asian countries, Japan has their own All Saints' Eve version, but they love Halloween for the opportunity to dress up - for them it's like another cosplay festival. Japanese are fans of their own mass culture – that's why they mostly choose anime and manga characters. During celebration of All Hallows' Eve people don't do trick-or-treating, but in the streets of Japan you will see a dozen “Pikachu”s and “Totoro”s – the most popular chubby anime characters. Most of Japanese teens decide to do a cosplay of their favorite anime-title.

Mostly, Japanese celebrate Halloween in the biggest streets of their cities. That's how Shibuya street looks like on 31st of October:



ASIAN BOSS

Amusement parks in Japan hold really cool costume shows on this holiday: that's a performance with **Zombie Andre** as a main character:



Korean Halloween

South Korea has strong historical ties with the United States. And historical ties grow with time and cultural, so Koreans appreciate and celebrate Halloween. Halloween is mostly celebrated by children, teenagers and students.

Most often in Korea, they dress up in characters familiar to us from popular culture - vampires, witches, mummies, zombies, as well as in popular movie characters. Two weeks before the cherished night in cafes, clubs, shopping centers and even parks, decorations begin to appear. And even here the Koreans were able to bring their own flavor - for example, traditional paper lanterns are used for decoration, but in the form of pumpkins. Halloween parties mostly take place on the weekend before the holiday. It is especially hot on these nights in the popular Seoul regions Itaewon and Gangnam. Let's watch what is going on there.



What is more, on these streets dance groups often gather and show Halloween-themed dances. I offer you to watch one of these.



The largest amusement parks like Lotte World or Everland are not far behind: there you can celebrate Halloween with the whole family. Now let's watch a short excerpt of video from Everland.



The Korea Herald



Cultural appropriation

Asians are proud of their culture and respect the ancient traditions. It's obvious that they find it offensive how Europeans & Americans use their national costumes like kimono in Japan, Chinese dress 旗袍 qípáo as cheap Halloween costumes. When people choose costumes like that they don't think about the history of the particular dress and just want to look like "ancient Asians". The worst part is that manufacturers sometimes make costumes look more vulgar on purpose.



Asians' costumes party

Asian people don't often appear in big popular movies and series – but 30 years ago there was even less Asians in pop-culture. Here is a fun video about Asians' costumes



That's how you're should NOT dress up
if you respect Asian culture:





Thanks for your attention♥

**Now you a ready to
solve the test!**