



Free class handout

Chapter 14

Revision 2



Hungarian holiday meals (page 62)

Hungarian cuisine has several traditional meals that are associated with different holidays. Christmas, a holiday for family gathering, is a time for big meals. Many people eat stuffed cabbages, fish soup or fried fish. Of course, there are many types of desserts as well. “Bejgli”, a type of sweet roll filled with poppy seeds or minced walnuts is a typical cake at Christmas.

It is thought that pigs bring luck, so at New Year’s Eve parties people often have roast piglets. Another popular food is lentil soup as old traditions associated lentils with money. Many think that if they eat lentils at New Year’s, they will have more money the following year. While people wait for the turn of the year at night, they often eat frankfurters, too.

Easter is a time when people like to eat boiled ham with horseradish sauce and boiled eggs. Boys traditionally visit girls to sprinkle them with Cologne Water and in return they often get painted or dyed eggs. Usually there are different treats – chocolate, candy and cakes – to offer them.

For some public holidays that are held at times when the weather is warm, preparing beef or lamb stew outside the house in a cauldron over open fire is indispensable. But people often cook such meals for family occasions in the summer. When the weather is not so good and they have to stay inside, paprika chicken or goulash soup are some of the most popular traditional dishes.

Many people like to eat some soup before the main course and they often have some dessert at the end of the meal. But the number of health conscious people has increased over the years. Some don’t like our traditional heavy meals and choose something lighter, like salads or grilled vegetables. International foods, for example spaghetti or pizza, are very popular. They are both delicious and a lot easier to make than some typical Hungarian dishes.

(321 words)

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