

Easter traditions in Norway





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For many Norwegians, Easter is much more important than Christmas. The period from Palm Sunday to Christmas Day in Norway is *Den stille uke* (quiet week).



Although Norway is theoretically also a Christian country (90% of the population are Lutherans), Easter is celebrated here a bit differently than in Poland. They already start with Palm Sunday



Easter eggs, yellow chickens, daffodils, hare bringing gifts - all these are elements of the Christmas tradition we know. Påsketur and Påskekrim are words that describe the less known but equally interesting and intriguing Norwegian Easter traditions.



Norwegians are not a very religious nation and even on the most important holidays the church is rather empty. There is also no walking around with a basket and dishes for blessing or Christmas Eve breakfast, or even painting Easter eggs

Norwegians love to decorate apartments and houses, so of course we can experience it also during Easter. Finally, the colors of spring come - green and yellow. Daffodils bloom in many places. Actually, not only daffodils are yellow - it's safe to say that this color is especially associated with Easter, so both houses and shops are decorated with yellow tulips, daffodils and other flowers, chickens, yellow napkins and other decorations.



Påsketur- means Easter trips.

The greatest Norwegian tradition is going on expeditions at that time. The most common are skiing trips to the mountains, hytt or the seaside. Some people go a step further and go abroad. However, the most important thing is to be active! In Norway, there is a saying "Whoever goes on a trip is never in a bad mood!"



Hytt- or summer houses, usually located somewhere in the mountains, over fjords or in remote areas. Here is an example of a hytt:



"Anyone who goes on a trip is never in a bad mood!" - "Ut på tur, aldri sur!"

There are no special dishes, as in Poland, for example, sour rye soup - in the case of Norwegians it is simply to be tasty. As a standard, everyone has a supply of Kvikk lunsj bars, in addition to eating a lot of oranges, and in addition, the barbecue season starts from Easter, also when hiking in the mountains you can often come across the characteristic smell of disposable grills, oranges and sparkling Solo lemonade. This is not often the case, but if a family stays at home, it is usually lamb or turkey that dominates the tables.

A lot of hard-boiled chicken eggs are eaten - during Easter, each Norwegian eats an average of about 7 eggs.



Påske - Norwegian Easter

Påskeferie - Free!

Skjærtorsdag / Maundy Thursday - on this day the shops are already closed, so for many Norwegians, in addition to religious celebrations, it is a day when they can go shopping ... in Sweden. There is definitely something to it, because the traffic towards Sweden is actually increased during this period.

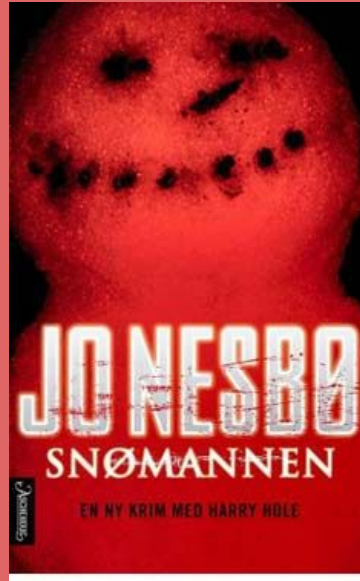
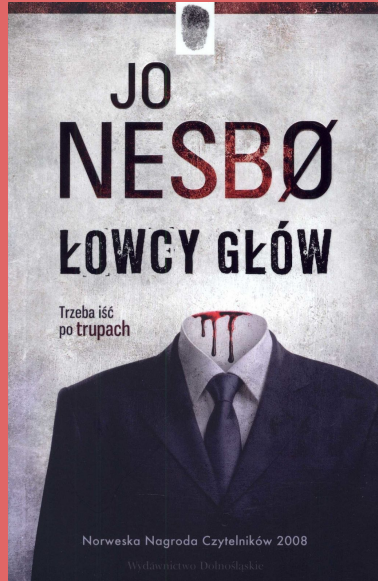
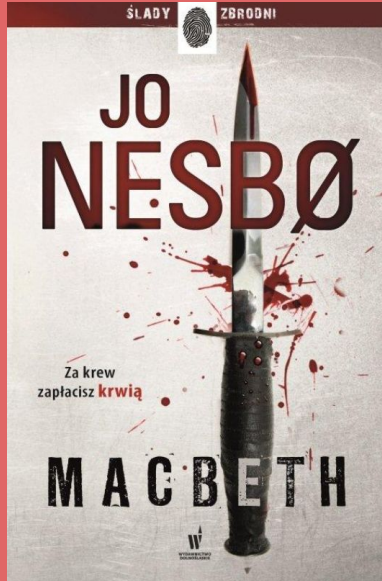
Langfredag / Good Friday - for believers it is definitely a time of concentration and a very important day. Churches organize the Way of the Cross, but there are certainly fewer of them than in Poland. It is also a time of reflection and concentration.

Påskeaften / Holy Saturday - stores open on this day, you can stock up and prepare for further celebration. Children get a lot of sweets, and the day ends with a Christmas dinner in the company of loved ones.

Første påskedag / Easter - In Norway, too, Easter begins with a festive breakfast. Here, too, children are waiting for a bunny who hides sweets and gifts in various places. It's a happy day, and most of you spend it with your family.

Påskekrim - there is no Christmas without crime fiction!

A few weeks before Easter, the shelves in bookstores mainly contain detective stories and if you encounter a Norwegian with a book on your way, it will probably be a crime fiction. It all began in 1923, when the Aftenbladet newspaper published an advertisement for the book "A Train to Bergen Robbed at Night" ("Bergenstoget plyndret i natt".) It was the day before Palm Sunday and the crime frenzy has not stopped since then. It can be said that it is already a national tradition. Examples of Norwegian crime fiction include:





This is the end



Thank you for watching the slides

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Thanks again