

# Happy Easter



## Some of the world's fun and crazy Easter traditions

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### Vocabulary

**Put your own spin on something**

**Sit back**

**Roaming the streets**

**Legend**

**Spanking**

**Fertile**

**Love is blind**

**Tradition**

**Lie low**

**Widespread**

**Gigantic / Massive**

**According to legend...**

**Tuck in**

**Be merry.**

**And last but not least**

**Numerous**

**Detective novels**

**The idea stemmed from...**

**Local grub**

**To solve a murder**

**The game is afoot**

### Meaning

To put your own ideas to something.

This means to relax.

You walk around the streets without a real purpose / idea of where you are going.

A story that is passed on from generation to generation that may or may not be true.

This is like slapping someone but usually on the bottom.

This refers to the ability to have children. If you are fertile, you are able to have children.

You love someone so much that you can't see their faults.

A custom or belief that is passed on from generation to generation. An example is giving each other Easter eggs on Easter Sunday. We do this every year.

To hide from someone / keep out of sight / avoid being found.

This means it happens in a large area.

Very, very big.

'According to' means you are referencing what someone said or wrote.

This has different meanings but for this class it means to start eating.

Be happy.

Although it is last in the list, it has equal importance to what has come before it.

Many.

A Police officer whose job is to find out who did the crime and how. A novel is a fictional story, not real.

The idea comes from ... / Originated from ...

Local food.

To solve something means to find out what happened.

Used to express that what you are talking about has begun / started.

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The world is a wonderful place where people like to be creative and **put their own spin on things**. This makes festivals around the world fun and interesting for all.

Below are some of the fun and crazy ways that people like to celebrate Easter. **Sit back**, make yourself a cup of tea, and enjoy.

## Whip-cracking in the Czech Republic and Slovakia

If you're a woman and you find yourself in the Czech Republic or Slovakia on Easter Monday, it is perhaps best to stay indoors and watch the local TV shows. This is because all the local men and boys will be **roaming the streets** with whips decorated with bright ribbons, looking for girls to 'lightly' whip. Oh my god you may say. And why, you may ask.

Well, the aim is not to hurt the women as they will whip them only very lightly. The idea is based on a **legend** which insists a good **spanking** will keep women healthy, beautiful, and **fertile** until the following Easter. It also allows men to express their romantic interest in a woman in the local village.

Well, all I can say is that **love is blind!** Good luck, stay inside, and god bless.



Whips decorated with bright ribbons



The tradition goes way back



Today, it's all about just having fun

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## Throwing water at women in Hungary, Slovakia, Serbia

I am sorry but there is another **tradition** that might make all the women reading this want to **lie low** and think why!

This is because if you are not getting whipped you are getting wet!

In some communities Easter Monday is known as 'Watering Monday.' Throughout the day, men will visit other families to splash water or perfume over the women and girls of the household.

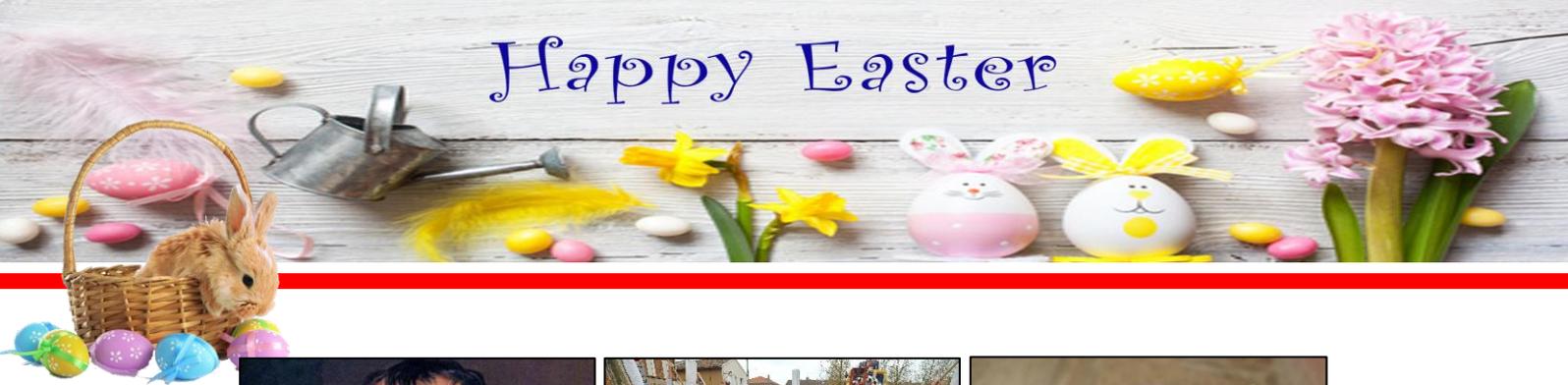
As if that wasn't bad enough, the man gets rewarded with an Easter egg! Great for him but not so much for the poor lady.

This **tradition** also used to be **widespread** in Poland, but in recent years this has changed into a big water fight where the women can fight back and splash the men too. I think this is a lot better and sounds a lot more fun for everyone involved.

Let the water fight begin!



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## The world's biggest Easter omelette in France

Every Easter Monday, the residents in the town of Bessieres gather in the main square and crack open more than 15,000 eggs into a **gigantic** pan to create a **massive** Easter omelette that serves over 10,000 people.

Where did this tradition come from you may ask!

**According to legend**, Napoleon Bonaparte, while visiting the area, enjoyed his eggs so much that he asked for a giant omelette to be prepared for his army. So now, each Easter, the cooks of the town, grab their oversized wooden spoons, and do their best to stir the eggs in a **massive** pan in the town square. The festival includes dancing and music, but the omelette making is the main event.

It's a day of eating omelette, more omelette, omelette again, and nothing else. **Tuck in and be merry.**



And last but not least ...

## Murder mystery weekend in Norway

Sherlock Holmes might be needed in Norway at this time as Easter time is crime time in Norway. Television channels run crime shows and **numerous** new **detective novels** are released just before Easter. **The idea stemmed from** the popularity of a crime novel in 1923, set on the Bergen railway.

People across the country prepare some **local grub** and either watch crime stories on TV or read one of the new **detective novels**. In addition, most shops and other businesses close for five straight days over Easter, so there's plenty of time to **solve a murder** or two.

So instead of trying to find the chocolate eggs that the Easter Bunny has hidden, you will be trying to find out who stole them. As Sherlock Holmes always said, **the game is afoot!**