

New Year

Country	Start year
Grand Duchy of Lithuania ^[16] ^[17]	1362
Venice	1522
Sweden	1529
Holy Roman Empire (~Germany)	1544
Spain, Portugal, Poland	1556
Prussia, Denmark ^[18] and Norway	1559
France (Edict of Roussillon)	1564
Southern Netherlands ^[19]	1576
Lorraine	1579
Dutch Republic	1583
Scotland	1600
Russia	1700
Tuscany	1721
Britain, Ireland and British Empire except Scotland	1752
Greece	1923
Turkey	1926
Thailand	1941

It took years for most of the world to start the New Year at the same time. Some countries, like China, still have New Year's Day on a different date.

Can you name one of the most popular holidays in the world? For years, most people around the world have enjoyed celebrating the *New Year*. The New Year's holiday will continue to be a time to celebrate and honor the first day of the year.

New Year's Day celebrations have been practiced since ancient civilizations. Villages, towns, countries, and whole continents had the New Year on different occasions. Romans, Greeks, Asians, and Africans all had their own date and ceremonies for the New Year. When most of the world started

following the same calendar, January 1st became New Year's Day.

The New Year celebrations start on *New Year's Eve*. People will have large gatherings, concerts, and parties to watch the countdown to the upcoming year. The New Year is honored at *the stroke of midnight* with fireworks and songs. People will contact and embrace each other as a symbol of thankfulness to start the New Year!

Celebrations continue on *New Year's Day* with parades and other events. People will go shopping, visit family, attend church, and watch sports. There are also many concerts and shows performed throughout New Year's Day. Anyone born on New Year's Day is called a "New Year's Day Baby" and usually receives special attention from hospitals and other organizations. What might your family do for the New Year?

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1. What is the main idea of the information in the text?

2. Write two to three details from the text to support the main idea.

3. Explain how the picture and caption connect to the passage.

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1. Use evidence from the passage to explain the history of the New Year's holiday.

2. Find the bold and italics phrase *New Year's Eve*. What are some key facts about the celebrations? Use 2 key details in your answer.

3. Locate the bold and italics phrase *New Year's Day*. What are some reasons and evidence the author uses to explain the events of the day?

4. Choose, circle, define, or write a sentence with two vocabulary words:
occasions countdown upcoming contact embrace attention

Bonus:

Write or make a list of more FACTS about the New Year.
