



Halloween around the World

What Is Halloween?

Halloween is a festival celebrated on 31st October. It is one of the world's oldest festivals and it is believed to have started because Celtic people celebrated their New Year on 1st November. On the night before, they celebrated the festival Samhain. On this night, they believed ghosts came back to earth.



Did You Know?

When trick-or-treating first started, people were given fruits and nuts, not chocolate!

Halloween in the United Kingdom

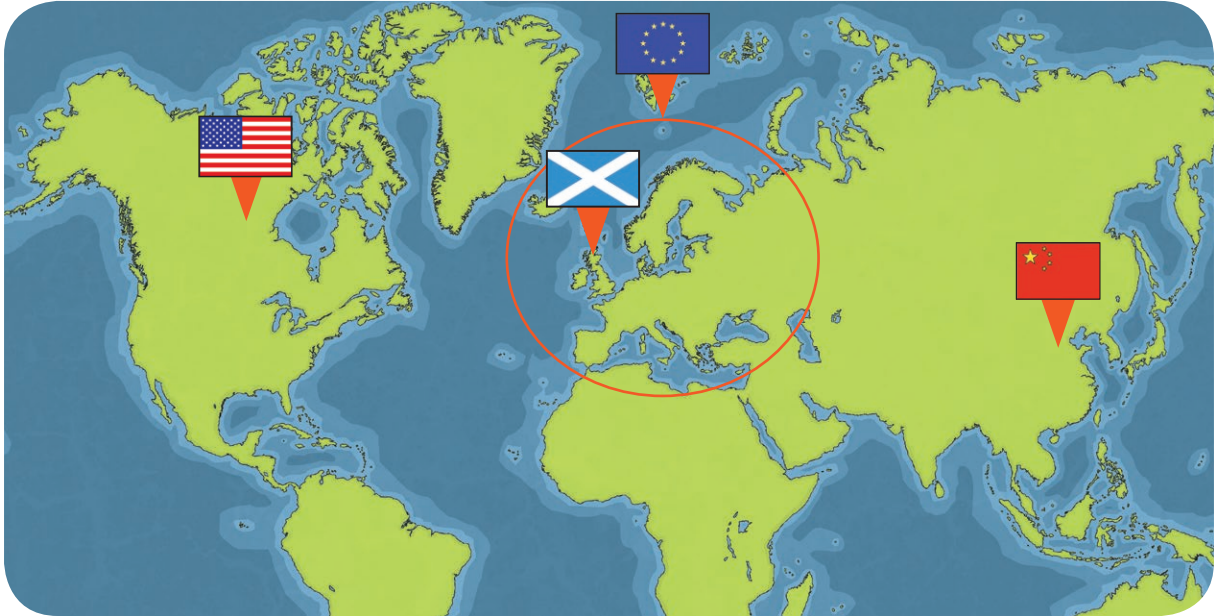
In the United Kingdom, Halloween is a time for costumes and games. When wearing their outfits, people like to have fun and scare each other. They will often go between houses, trick-or-treating. Many people carve pumpkins too.





How Is It Celebrated around the World?

The festival of Halloween is recognised in many countries around the world but it is celebrated in different ways.



Scotland

Traditionally, children carry lanterns made out of turnips and go trick-or-treating (guising). They sing a song to be rewarded with a treat.

Europe

In Romania, Halloween is celebrated at the end of November around the same time as St Andrew's Day.

Spooky parties take place in Transylvania, where Dracula is said to come from!

China

In China, Halloween is known as Teng Chieh. The Chinese people celebrate by placing food and water in front of photographs of family members who have died.

USA

In the USA the main celebration is trick-or-treating. People dress up in costumes and call from door to door. They call carved pumpkins 'jack-o'-lanterns'.

