

Festivals

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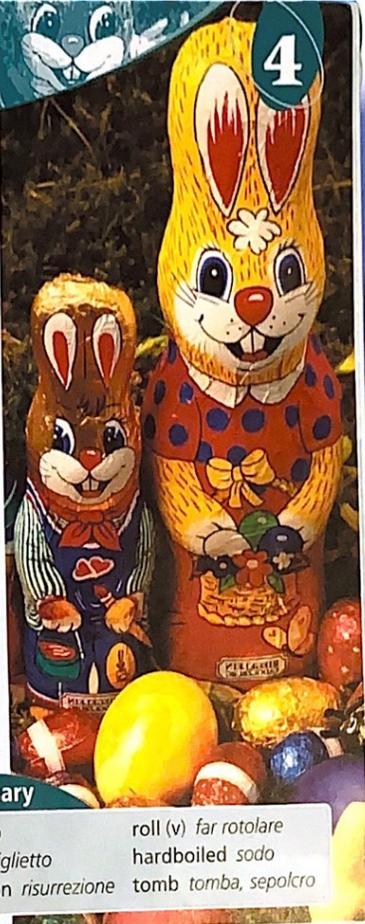
British people have four days' holiday at Easter. Easter is an important festival, but there aren't any big celebrations in the UK. In the shops, the only signs of Easter are Easter eggs, Easter cards and hot cross buns. Hot cross buns are a type of sweet bread. They contain dried fruit, and they have a cross on them to represent the crucifixion. It's traditional to eat them on Good Friday, the first day of the Easter festival.

On Easter Sunday, people give presents of chocolate Easter eggs. Sometimes the chocolate is in the shape of a rabbit. This is the Easter Bunny. But why are eggs and rabbits symbols of Easter? The festival of Easter is a combination of Celtic pagan traditions and the Christian festival of the Resurrection. In the Celtic tradition, eggs and rabbits represent fertility and new life. For Christians, eggs are also a symbol of new life.

They represent the Resurrection of Jesus.

On Easter Sunday, there is often an egg hunt. Parents hide small Easter eggs in the garden and children look for them. Young children believe the Easter Bunny puts the eggs there. There are other Easter traditions with eggs. Some children paint real eggs in different colours and use them for decorations.

There are egg-rolling competitions in some villages on Easter Monday – the day after Easter Sunday. This day is a holiday in the UK. People roll hardboiled eggs down a hill. If your egg arrives at the bottom of the hill first, and it doesn't break, you are the winner. The tradition of egg rolling represents the stone which rolled away from the door of Christ's tomb in the Easter story.



Glossary

dried secco	roll (v) far rotolare
bunny coniglietto	hardboiled sodo
Resurrection risurrezione	tomb tomba, sepolcro

Easter

1 Leggi il brano e scrivi gli equivalenti inglesi delle seguenti ricorrenze.

- 1 Venerdì Santo _____
- 2 Domenica di Pasqua _____
- 3 Pasquetta _____

2 Decidi se le frasi sono **True (T)** o **False (F)**. Correggi le frasi false. **ES K**

- 1 British people have big celebrations at Easter. _____
- 2 Hot cross buns are a traditional food for Easter Sunday. _____
- 3 Eggs are a symbol of new life. _____
- 4 Small children think that the Easter Bunny hides eggs in the garden. _____
- 5 People in the UK go to work on Easter Monday. _____
- 6 Egg rolling is connected to the Christmas story. _____

3 **3.31** Ascolta e leggi una canzone tradizionale pasquale.

Hot cross buns, hot cross buns
 One a penny, two a penny
 Hot cross buns
 Buy one for your daughter
 Buy one for your son
 One a penny, two a penny
 Hot cross buns



4 Scrivi un breve paragrafo sulla Pasqua in Italia (35–50 parole). Prima di cominciare, prendi degli appunti su: **ES**

- cosa succede il Venerdì Santo, la domenica di Pasqua e il lunedì di Pasquetta
- le uova di Pasqua
- altri cibi tradizionali di Pasqua

two hundred and one

ENGLISH FOOD AND MEALS

Though English cooking is not uniformly excellent, English food is not uniformly disgusting. Coffee is badly made, as a rule; if you can't swallow it, stick to English tea, beer or cider. English food is very different from Italian food, there is no equivalent of our pastasciutta, although some people like to eat a dish of "spaghetti" (not as a first course) now and then. Moreover, butter and margarine are generally used in cooking instead of olive oil. In Italy we have only two big meals, whereas in England there are four main meals in the day: breakfast in the morning, lunch at midday, tea in the afternoon and dinner in the evening. The English breakfast is a much bigger meal than the continental breakfast. In winter, the English start this meal with porridge (oatmeal boiled in water or milk); in summer with cornflakes or fruit juice (mostly grapefruit) then they have bacon and eggs, as well as pieces of toast with butter and marmalade or jam and of course they drink cups and cups of tea. Most people who work have a light lunch in a restaurant or a cafeteria because they have no time to go home. In the North of England and in Scotland, people have a meal called "High Tea" at about six o'clock. High tea may consist of sausages or fish, bread and butter, cakes, jam and of course tea. The usual first course of an English dinner is soup (chicken soup, pea soup or tomato soup), the second course is meat (usually beef, lamb, pork or mutton) with vegetables, or fish (often with chips) followed by cheese and the dessert. Tea is the most popular drink in Britain. Most people drink tea with milk for breakfast, then in the middle of the morning, after lunch, in the middle of the afternoon and again in the evening. Tea is never drunk with lemon in England.