



English Corner



April 2025

1. GREAT BRITAIN'S NATIONAL FLOWERS

Chrysanth in Japan, dahlia in Mexico, Salvia officinalis in Italy or clove in Spain. What are national plants in Great Britain? Each region of UK have their own recognisable plant symbol. Lets take a closer look at the national flowers of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland

The English Rose

The national flower of England is the Tudor rose. This rose was adopted by Henry VII as a symbol of peace after the 'War of the Roses'; a 15th century the war was fought between two rival royal families House of Lancaster symbolized by a red rose and the House of York represented by white rose. When king Henry VII united the two houses through marriage. He created The Tudor rose, which is shown on the uniforms of the guards, at the Tower of London and in the royal coat of arms. It is also used to represent England in sport.



Red Rose of Lancaster



Tudor Rose



White Rose of York

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The Scottish Thistle

The national flower of Scotland is the thistle, which is found in the Scottish highlands. Although it is not clear how this became the country's national flower, legend about Norwegian invaders who attempted to attack a Scottish camp. According to the tale, One of the invaders stepped on the prickly thistle, causing a cry of pain that alerted the Scots to the attack. The thistle has been part of Scotland's culture for centuries and represents courage and determination



The Welsh Daffodil

The national flower of Wales is the daffodil. How the daffodil came to be named as Wales' national flower has always been a hot topic of debate. The daffodil is the national flower of Wales and is often associated with St. David's Day, celebrated on March 1st in honor of the country's patron saint. Although the historical symbol of Wales was the leek (also linked to a legend about St. David), the daffodil gained popularity as a more aesthetically pleasing alternative. This flower symbolizes hope, renewal, and national pride. The fact that daffodils bloom in early spring, coinciding with St David's Day, make it this flower a recognisable symbol of Wales.



The Irish Shamrock

Although the national flower of Northern Ireland is not a typical flower but rather the shamrock, it is deeply rooted in Irish culture. According to legend, St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, used it to explain the doctrine of the Holy Trinity. The shamrock has since become a symbol of luck, unity, and Irish national identity. Although not to be confused with the lucky charm that is the four-leafed clover, it is believed that the shamrock has always been a charm used against evil by Celtic lore, and this coincides with the modern belief of the four-leafed clover bringing good luck.



Each of these flowers has its own story and meaning, highlighting the cultural diversity of the United Kingdom. They are not only national symbols but also an important part of the traditions and pride of the people in these regions.

Author: Emilia Kubicka

2. One day trip to Dubai

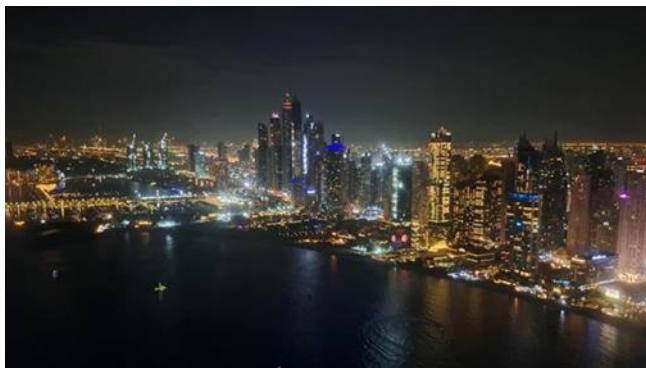
Hi!

Today I want to write to you about my 1 day trip with my parents to Dubai!



First of all, we arrived at the airport in Warsaw at 8 in the morning. I had to wake up at 4am! Anyways, then, we registered our luggages and went through safety control and passport control. After that we ate at restaurant and got on board. On plane we had mobile screens on our seats! Later on, plane took off. Fly was a true pleasure with so many things to do! It wasn't boring at all! We landed at 5pm local time on Dubai's main airport (Dubai International Airport). We hopped out

of the plane to the terminal. Airport was very clean. We took our luggages. Then we got to the metro and bought tickets. Metro was very clean. One thing that surprised me is that the tracks and a platform were separated by glass. I think it was there to protect people from falling onto the tracks. When train arrived, both automatic doors one from the glass and one from the train opened. We hopped in and another thing surprised me. The train had no operator, it was riding on it's own! Another thing that surprised me is that metro was almost always riding above the ground! Only in some parts it was riding below it. We hopped out at DMCC Metro Station to Dubai Marina, it is a place where our hotel is located. We arrived at 7 pm. We checked in, left luggages in our room and went to eat near our hotel. Then, we went to Ain Dubai, the largest ferris wheel in the world! We got the tickets and went to the cabin. The full spin was almost an hour! We have seen a beautiful night skyline of Dubai! I'll never forget it. We went back to hotel.



We woke up next morning, ready to go sightseeing for a day across Dubai! First, we ate breakfast. Then we went for a tour! At the beginning, we went for a cruise from Dubai Marina to Deira. Deira is an oldest district of Dubai! We went off the boat and started to walk

across old arab buildings. After that we went to another cruise, but now for a 1 minute swim to the Souq Area. What I mean by Souq Area, is that in that region there are many souqs, in other words traditional arab markets. The most popular one is Gold Souq. It is a mix of old arab culture and modernity. In old arab style, shops there sell very expensive jewelry. We went back to other souqs, which sell cashmere and cloth. In last few months they also sell Dubai Chocolate.



A popular chocolate known for it's prize and look. Back to the trip, we bought some of those and went back to the metro. We hopped out near Dubai Frame. It is known for being 150 meters tall building, in a shape of a frame. From to the top you can see beautiful landscape of Dubai from many perspectives! The view was unbelievable! With my parents we have seen a view of Dubai Downtown, in which Burj Khalifa and Dubai Mall are located, view of Sharjah, Deira and other locations in Dubai! Next, we did not travel very far away by metro, because we went to Dubai Museum of Future! We've seen many interesting modern things. Things that we might normally use in the future! Then we travelled also not very far away, because we went to the most iconic attraction in the city of Dubai, Burj Khalifa. After we got out of the metro we walked in a long hall. After 5 minutes we

finally reached the Dubai Mall, the largest mall in the world! We walked across many luxurious stores. We got out of Mall and got to a plaza, in which we had a full view of Burj Khalifa and oh wow, it was amazing! I almost had to look straight up to see the top of it! We were able to see a water show near the plaza and a led show on a Burj Khalifa. They both were in the same time. The effect was beautiful!



Later, we went to eat. We ate a delicious food in a Turk/Lebanese restaurant. Food was delicious! Then we went for a final attraction, a view from the Burj Khalifa. It was expensive, but worth it. We have seen a full view of Dubai from left and right. I couldn't believe it! I was speechless. Later on, we got back to metro and returned to hotel. We packed our belongings and went to sleep.

Next day we woke up at 7 am. We ate fast breakfast, and checked out of hotel. We travelled with a taxi this time, since it was faster than metro. We arrived at airport, registered our luggages, went through safety control and passport control. We got on board, and came back 5 hours later. In Warsaw we went through a passport control and got back our luggages. Then we came back home. Maybe it wasn't a 1 day trip, more like a few days, but still, we went for one full day and a little more.

If you want, you can reply about your 1 day trip. Well, I think it's all I could say.

Author: Jan Słodkiewicz

3. Let's save our planet!

What's the best day to do something more than recycle to save our planet? Earth day!

But when is it? It's on 22nd April. But what more can I do? Well, that's what this article is about! In this article you will find out how can we save our planet and why do we have to at least try to save our planet.

Well as written above in this article I will write about saving our planet. But why do we have to do it? Well here are some simple answers: Earth is our planet and we don't have anywhere to move out to, another reason to save is that we are hurting not only our planet but also environment and ourselves, we destroy water that we drink, we destroy the air, we destroy our sources of food and we destroy the ozone layer. Ozone layer is a layer of ozone that is around 15-30 km above Earth's surface. It is covering the whole surface of Earth it protects everything on Earth from harmful UV radiation from the sun but because we released chlorofluorocarbons (CFC) it made a huge hole in the ozone layer in the 1980 but because every country agreed to stop using CFC the ozone layer is making a recovery and is expected to fully recover by the 2050.

What can we do to save Earth? Well here are some simple ideas:

1. We can use the RRR method. But what do the three R's mean? Well they mean Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.

2. We can also volunteer for clean ups.
3. Protect watershed
4. Save water
5. Shop wisely
6. Save energy
7. Plant a tree
8. Don't let balloons fly into the air since they fall back to earth and can end up in the ocean hurting animals
9. Don't throw your trash on the ground
10. Don't leave trash on the beach because it will end up in seas and oceans and can be eaten by animals like sea turtles
11. If you go diving pay ocean tax. What is ocean Tax? Ocean tax is when a diver takes out trash from the ocean

I hope every one who read this will use at least one of those methods. Here are some websites with even more creative ideas:

<https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/>

Author: Alicja Przybysz

4. Wielkanoc w Wielkiej Brytanii

Słowo Easter pochodzi prawdopodobnie od imienia staroangielskiej bogini wiosny i świtu- Eosre. W marcu obchodzono na jej cześć święto odrodzenia natury. Z czasem jednak chrześcijanie przejęli tę datę i przekształcili w święto zmartwychwstania. Podobnie było z

symbolami jakimi są zajączek i jajko. To pierwsze było uznawane za symbol płodności i plonów, a jajko oznaczało odrodzenie i nowe życie.

Szkocja jako kraj protestancki nie była silnie zaangażowana w obchody Wielkanocy. Traktowano ją jako święto religijne nie społeczne. Zmieniło się to po II wojnie światowej, jednak jego obchody takie jak znamy dziś przyjęło się dopiero w połowie XX wieku. Teraz bardzo popularne jest malowanie jajek w tartanowe wzory- czyli tradycyjną szkocką kratę

Szkockie potrawy:
SIMNEL CAKE



To ciasto z bakaliami i marcepanem najczęściej jest to 11 kulek na wierzchu polewy (symbolizują one apostołów, bez Judasza)

HOT CROSS BUNS



To drożdżowe bułeczki z rodzynkami i przyprawami. Krzyżyk na wierzchołku symbolizuje ukrzyżowanie Jezusa

Obchody Wielkanocy w **Irlandii** łączą w sobie religijne i kulturowe aspekty. Wszystko zaczyna się 40 dni przed tym świętem, w czasie postu. Irlandczycy rezygnują wtedy nie tylko z mięsa, ale także z tańców, muzyki i zabaw. Dzieci w tym czasie nie jedzą słodczy. Dlatego Wielkanoc to powrót do radości i śmiechu. A najmłodszy otrzymują "Easter Box" pudełko pełne czekoladowych figurek, ciastek i łakoci. W Niedzielę Wielkanocą wierni gromadzą się w kościołach i spotykają się rodzinnie na wspólne śniadanie. Po południu większość ludzi organizuje wielkanocne wędrowki i pikniki.



Irish soda bread



To tradycyjny irlandzki chleb z dodatkiem maślanki i sody.

Barmbrack



To chlebek z dodatkiem herbaty i rodzynek.

Colcannon



To puree ziemniaczane z dodatkiem jarmużu lub kapusty.

W **Walii** Wielkanoc wiąże się także z obchodami wiosny-w miastach i wsiach dekoruje się domy i ogrody żonkilami, które są symbolem tego regionu i wiosny. Nie brakuje też religijnych obchodów. W wielu kościołach śpiewa się tradycyjne hymny wielkanocne, a mieszkańcy chodzą na uroczyste msze. Maluje się tutaj również jajka, a rodziny bawią się w egg hunt.



W XIX wieku we wsiach kobiety odwiedzały groby bliskich w Wielkanocy poranek i zostawiały tam... gotowane jajka jako symbol życia po śmierci.

WELSH CAKES



To małe ciasteczka smażone na patelni. Są słodkie z dodatkiem rodzynek i przypraw korzennych..

CAWL



To tradycyjna Walijska zupa z jagnięciny i warzyw, przede wszystkim pora.

W **Anglii** w Wielkanoc rodziny spotkają się na uroczystym obiedzie, wszyscy biorą udział w polowaniu na czekoladowe jajka i paradach easter bonnets. Kolejną ważną tradycją jest Maundy Thursday dzień,

w którym król rozdaje specjalne, pamiątkowe monety- wybranym starszym osobom.

VEGETABLES



To nowalijki takie jak: marchewka, zielony groszek, szparagi i brukselka

ROAST LAMB



To najważniejsze danie wielkanocnego obiadu. Symbolizuje wiosnę i ofiarę baranka. Podawany jest z sosem miętowym

CHOCKOLATE EGGS



Pojawiły się one w Anglii w XIX w., gdy rozwijał się przemysł

cukierniczy. Pierwszą firmą produkującą ten przysmak była cukiernia Cadbury, popularna do dziś.

Easter games and celebrations

Easter bonnet day.

Niektóre kobiety przygotowania na te parady rozpoczynają już rok wcześniej aby zaprezentować się w idealnym kapeluszu.



Egg Toss Competition

Egg Toss Competition - ta gra odbywa się w niektórych wsiach. Polega na, tym że dwie osoby rzucają do siebie surowymi jajkami. Przegrywa ten komu jajko rozbije się w rękach.



Egg hunting

Jedną z tradycji krajów anglojęzycznych jest polowanie na jajka EGG HUNT, która polega na znalezieniu przez uczestników zabawy jak największej liczby jaj, które wcześniej pozostawił tam Zając.



Egg rolling

Udekorowane jajka są przenoszone na łagodne wzgórze (lub inne odpowiednie miejsce) i „toczone”. Toczenie jajka symbolizuje odsunięcie kamienia od grobu Jezusa w Wielkanoc.



Author: Nadia Burda

5. Easter in my family

Hi

Easter is almost here. How do you spend it?

In Poland we celebrate Easter with whole family and eat easter breakfast. On Holy Saturday we also go to church to bless the easter basket. In that basket we put sausage, bread, eggs and horseradish.

This year me and my family are preparing for the holidays really thoroughly. I always have to tidy my room and help my mom prepare food. Yesterday I baked an easter cake and washed the floor.



My family always eats żurek, stuffed eggs, easter cake and mazurek on Easter. My favorite dish is żurek- it is a traditional polish soup made with rye started. We serve it with eggs and white sausage. Żurek may be quite sour but trust me it's really delicious.

And what is your favorite Easter dish or tradition?

Author: Łucja Kubiszewska

