

Idiomes

PANCAKE DAY



Pancake Day, or Shrove Tuesday, is a special day celebrated in many countries around the world. It is celebrated in English-speaking countries like the UK, Ireland, Australia and Canada. In France, the USA and other countries, it is called 'Mardi Gras' or 'Fat Tuesday'. In others like Spain, Italy or Brazil, Shrove Tuesday is at the end of Carnival. On this day, many people eat pancakes: thin, flat cakes made in a pan.

Pancake Day is always on a Tuesday in February or March. It is the day before Ash Wednesday, the start of Lent. Lent is a period of 40 days before Easter when people often give up or stop eating things that are bad for them like chocolate or fast food. At the end of Lent is Easter. Easter takes place on a different date each year because it depends on the moon. Easter Sunday is the first Sunday after the first full moon of spring. Traditionally, during Lent, people didn't eat rich foods like butter and eggs, so to use them up they made pancakes from these ingredients on Shrove Tuesdays.

A tradition on Pancake Day in the UK is pancake racing. People run in a race with a pancake in a pan. As they run, they have to toss the pancake (throw the pancake in the air and catch it in the pan) several times. In some pancake races people dress up in fancy dress costumes. The most famous pancake race takes place in a town called Olney, in the middle of England. People say that Olney has been celebrating pancake races since 1445!

Pancakes are very easy to make. Try this recipe.

Ingredients:

- One cup of flour
- One cup of milk
- One large egg
- Some salt
- Some butter or oil
- Lemon juice
- Some sugar

Instructions:

Fill one cup with flour and put into a bowl. Fill another cup with milk and pour into the bowl. Crack the egg into the bowl and whisk the flour, milk and egg until the mixture is smooth. Put a very small amount of butter or oil in a pan, and when it is hot, put some mixture in the pan and move the pan to make a thin pancake. After one minute hold the pan carefully and throw or toss the pancake in the air to turn it over. Now cook the pancake on the other side.

When the pancake is ready, squeeze some lemon juice and put some sugar on it and eat it immediately. If you don't like lemon juice, eat them with jam, chocolate sauce or ice cream.

Mmm, delicious!