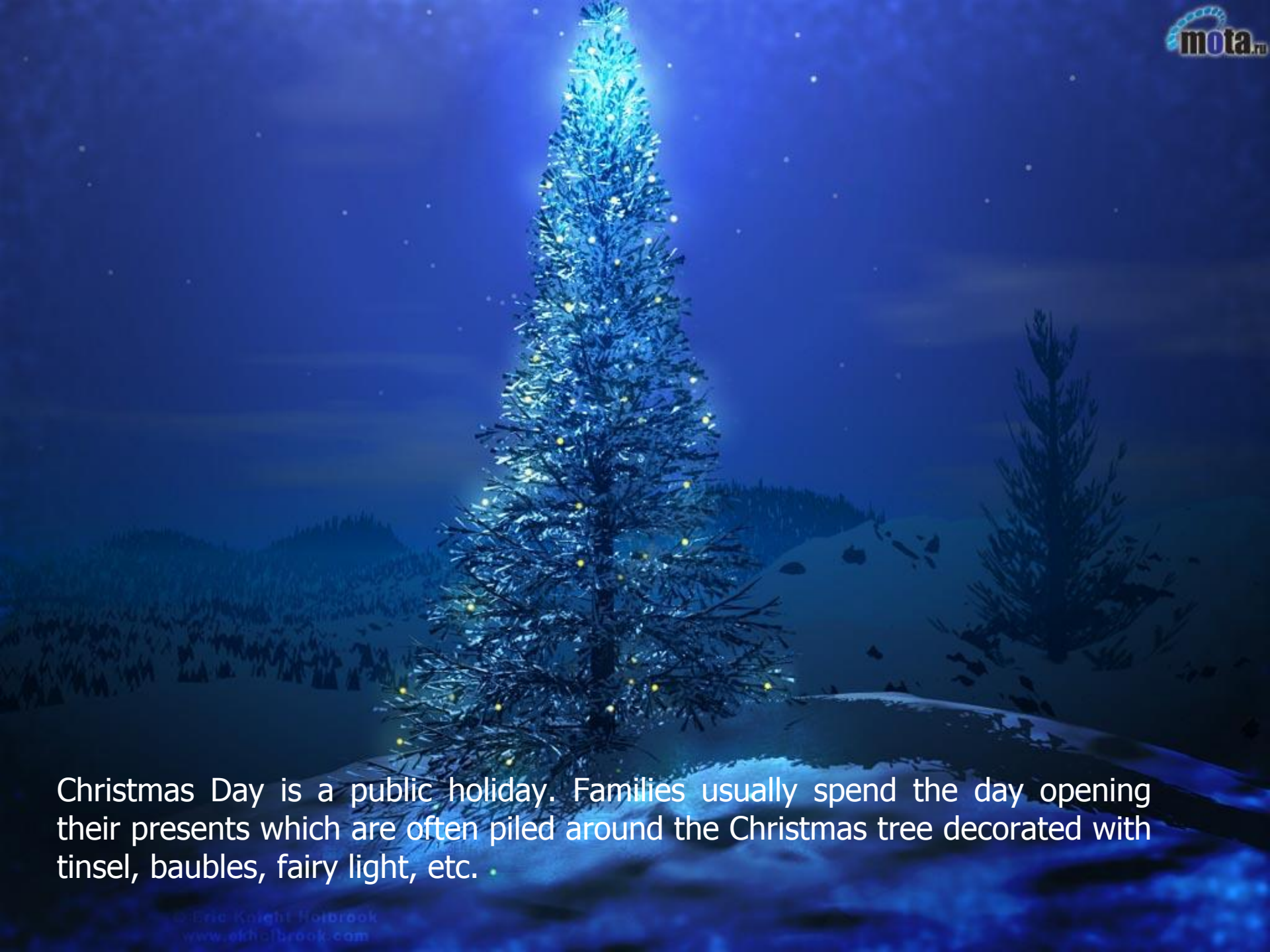


Christmas





Christmas is the main public holiday in Britain and the US. This Christian holy day is held on December 25th in honour of the birth of Christ.

A tall, slender Christmas tree stands in the center of a snowy landscape at night. The tree is illuminated with a warm, golden glow, and its branches are covered in white tinsel. The background is a dark, starry night sky with a soft blue hue. In the distance, there are silhouettes of other trees and a snow-covered hill. The overall scene is peaceful and festive.

Christmas Day is a public holiday. Families usually spend the day opening their presents which are often piled around the Christmas tree decorated with tinsel, baubles, fairy light, etc.





They eat and drink together. The most important meal is Christmas dinner. At the start of the meal, British people often pull a cracker. The typical meal consists of turkey with potatoes and other vegetables such as carrots and sprouts. In Britain this is followed by Christmas pudding - a sweet pudding containing a lot of dried fruit and often covered with burning brandy. Other traditional foods in Britain include Christmas cake.



Americans bake special biscuits called Christmas cookies which they eat over the Christmas season (the time when people prepare for and celebrate Christmas, from mid-December to the end of the year.)



In Britain, the day after Christmas is called Boxing Day and is also a public holiday. A lot of sports take place on Boxing Day and many people now spend time watching sport on television.

Twelve days after Christmas is the time when people are supposed to take down their decorations and remove their Christmas trees.

