

HALLOWEEN



***Modern Halloween celebration,
which goes back to the
traditions of the ancient Celts
of Ireland and Scotland, whose
history began in what is now
Great Britain and Northern
Ireland.***



***Celebrated October 31, the
eve of All Saints' Day.
Halloween is traditionally
celebrated in
English-speaking countries,
though the official day off is
not.***



Halloween is celebrated informally in some other countries with close cultural ties with the United States or the United Kingdom, for example, in Japan, South Korea, Singapore, Australia and New Zealand, in a number of island countries in Oceania, more recently - in Russia and other countries.



The tradition of dressing up in costumes and go from house to house, begging for sweets, there was still in the Middle Ages and was originally associated with Christmas. In England and Ireland, the poor of old went from house to house begging for so-called "spiritual cakes" All Saints' Day (November 1), promising in return to pray for the souls of the dead relatives of the owners. Although this practice is considered to be the native British, the researchers also found a mention of it in the south of Italy.



In addition to soliciting sweets and wearing a variety of costumes, Halloween celebration is also associated with some specific games and fortune telling. For example, you can find mention of divination by means of peel: Scottish girl cut the peel from apples, trying to make it as long as possible, and threw over his shoulder. It was believed that the fallen skin assumes the appearance of the first letter of the name intended.



Another custom was based on the belief of the famous Bloody Mary, which today has become a popular urban legend. This divination consisted in the fact that young girls were in the dark house up the stairs backwards and hold a candle in front of a mirror. After that, the mirror was ostensibly seem face of her future husband, but she could see in the mirror and skull - it meant that she would die, and not married.



Since the holiday falls on the apple harvest time, most sweets based on apples. Specially prepared for the celebration apple caramel apples in syrup (sometimes with the addition of nuts), toffee apple. First, there was a tradition to hand out candy to children apples, but she quickly came to naught because of the urban legend that said that these candies evil people put pins and needles. Although such cases have been reported several times, they never resulted in serious injury.



The end

