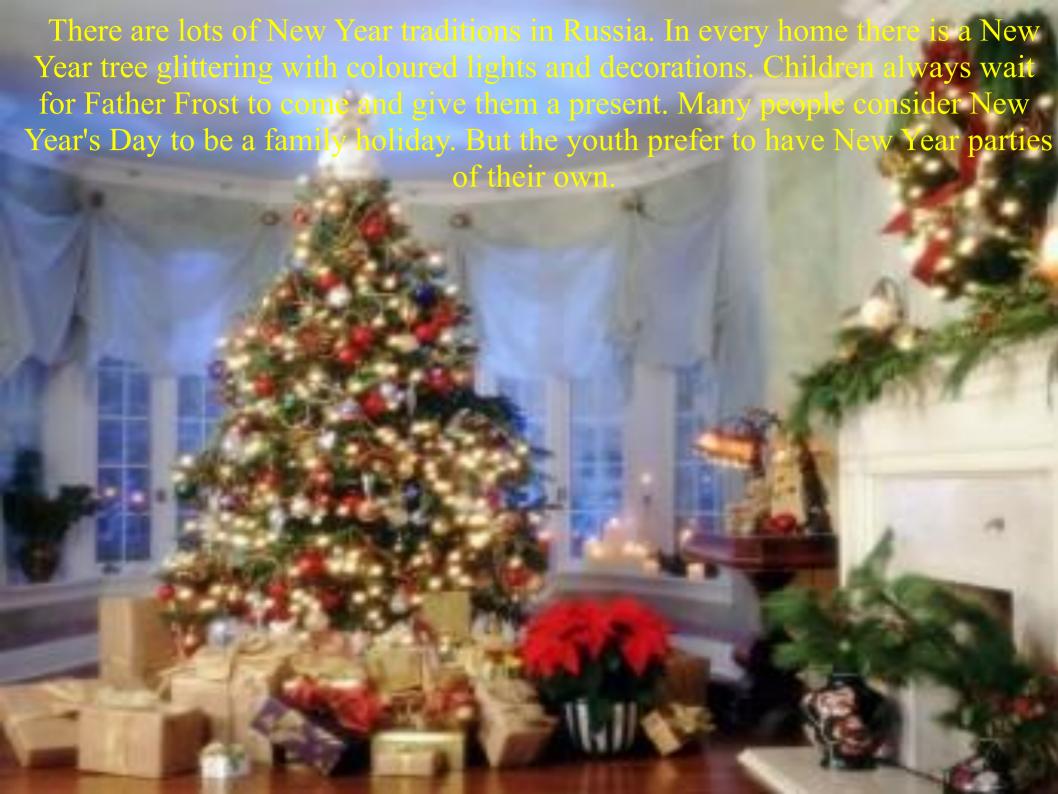


There are many national holidays in Russia, when people all over the country do not work and have special celebrations. The main holidays are: New Year's Day, Christmas, Women's Day, May Day, Victory Day, and Independence Day.









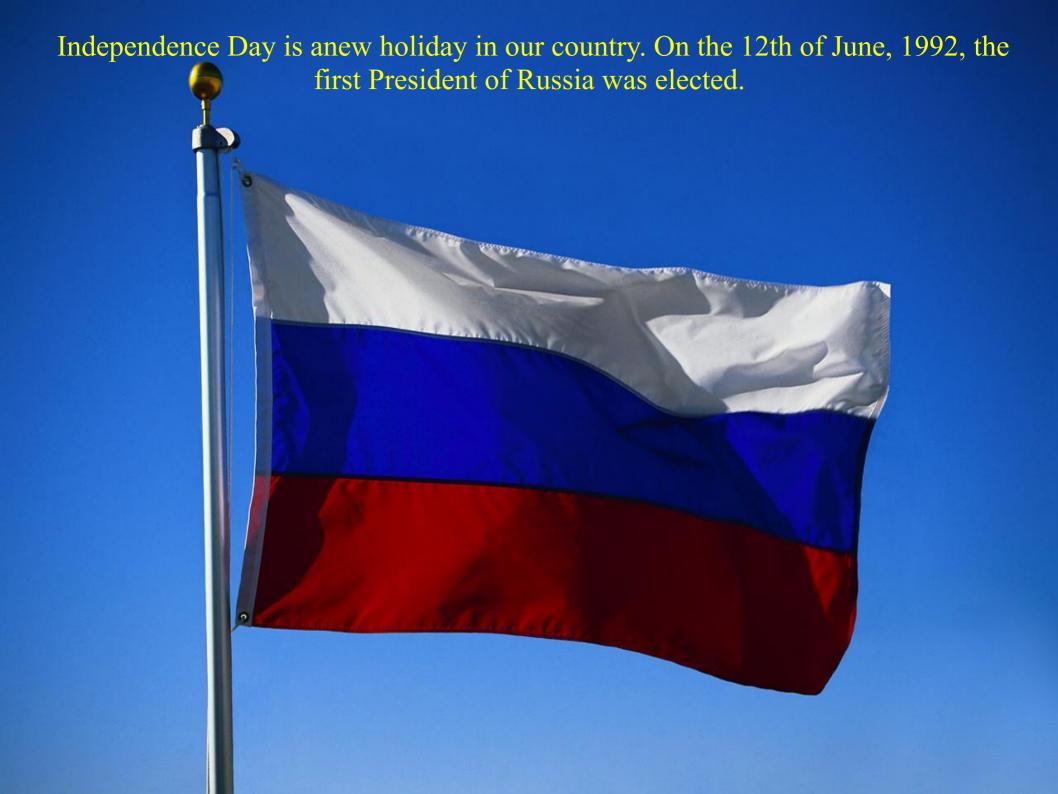


Non-official "Men's Day" is the 23d of February, it is a public holiday called "The Homeland Defenders Day". All men in Russia are liable for call-up (including reservists), so they all are celebrities. On this day women usually give men small gifts.





On the 8th of March we celebrate
Women's Day when men are
supposed to do everything about
the house and cook all the meals.
This is pretty nice — at least once
a year women can take a break and
forget about all those dishes,
cooking, kids, take a magazine and
relax on a coach.





Also, there are others holidays, like The 1st of September is the Day of Knowledge, The 12th of December — the Constitution Day, St. Valentine, Shrovetide, Easter.



