

## **FESTIVALS IN POLAND**

### **JANUARY**

**6.01** Twelfth Night (go to church - have herbs and chalk blessed/attend Three Kings Procession)

**21.01** Grandmother's Day (visit grandmother/give presents/kindergarten-make presentations)

**22.01** Grandfather's Day (visit grandfather/give presents/kindergarten-make presentations)

### **FEBRUARY**

**14.02** St. Valentine's Day (invite partners to eat out/give red roses/chocolates-gifts)

last Thursday before ash Wednesday - Tłusty (=Fatty) Thursday (eat doughnuts)

last Tuesday before Ash Wednesday - Shrove Tuesday (eat herrings/drink vodka/dance till midnight)

### **MARCH/APRIL**

**8.03** Women's Day (give women flowers)

**21.03** The first day of spring (drown, straw effigy)

**1.04** Fool's Day (play tricks, cheat)

THE LAST THURSDAY BEFORE EASTER

Maundy Thursday (very solemn Mass to commemorate Christ's Last Supper)

THE LAST FRIDAY BEFORE EASTER

Good Friday (the Way of the Cross/to fast)

EASTER SATURDAY (go to church with a basket full of food - dyed eggs/sausage or ham/ salt/lamb etc/a priest/to bless)

EASTER SUNDAY

Go to church-procession/ meet for Easter breakfast-share the egg

EASTER (WET) MONDAY

pour water on people

### **MAY**

**1.05** Labour Day (go on picnics, long weekend)

**3.05** Constitution Day (President/deliver a speech/army parade)

**26.05** Mother's Day (presents/flowers/ kids presentations in kindergardens and schools)

### **JUNE**

Corpus Christi feast (processions/ church) celebrated on the Thursday after trinity Sunday

**1.06** Children's Day (presents/ parties/ fun fairs)

**23.06** Father's Day (presents/ kids presentations in kindergardens and schools)

**24.06** Midsummer Night (garlands/ bonfires)

### **AUGUST**

**15.08** The Feast of Assumption (bless flowers and herbs/ go to church)

### **SEPTEMBER**

Harvest Day - celebrated at the beginning of September on Sunday (farmers/bless the crops/have open air parties in the country)

**30.09** Boy's Day (presents/ parties for boys)

### **NOVEMBER**

**1.11** All Saints' Day (go to the churchyard-graveyard-cemetery-burial place/ light candles/bring flowers – chrysanthemums/ gather above the graves of relatives and friends)

**11.11** Independence Day (President/deliver a speech/army parade/eat goose meat and St. Martin's croissants)

**30.11** St. Andrew's Day (pour wax through the key hole/ to tell the fortune=foretell the future/ dance/ play/ have a good time)

### **DECEMBER**

**6.12** St. Claus Day (leave presents "under" pillows at night)

**24.12** Christmas Eve (look for the first star in the sky/share the holy wafer/ eat supper together with the whole family/ 12 dishes: carp, borsh with mushroom ravioli, mushroom soup, cabbage with peas, flaxseed soup, poppy seed cake, and many others/ find presents under the Christmas tree/ sing carols/ go to church for the midnight mass – shepherds' mass)

**25.12** Christmas Day (meet family for dinner/go to church)

**26.12** II Day of Christmas (visit friends and relatives)

**31.12/1.01** New Year's Eve (go to balls/ dance/ drink champagne and alcohol/ look at fireworks displays/ have fun/ wish everybody a Happy New Year at midnight) – New Year