



☆ The 14th Monthly International Culture Event Notice: Let's make Christmas Decorations! ☆

What sort of things do British people decorate their Christmas trees and houses with? I'll be teaching you how to make a few different kinds of decorations, so come along and find out what a traditional British Christmas looks like! *Adults and children welcome.*



♪Date: Saturday, November 9th, 2013
♪Time: 10:00am – 12:00am
(feel free to enter any time until 11:30am)
♪Place: Asobook Community Room
♪Presentation: Eleanor Wyllie (UK)



Entry is free of charge and everyone is welcome! We are looking forward to seeing you there!

★Ireland★

This month I would like to introduce Ireland. Ireland is located in the west of Great Britain. I really like autumn and believe the ideal season to visit Ireland is in fact autumn. Everything is green and the scenery is beautiful. I have traveled to Ireland before and can recommend the counties Galway, Clare, Mayo and Kerry, which are located in the west. These counties are famous for their beautiful landscape.

The two main languages of Ireland are Irish and English. Although Irish has a two thousand year history and is still taught in schools, there is a decline in the number of people who actually speak Irish in their everyday lives. The main Irish-speaking areas are located in the west, especially on the Aran Islands. The Aran Islands are a group of three islands situated near Galway Bay. Due to the naturally isolated nature of the islands, in the 20th century many of their inhabitants only spoke Irish. However, nowadays many of the young people leave for the mainland after finishing high school, and they speak more English than Irish because of the influence of English television.



View of the west coast (County Clare)



The cliffs of Dun Aengus

The biggest of the three islands is called Inishmore and on its cliff tops you can find the ruins of an old fort named Dun Aengus, which is one of the oldest archeological remains in Ireland. You can get to the island by ferry and rent bicycles to tour the island or you can walk through the picturesque landscape to Dun Aengus. The view from the cliffs of Dun Aengus is very impressive and definitely worth a visit.

Much of Ireland's charm originates from its myths and legends. Ireland is overflowing with stories about fairy folk, giants, and Leprechauns. Leprechauns have become a national symbol for Ireland and usually are depicted as small, elderly, bearded men wearing green clothes and green hats. It is said that they store a pot of gold at the end of a rainbow and

if they are captured by a human they have the power to grant 3 wishes in exchange for their release. The National Leprechaun Museum in Ireland's capital Dublin provides a great introduction to the myths of Ireland. The museum tour is a lot of fun for young and old. ^^ (Romy Beer)

☆ Halloween in Niseko ☆



Niseko Halloween Festival at Annupuri International Ski Resort

On the 6th of October there was the Niseko Halloween Festival at Annupuri International Ski Resort. I participated as a volunteer and it was a really interesting experience for me since in Switzerland we do not usually celebrate Halloween. Everyone had great costumes and it was cute to see the kids go trick-or-treating. The other Coordinators for International Relations also took part. Here are their impressions:

(Romy Beer)

Eleanor Wyllie: It was really fun seeing all the great costumes while working at the candyfloss stall. In the UK, children dress up in scary costumes and do trick-or-treating around the neighborhood after it gets dark, so I was surprised that Niseko's event was held during the daytime. I am already looking forward to next year's Halloween event!

Kwon Joohyon: Just like in Japan, Halloween in Korea is an imported custom, and it's popular among young people who are familiar with foreign culture. For some Koreans who are not used to Halloween it is just another "means to promote commerce". So I was surprised at first that Halloween is such a big event in Niseko. However, accepting foreign culture and celebrating it in a "Niseko way" is very characteristic of Niseko.

Luo Yuqing: In Shenzhen everyone usually goes to visit a Haunted House. Theme Parks are open late into the night and the big ones turn the whole park into a Haunted House. In Shenzhen I had a lot of fun visiting Haunted Houses with friends, screaming and being chased by monsters.