

CHRISTMAS IN ORONOZ

We are writing this essay about our traditions because we want to show you gratitude for your fantastic Christmas cards.

INTRODUCTION

We are the students from Oronozko eskola. It is a small school. We are 31 students in three different groups. There are four teachers, their names are: Enara, Modesto, Xabi and Josefa.

We have differences subjects: maths, Basque, PE, English, art ...

In the morning we start the school at half past nine, we have a brake at eleven past ten, we have lunch at half past one. In the afternoon we start the class again at three o'clock and finally we finish the classes at half past four.

LOCATION

We live in The Basque Country, in our language is called Euskal Herria . It has 7 provinces: Araba,Bizkaia,Gipuzkoa,Lapurdi,Nafarroa Behera,Nafarroa Garaia and Zuberoa. We live in Navarre and the capital city is Iruña . There are many wonderful mountains,long rivers,a wide desert and forests full of trees,plants and wild animals .We live in the north of Navarre, Baztan.



BAZTAN

Baztan has 15 small towns: Oronoz, Arraioz, Iurita, Gartzain, Elizondo, Elbete, Erratzu, Ziga, Amaiur, Arizkun, Azpilikueta , Berroeta, Almandoz and Aniz.Elizondo is the biggest town in the valley .Baztan has great forests , montains and rivers. The biggest montain is Saioa, it is very beautiful. One of the most important rivers in the area is Bidasoa.



ORONOZ

We live in Oronoz . Oronoz is a beautiful town. Oronoz is a small town. We are 428 people. In the town we have a police station and firefighters .A part of Bertiz is in Oronoz. There is a shop where you can buy bread ,sweets ,food ,newspapers...On the other hand there are 2 restaurants:Urgain and Pixtu. We usually meet in Urgain. Bidasoa river finishes in Oronoz. Some years ago there were three important Secondary Schools.

LANGUAGE: We have our own language, Basque. It is a special language because it is an old language . It is difficult to learn.

Some words in English and Basque

yes\ bai

no\ez

hello\haixo

bye\agur

good morning\egun on

good afternoon\arratsalde on

good night\ondo lo egin

how are you?\zer moduz?



CHRISTMAS MEALS

24TH OF DECEMBER AND 25TH OF DECEMBER

We celebrate Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Family members meet in a house. We have a big special meal together. We usually eat Fish, meat, tuna or pork pate seafood, nougats, chicken...

31ST OF DECEMBER

Another special meal is the 31st of december. At night the family has a big dinner with the TV on, with the News. At 12:00 am a bell rings twelve times, one per second, then everyone eats twelve grapes, one per second. After that we say Happy new year to everyone. Some people plays boardgames, cards or sing Christmas carols.



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6TH OF JANUARY

And the last special meal is on 6th of January. We normally eat a special cake. Inside of it there is a little fiel bin and if someone finds it, that person will pay the bread roll next year. It's really funny when someone finds the fiel bin.



CHRISTMAS CHARACTERS

OLENTZERO

Olentzero is our Christmas character. He is from the Basque Country. He lives in the mountains with his donkey and he makes coal. It is a man with a giant belly. He has a cane, black beard and he has black eyes. He also has a dirty face. He always wears blue pants and a strong sheepskin sweater on his back.

Olentzero comes the 24th of December at night. He brings presents to people. We always sing Christmas carols that day.

24th of December

It is a special day for children. Every year in the morning we meet at 10:00 more or less. We split in two groups to go from house to house selling tickets for a raffle. In the afternoon Olentzero comes with the help of Mari domingi (another Christmas character) and we go around the village with them. Later we go to the square or to the fronton and Olentzero gives presents to each child. At night we go to our houses to do have a special meal with our families. After the meal Olentzero brings more presents and 25th of December we open the gifts.



Here you have a song related to Olentzero.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rjRXb_cds0w

THE THREE WISE MEN

Melchor, Gaspar and Baltasar are The Three Wise Men.



They always wear extremely expensive clothes like a dress, a big cap, gloves, a crown, gold jewellery, beautiful shoes...



They come the 5 of January at night. Some children leave them food next to the Christmas tree so they can eat it when they come home. They come from the East .



We go to Elizondo to see the parade with our friends and family. In the parade there are people with torches. On the other hand, the Three Wise Men throw candies from the horse. Apart from this, the weather usually is not really good because, January is wintertime here.



Here you have a link with a song in our language. We hope you like it.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=olVfMOEAxZA>

THE END

BY UMA, ANE, UXUE, NAROA, AIMAR, XABAT, ALEX, MADDI, OLAIA,
KIARA AND SAIOA.