

The Thanksgiving Day

Thanksgiving Day is an important American holiday celebrated on the fourth Thursday in November. Schools and most companies are closed for four days – Thursday (Thanksgiving), Friday (Black Friday), Saturday, Sunday.

For most Americans, it's a day when the whole family gets together and gives thanks for all they have. Many Americans travel across states to be with their family on this day. It is also the day when air and train traffic is the busiest.

History of Thanksgiving

The story begins in 1620 when approximately one hundred pilgrims leave Great Britain to start a new life in America without religious persecution. They chose a small ship for their journey called the MAYFLOWER. However, the long journey at sea in winter was challenging, and some pilgrims lost their lives. In December of the same year, they reached the northeast of North America. They had nothing to eat and nowhere to live, so they quickly built wooden dwellings. But it was too late to start growing crops in this period. The winter was harsh, and almost half of the new settlers died.

However, they were not alone on the American continent. The original natives, the local Indians, helped the new settlers to survive the winter, and in the spring, the Indians showed them how to plant corn, pumpkins, wheat and other crops on these fields, how to take care of poultry, hunt and live in this nature. The new settlers worked diligently in their fields all summer and reaped a bountiful harvest in the fall. In November 1621, they had their first feast, and as a thank, they donated part of their harvest to the Indians and, together with their families, sat down at one table full of food and thanked God for his gifts bestowed upon them.

This tradition continues to this day; families traditionally eat turkey, sweet potatoes, corn, and pumpkin, ...

In 1863, American President Abraham Lincoln declared this day a national holiday. After Thanksgiving comes Black Friday, which marks the day of significant discounts and shopping and, unofficially, the Christmas season.

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THE THANKSGIVING DAY

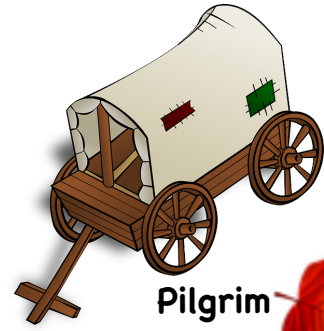
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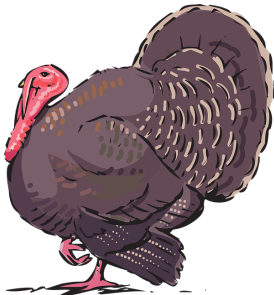
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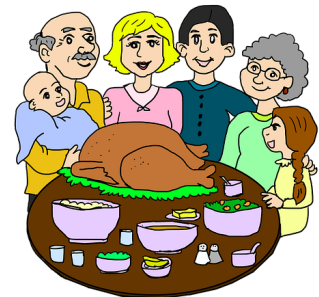
Pilgrim
Poutník



Turkey
Krocan



Harvest
Sklizeň



Feast
Hostina, hody



Corn
Kukuřice



Pumpkin
Dýně



Wheat
Pšenice