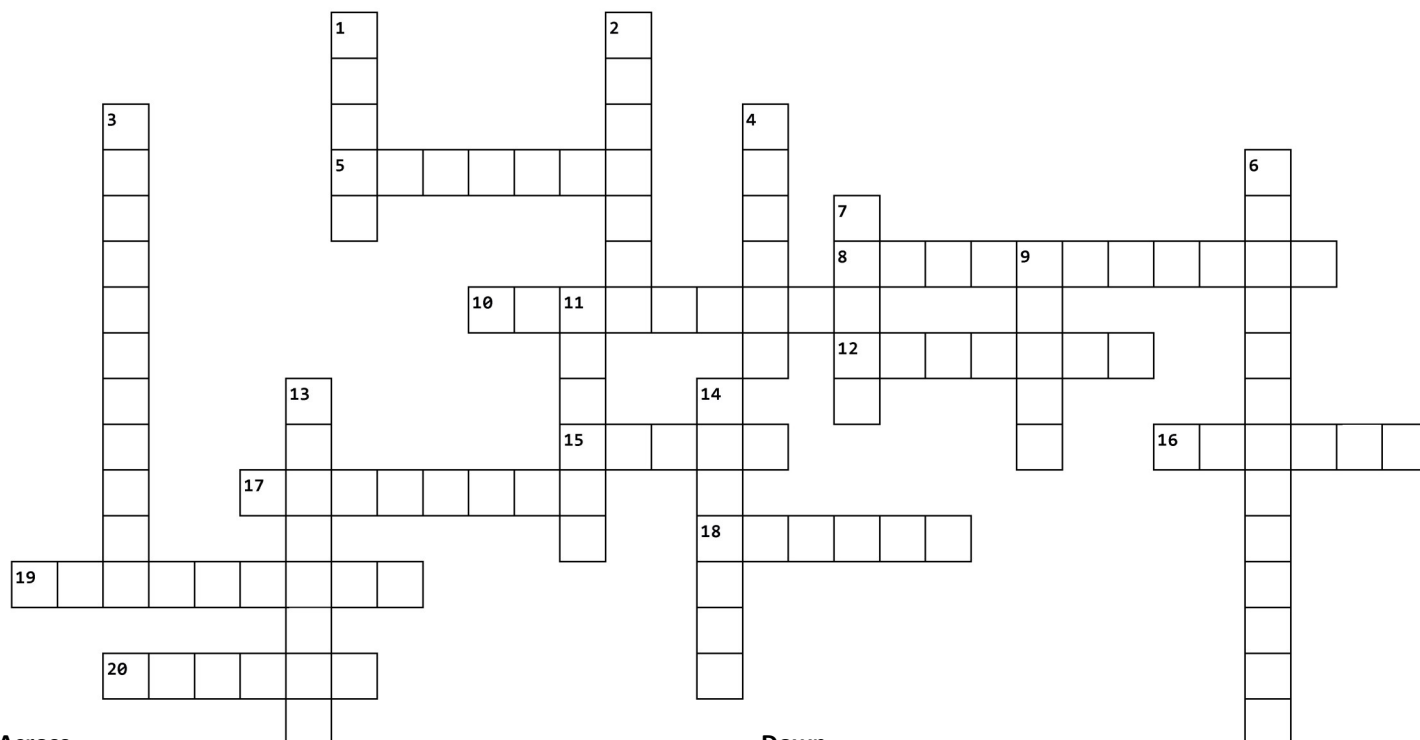


# 2023 Iowa Reprographics Christmas Puzzle

The Fun, Strange and Bizarre Holiday Traditions around the world. Guess which country they come from?



## Across

5. Home of Santa Clause's enforcer (evil counterpart), this country celebrates Krampusnacht on December 5<sup>th</sup> in honor of Krampus.
8. This country has the longest and most lavish Christmas season in the world starting in September and ending in January. Each year the Giant Lantern Festival is held. These Christmas lanterns are called 'parols' and are made of bamboo, paper or other materials and have grown to be as big as 20 feet in size.
10. In the capitol of this country on Christmas morning, people light off firecrackers to wake everyone up, then everyone puts on roller skates and skates to mass.
12. It is said in this country that 13 Yule Lads, with names like Curd-Gobbler and Sausage-Swiper, can be found leaving either presents or rotting potatoes for kids that leave their shoes by the window.
15. Mari Lwyd is a popular tradition in this country where an adorned horse's skull is paraded through town while the men accompanying her sing and dance.
16. Karavaki, the tradition of decorating boats with twinkling lights instead of Christmas trees, is celebrated from December 6<sup>th</sup> till January 6<sup>th</sup>. The decorated boats represent gratitude to the sailors who have devoted their lives to the sea.
17. It's tradition for the man of the house to hurl a spoonful of traditional loksa (made from poppy seeds, honey, milk and bread) at the ceiling. The more that sticks, the better your luck.
18. In this country, there is a town that holds an annual radish carving competition in the days leading up to Christmas.
19. This country celebrates "The Burning of the Devil" where they spend the whole week before Christmas cleaning and piling trash outside, a figure of the devil is placed on top and the whole thing is burnt.
20. Log dragging is one of the most anticipated ancient traditions. An oak log is cut and then dragged through the yards to draw all the bad experiences of the year in. Later, the log is burnt, to symbolize the light's win over the darkness.

## Down

1. A country that spends Christmas with KFC fried chicken buckets, strawberry shortcake, and romantic dinner dates.
2. This country decorates their trees with spider webs, and spider themed ornaments called "pavuchky"
3. The traditional Christmas food in this country is fried caterpillars. The Pine Tree Emperor Moth, or Christmas caterpillar, is covered in very festive hues – giving all who swallow a little extra luck in the coming year.
4. This country is the home of the "Yule Goat" a gigantic goat effigy that is constructed starting at the beginning of advent. Some reach up to 40 feet.
6. Unmarried women throw a shoe over their shoulders towards the front door. If the shoe lands with its toe towards the door, she will get married in the following year. However, if the heel points toward the door, she'll remain single.
7. In this country's autonomous community, it is commonplace to sneak a pooping figure in the nativity scene, and for kids to get presents from the pooping log.
9. 12 days after Christmas, families can be found leaving out a glass of wine and sausages for La Befana, a witch who gives presents to good kids and coal to naughty ones.
11. In this country people believe that Christmas Eve comes with the arrival of evil spirits and witches. Households hide all their brooms before they go to sleep.
13. In this country the vegetarian Christmas Eve supper table is left as is until the next morning to feed the ghosts of ancestors who may appear before Christmas morning.
14. The home of "find the pickle first and you get an extra present", where a pickle is hung from the Christmas tree.

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