

# CHRISTMAS IN AUSTRALIA



**Christmas in Australia is not like Christmas anywhere else.  
It is celebrated on December 25 in mid-summer  
when temperatures can be up to 35 degrees Centigrade .  
Many families are on their annual holiday at the beach  
enjoying the sun, sand and surf and salty sea air!  
Others fight drought in the outback  
and always watch for the smoke of bushfires**



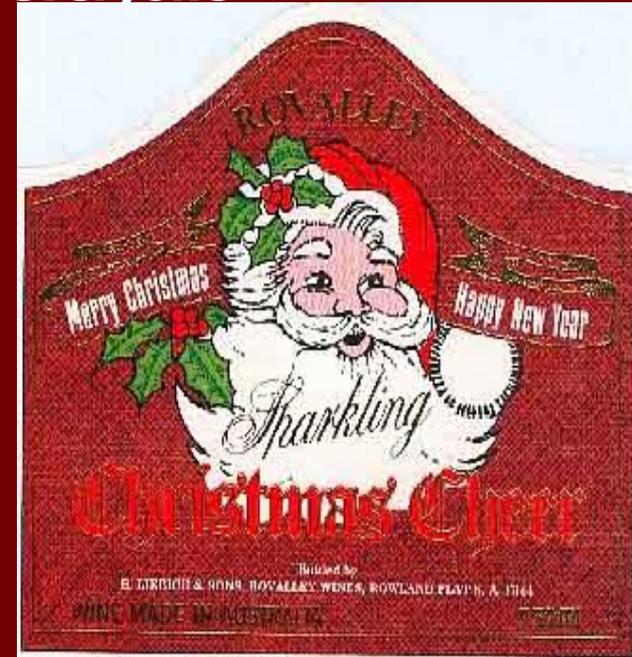
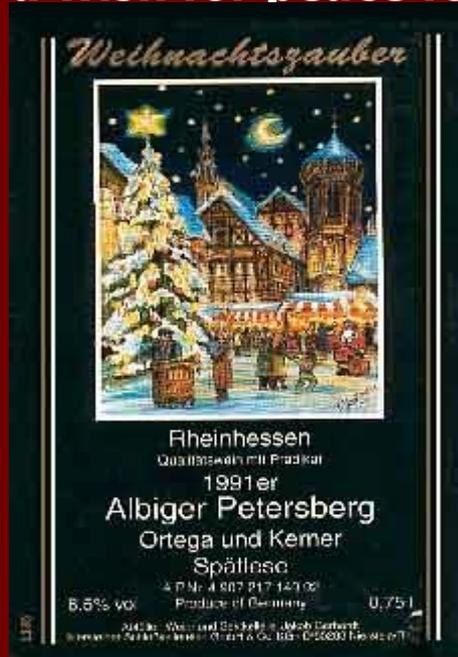
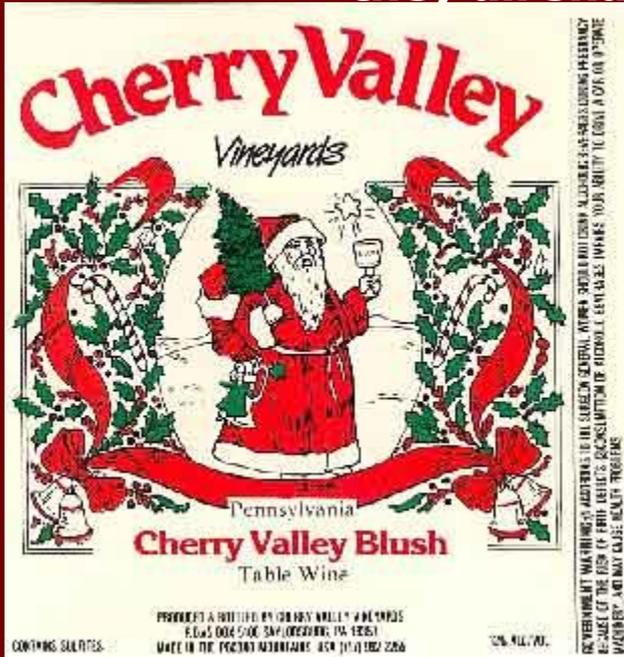


**Because of European heritage,  
Australians cling to many of the old traditions.**

**Santa Claus in his warm, red suit,  
Christmas cards with snowy scenes,  
fake fir trees trimmed with flashing lights,  
the red and green colours of the holly and the ivy,  
and hot roast turkey and boiled Christmas  
pudding**

**with custard and brandy sauce  
at midday on December 25.**

**But, like the rest of the world,  
they all share a wish for peace for everyone**



**Christmas in Australia is often very hot. Whereas the northern hemisphere is in the middle of winter, Australians are baking in summer heat. It is not unusual to have Christmas Day well into the mid 30 degrees Celsius ( near 100 degrees Fahrenheit ).**



A traditional meal includes a turkey dinner, with ham, and pork. A flaming Christmas plum pudding is added for dessert. In the Australian gold rushes, Christmas puddings often contained a gold nugget. Today a small favor is baked inside. Whoever finds this knows she or he will enjoy good luck. Another treat is Mince Pies.



Some Australians and particularly tourists often have their Christmas dinner at midday on a local beach, Bondi Beach in Sydney's Eastern Suburbs attracts thousands of people on Christmas Day. Other families enjoy their day by having a picnic. If they are at home, the day is punctuated by swimming in a pool, playing Cricket out the backyard, and other outdoor activities.

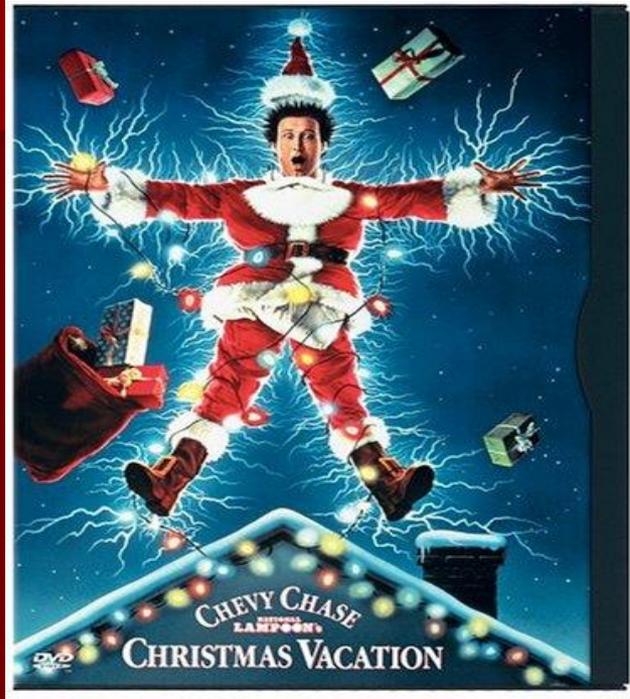


**The warm weather allows Australians to enjoy a tradition which commenced in 1937. Carols by Candlelight is held every year on Christmas Eve, where tens of thousands of people gather in the city of Melbourne to sing their favorite Christmas songs. The evening is lit by candles under a clean-cut night sky. The sky with its Southern Cross stars is like a mirror. Sydney and the other capital cities also enjoy Carols in the weeks leading up to Christmas.**





# Santa Claus in Australia



# NEW YEAR IN AUSTRALIA





STANEFF AND MCTRZASKK

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