



CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS AROUND THE WORLD



**CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS
IN TEN DIFFERENT
COUNTRIES**

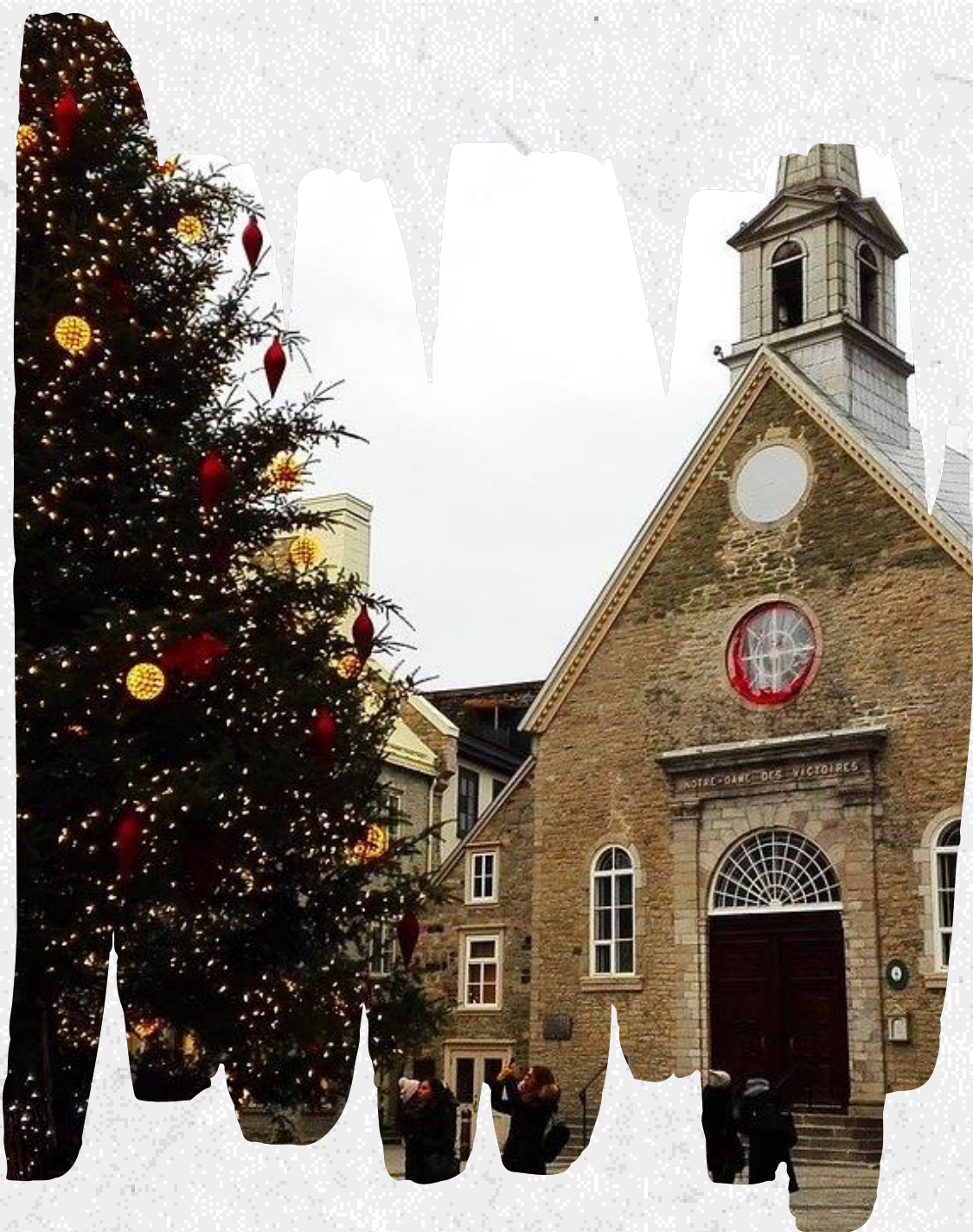


1. BRAZIL

Papai Noel or Father Noel is the gift-bringer in Brazil.

According to legend, he lives in Greenland. When he arrives in Brazil, he usually wears silk clothing due to the summer heat.

A Brazilian Christmas dinner might include turkey, ham, coloured rice, and wonderful vegetable and fruit dishes



2.CANADA

Canada is a HUGE country and has several different traditions, depending on where you live! Here are just a couple...

In Nova Scotia, a country settled by Scottish highlanders, songs and carols brought from Britain two centuries ago are sung each Christmas morning.

In an area called Labrador, turnips are saved from the summer harvest and are given to children, with a lighted candle pushed into a hollowed out hole.



3.CHINA

The Christian children of China decorate trees with colorful ornaments. These ornaments are made from paper in the shapes of flowers, chains and lanterns. They also hang muslin stockings.

The Chinese Christmas trees are called 'Trees of Light'. Santa Claus is called Dun Che Lao Ren ('Christmas Old Man.').



4.CZECH REPUBLIC

Father Christmas is called Svaty Mikalas. It is thought that he climbs down from heaven on a golden rope accompanied by an angel and a devil!

Celebrations begin with his visit on 6th December and ends with the visit of the Three Kings on 6th January.



5.FINLAND

Everybody's house is given a very good clean in readiness for Christmas.

The Christmas tree is set up on Christmas Eve. Apples and other fruits, candies, paper flags, cotton and tinsel are used as decorations and candles are used for lighting it.



6.FRANCE

Father Christmas is called Père Noël. He 'travels' with his companion Pre Fouettard who reminds Père Noël how each child has behaved this year!

On Christmas Eve, children leave their shoes by the fireplace to be filled by Père Noël. In the morning they may also find that sweets, fruits, nuts and toys have also been hung on their Christmas tree.



7.INDIA

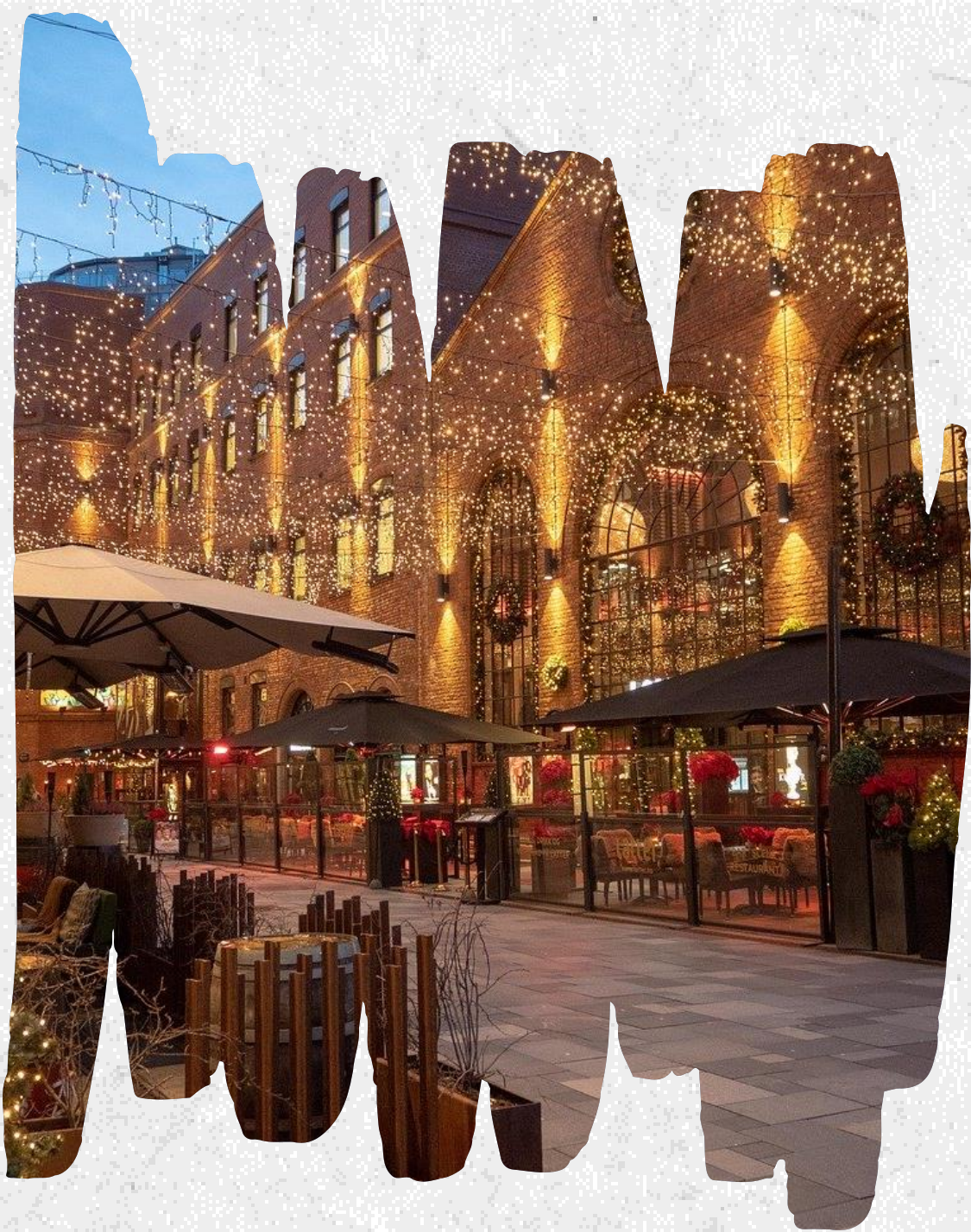
Christians in India decorate banana or mango trees. They also light small oil-burning lamps as Christmas decorations and fill their churches with red flowers. They give presents to family members and charity to poorer people.

In South India, Christians put small clay lamps on the rooftops and walls of their houses at Christmas, just as the Hindus do during their festival called Diwali.



8.ITALY

On January 6th, Italian children receive gifts from a friendly witch called 'Le Befana'. She flies around on her broom giving presents to the good children and coal to the naughty ones!



9. NORWAY

Some Norwegian children (particularly those that live in the countryside) remember a little gnome called Nisse at Christmastime.

He guards all the farm animals, and he plays tricks on the children if they forget to place a bowl of special porridge for him.



10.SOUTH AFRICA

Christmas in South Africa is a summer holiday!
Do you know why?

Homes are decorated with pine branches and a Christmas tree. At bedtime on Christmas Eve, children may also hang up their stockings.

Most people spend their Christmas Day outside or on the beach. Carol singers make their rounds on Christmas Eve and Church services are held on Christmas morning.

Many South Africans have their Christmas Turkey dinner in the open-air or have a barbecue.



THANK YOU

Visit: www.whatistheurl.com