



Christmas History Trivia

1. In what country did the tradition of decorating Christmas trees begin?
2. In what year did Christmas become a federal holiday in the United States?
3. During the 1914 Christmas Truce of World War I, which troops stopped fighting to celebrate together?
4. Where does the word "Yule" come from?
5. According to legend, why were candy canes first handed out?
6. Who wrote "A Christmas Carol," and when was it published?
7. In what year is the first recorded Christmas celebration on December 25?
8. Which government banned Christmas in England in 1647?
9. Which king's return in 1660 brought Christmas back to England?
10. Which American colony fined people for celebrating Christmas from 1659 to 1681?
11. What ancient Roman festival in December influenced some Christmas traditions?
12. Which royal couple helped make Christmas trees popular in Britain and America?
13. Which president had the first documented indoor Christmas tree at the White House?
14. Which president's son sneaked a Christmas tree into the White House?
15. Who sent the first commercial Christmas cards?
16. What was the original title of the poem known as "The Night Before Christmas"?
17. Who displayed the first electrically lit Christmas tree?
18. In what year did the official Rockefeller Center tree-lighting ceremony begin?
19. What was the title of the person chosen to lead Christmas revels in medieval and Tudor England?
20. Which cartoonist shaped the modern image of Santa Claus in Harper's Weekly?





Christmas History Trivia: Answers

1. Germany
2. 1870
3. British and German troops
4. The Old English word for a Germanic midwinter festival
5. To keep children quiet during long church services
6. Charles Dickens, in 1843
7. 336 AD
8. The Puritan-led English Parliament
9. King Charles II
10. The Massachusetts Bay Colony
11. Saturnalia
12. Queen Victoria and Prince Albert
13. Benjamin Harrison
14. Theodore Roosevelt (his son Archie)
15. Sir Henry Cole
16. "A Visit from St. Nicholas"
17. Edward H. Johnson
18. 1933
19. The Lord of Misrule
20. Thomas Nast

