

April 23rd

GREECE

The Feast of Agios Georgios (St George)



The feast is celebrating the knight who killed the Dragon. Saint George is the patron of the shepherds and celebrations are organised thorough the country.

The slayer of dragons, Saint George (Ayios Georgios) is also the patron saint of shepherds. His day is observed with great ceremony, especially in rural areas. Some local peculiarities include horse racing in the towns of Kaliopi on Limnos and Pili on Kos. On Crete a three-day-long feast takes place in Arahova. In Assi Gonia, near Hania, a sheep-shearing contest follows the religious festivities. Other good places on this day include Arahova, near Delphi, and the island of Skyros, of which George is patron saint.

LITHUANIA

ST. GEORGE'S DAY



St.George's Day in Druskininkai

Since the ancient times in Lithuania this day was celebrated as an animal guardian Ganiklis and greenery god Joris worship festival. "Joreti" means to grow, spread, and green. After Lithuania had accepted Christianity, this holiday was identified with St. George's day.

In Lithuanian art St. George is depicted as a warrior with spear on horseback, followed by the hooves of evil dragon roll. St. George is the carrier of Christianity, defender, guardian of pet animals. George's name comes from the Jewish language and means "farmer." His feast is celebrated in spring when agriculture is revived.

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During St. George's day the cattle is put out to pasture and blessed by using various herbs. Eggs are kept on a plate, the candle or fire is started. This day is regarded as people and nature's communication, greeting the sun, conversation with St. George, shepherds' joy and birds' choirs.

SPAIN

Day of the Book (Saint Georg)