

Viral Latin American & Caribbean Celebrations: From New Year's Luck to Carnival

Holidays · Answer Key · 15 Questions

1. In several Latin American countries, wearing specific colored underwear on New Year's Eve is believed to influence the year ahead. Which color is traditionally associated with attracting love?

- A) Yellow
- B) Green
- C) Red**
- D) Blue

2. The 'Año Viejo' tradition, where effigies are burned to symbolize the end of the old year, is practiced in multiple Latin American countries. Which of these is NOT commonly cited as a country where this tradition occurs?

- A) Ecuador
- B) Panama
- C) Colombia
- D) Jamaica**

3. During New Year's Eve, what common tradition in Panama involves eating one grape for each month of the year, with each grape representing a wish?

- A) The Twelve Grapes**
- B) The Golden Suitcase
- C) The Colorful Candle Ritual
- D) The Water Toss

4. Carnival is a major celebration across South America and the Caribbean. Which of these cities is NOT highlighted as a prominent host of major Carnival festivities in 2026?

- A) Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- B) Barranquilla, Colombia
- C) Oruro, Bolivia
- D) Santiago, Chile**

5. In Brazil, a popular New Year's Eve tradition involves going to the beach and jumping over waves. How many waves are typically jumped over, with each jump often representing a wish?

- A) Five
- B) Seven**
- C) Ten
- D) Twelve

6. The 'Suitcase Run' is a New Year's tradition observed in several Latin American countries. What is the primary intention behind this ritual?

- A) To cleanse the home of bad spirits
- B) To attract good luck in love
- C) To bring travel and adventures in the new year**
- D) To signify financial prosperity

7. The 'Battle of Puebla' (Cinco de Mayo) is celebrated in Mexico. While it commemorates a historical victory, in the U.S. it has evolved into a broader celebration of which culture?

- A) Spanish
- B) Mexican**
- C) Indigenous American
- D) Portuguese

8. Which of the following is a major music festival scheduled for March 2026 in Panama, blending electronic beats with cultural exchange?

- A) Envision Festival
- B) Bonanza Festival
- C) Tribal Gathering**
- D) Festival de la Leyenda Vallenata

9. The FIFA World Cup in 2026 will be co-hosted by multiple countries. Which Latin American country is hosting games in three of its cities?

- A) Argentina
- B) Brazil
- C) Mexico**
- D) Colombia

10. In certain Latin American countries, throwing a bucket of water out of a window on New Year's Eve is a symbolic act. What does this tradition aim to achieve?

- A) To celebrate the arrival of rain
- B) To cleanse the space of negative energy**
- C) To cool down during warm celebrations
- D) To signal the start of water fights

11. Inti Raymi, the Festival of the Sun, is an ancient Incan ceremony reenacted annually. In which Peruvian city does this prominent festival take place?

- A) Lima
- B) Arequipa
- C) Cusco**
- D) Iquitos

12. During Carnival in the Caribbean, particularly in Trinidad and Tobago in 2026, what is a significant trend for costumes, reflecting the hot tropical weather?

- A) Heavy, layered historical attire
- B) Lightweight, vibrant, feathered, and beaded outfits ('pretty mas')**
- C) Full body suits with advanced cooling technology
- D) Traditional indigenous clothing

13. In many Latin American countries, lentils are consumed on New Year's Eve. What do lentils symbolize in this tradition?

- A) Love and romance
- B) Good health and vitality
- C) Prosperity and good fortune**
- D) Peace and tranquility

14. The 'Día de los Muertos' (Day of the Dead) is a significant cultural event. Which of these countries is NOT typically highlighted for its prominent celebration of Día de los Muertos, though it may have smaller observances?

- A) Mexico
- B) Guatemala
- C) Brazil**
- D) Ecuador

15. The 'Año Viejo' dolls, often effigies of public figures or characters, are burned on New Year's Eve. This tradition is cathartic and symbolizes what for the coming year?

- A) The continuation of old traditions
- B) A wish for global unity
- C) The consumption of the past year's regrets and renewal**
- D) The celebration of new artistic movements