



THE NIGHT OF THE LITTLE CANDLES

THE NIGHT OF THE LITTLE CANDLES OR DÍA DE LAS VELITAS IS A TRADITIONAL COLOMBIAN HOLIDAY CELEBRATED ON THE EVE OF DECEMBER 7TH.

WHAT IS IT ABOUT?

On this day, Colombian people remember and celebrate the announcement of Virgin Mary's dogma. This is a celebration that has passed on from generation to generation. Therefore, adults and elders have shared their knowledge about this day in order to preserve the tradition.



HOW IS IT CELEBRATED ?

People light little colorful candles and lanterns with their families during the night of December 7th. At the same time, kids play on the streets and families dance, sing and share this festive time in their community.



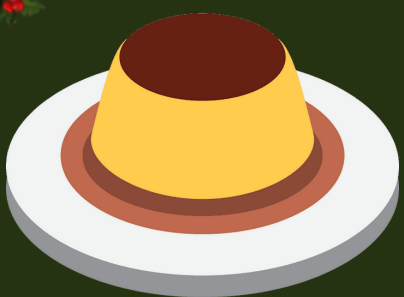
WHAT DECORATIONS ARE USED?

Christmas trees, lights, mangers and every kind of holiday decorations are set and turned on during the night of this day. This event represents the beginning of the holiday season in the whole country.



WHAT DO THEY EAT?

Traditional holidays food is prepared by adults and elders during this day. Natilla (a Colombian Flan), buñuelos (flour and cheese balls), tamales, colombian rice with chicken, and candies, are served on the night of the little candles dinner.



WHAT IS BEHIND THE CANDLES?

Each candle represents a wish for the well being of people's families or loved ones. It also represents gratitude and thankfulness for all the positive aspects on people's lives. It also represents a new beginning and the search for a new perspective on life through this season.