

# Things Japanese In January: Learn Japanese, Learn English

January is a special time in Japan, as it marks the beginning of the new year and is celebrated with a variety of traditional festivals and customs. This is a great time to learn about Japanese culture and language, and in this article, we will explore some of the most interesting things that happen in Japan in January.



## Things Japanese in January: Learn Japanese & Learn English by Kimiko Kitani

4.8 out of 5

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## 1. New Year's Day

New Year's Day is the most important holiday in Japan, and it is celebrated with a variety of traditions and customs. On this day, people visit shrines and temples to pray for good fortune in the coming year. They also eat special foods such as *osechi* (a traditional New Year's feast) and *mochi* (rice cakes).



Photo by Japan Guide

## 2. Hatsumode

*Hatsumode* is the first shrine visit of the new year, and it is a popular tradition in Japan. People visit shrines to pray for good fortune and to make wishes for the coming year. It is also a time to reflect on the past year and to set goals for the future.



Photo by Japan Guide

### 3. Shogatsu

*Shogatsu* is the traditional Japanese New Year celebration, and it lasts for three days. During this time, people spend time with their families, eat special foods, and play traditional games. It is also a time to relax and to enjoy the winter scenery.



Photo by Japan Guide

#### **4. Winter Festivals**

January is a great time to visit Japan's many winter festivals. These festivals feature a variety of activities, such as ice skating, snow sculptures, and fireworks displays. They are a great way to experience Japanese culture and to have some fun in the snow.



Photo by Japan Guide

## 5. Plum Blossoms

January is also the time when plum blossoms start to bloom in Japan. These beautiful flowers are a symbol of spring and new beginnings. They are often used in traditional Japanese art and literature.



Photo by Japan Guide

## **Learn Japanese and English**

Learning about Japanese culture is a great way to improve your Japanese language skills. By understanding the traditions and customs of Japan, you will be able to communicate more effectively with native speakers. You can also learn about Japanese culture through English-language resources, such as books, articles, and websites.

Learning English is also a great way to improve your Japanese language skills. By learning English, you will be able to access a wider range of resources and information about Japan. You will also be able to communicate with people from all over the world.

January is a special time in Japan, and it is a great time to learn about Japanese culture and language. By exploring the traditions and customs of Japan, you will be able to gain a deeper understanding of this fascinating country.



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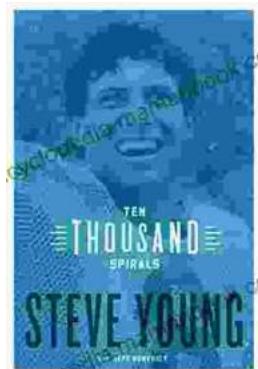
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