

Thanksgiving Traditions in the USA

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L7r16tS2xEo>

Christina is Canadian. She studied French. She thought she knew French very well. Then she went to France and had trouble understanding French the way it is really spoken. Because what they teach you in school is not how people really talk. So she went into business teaching the French how people really speak English. She has a lot of cute, funny videos on youtube.

Christina: Romain, let's do Thanksgiving this year!

Romain: OK. If there's food, it's a good idea to me!

Christina: So get a list, get a piece of paper, we'll make a list. Calm down.

Romain: Thanksgiving is a good thing.

Christina: Let's see, we'll need turkey & dressing of course, turkey, dressing (dressing - small cubes of bread, toasted, with some flavors like onion and sage, when you add water it is soft; heat in the oven)

Romain: Yes. Cranberry sauce.
(cranberry - [salsa de arándanos](#) NO! cranberries are red, a little sweet, a little tart, arandanos are blueberries)

Christina: Cranberry sauce.

Romain: corn
(do you know choclo Americana?; it's sweet)

Christina: corn, corn ya.

Romain: I think turnip greens.
(turnip greens - hojas de nabo)

Christina: Turnip greens, yes. Green bean casserole. What else? Cornbread.
(green bean casserole - cazuela de judías verdes)
(cornbread - pan de maíz (crumbly and sweet))

Romain: Yes, yes!

Christina: Ham

Romain: potatoes

Christina: Sweet potatoes, yup. Pumpkin pie, apple pie.
(sweet potatoes - camote)
(pumpkin pie - pastel de calabaza (why not pie de calabaza?))

That's a lot of food!

I'm Christina and you're watching Speak Better, Feel Great TV.

The place to boost your English and boost your career.

In this video, you'll learn about Thanksgiving, so you can talk about it with your American colleagues. You ready?

First of all, when is Thanksgiving?

Not October 31st—that's Halloween!

Thanksgiving is always the 4th Thursday in November.

This year, 2015, it's this Thursday on November 26th.

Now, what is Thanksgiving?

In a nutshell, it's a big meal.
(in a nutshell - a good, quick, short, simple explanation)

It's a giant meal, in fact.

It's the opportunity for extended family to come together and see each other.

Extended family is grandparents, cousins, aunts, uncles, etc.

People travel across the country to be with their families on Thanksgiving!

And It's a peak travel period. A peak travel period.

It's called Thanksgiving because it's a day to give thanks.

To give thanks. We can remember all the good things we have and be grateful for them. To be grateful for something.

What do we do on Thanksgiving? We eat!!

Turkey, dressing, cranberry sauce, and green bean casserole are the absolute classics.

We even nickname Thanksgiving Turkey Day!

And I'll put some recipes for Thanksgiving dressing and green bean casserole in the notes below the video.

For the turkey, it's just roasted in the oven. Roasted in the oven.
(roasted in the oven - cooked in the horno with the gas flames on the bottom. A typical American stove also has a broiling function, where the gas flames are above what's cooking.)

Peru	America
parilla	grill
grill	broil
	rotisserie

And the cranberry sauce often comes from a jar or a can.

Then each family has their own favorite dishes.

There are lots of side dishes. Side dishes.

Like corn, sweet potatoes, mashed potatoes, etc.

There are also lots of other events that we associate with Thanksgiving.

Football is one of them. That's American football, not soccer.

High schools, universities, and of course national football teams all go head to head on Thanksgiving.

Go head to head means to compete, to play a match.

And here's a fact will definitely impress your American colleagues:

Supposedly, the first American football game in Europe was on Thanksgiving Day, 1897.

American students at the Ecole des Beaux Arts de Paris and the Académie Julien got together to go head to head for a Thanksgiving football game.

There's also the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York and that's a huge event. Lots of people watch it on television. (Macy's - a big US department store chain (like Saks Fifth Avenue or Ripley); started in New York City. The parade is advertising for Macy's.)

I used to love watching it every year when I lived in the US.

Thankfully, I can still watch it on YouTube!

Now, I'd love to hear from you, and in English if you can.

Have you ever had any typical Thanksgiving dishes?

Or what other questions do you have about Thanksgiving?

Romain: I have a question!

Christina: We're out of time! But put your question in the comments. Where are you going ?

Romain: Write my question in your comments.

Christina: The comments section is the best place to practice your English and ask me questions. If you liked this video, help me boost the English level of French people everywhere!

Share this video with your colleagues on LinkedIn, Twitter, Facebook, or send the link by email!

And if you want to boost your English and boost your career every week with me, go to christinarebuffet.com and subscribe to receive email updates.

You'll get a short English lesson, vocabulary, and exclusive bonuses that I only share with my Speak Better, Feel Great Ambassadors.

It's Thanksgiving so thank you so much for watching Speak Better, Feel Great TV. I'm so grateful for you. For being here, for your enthusiasm, thank you so much.

I'm Christina and I'll see you next time.

If we have time we'll look at Thanksgiving 2020 with the article:

Governor Newsom Lays Out Thanksgiving Rules. And They Are Crazy.

<https://www.chicksonright.com/blog/2020/10/25/governor-newsom-lays-out-thanksgiving-rules-they-are-crazy/>