



New Year's Eve

Numerous
traditions....
...and superstitions!



Families and friends get together for a huge feast. The star of the dinner is lentils, symbolizing money and good fortune for the coming year.

Traditionally, the dinner in many parts of Italy also includes a *Cotechino*, a large spiced sausage, or a *Zampone*, stuffed pig's trotter. The pork symbolizes the richness of life in the coming year.



The New Year is celebrated with *spumante* or *prosecco* an Italian sparkling wine. New Years parties, whether public or private, will often last until sunrise in order to watch the first sunrise of the newborn year.





Dancing is also popular and many towns have public music and dancing before the fireworks. Rome, Milan, Bologna, Palermo and Naples put on huge popular outdoor shows with pop and rock bands. These events can sometimes be seen on television, too.

Don't forget to wear red underwear to ring in the new year! They say it'll bring you luck in the coming year.





Fireworks and lots of noise also “scare” the bad spirits away. So, of course, there are lots of fireworks on New Year’s Eve!



Practically every city, and many towns, put on a dazzling display. Families and groups of friends will often host their own, or simply throw firecrackers.

Fortune... bring me money!

Eat grapes
and nuts



Do not ever deny a
loan to New Year, it
will bring you twice!



In the new year do not go
out without money in
your pocket otherwise
you will be poor

Lucky and protected!

Hang the mistletoe out the door the night of 31 to ward off evil spirits



Open the window in a dark room a few minutes before midnight, and another in a brightly lit room, this practice should accommodate benign spirits

Break glasses or dishes to ward off evil or misfortune that has accumulated during the year



Thank for
watching!

Have a good year!



2008
Astray