



WELCOME TO RUSSIAN CLUB!

Get your ingredients ready if you are cooking
or just hang out. We'll be starting slowly :)

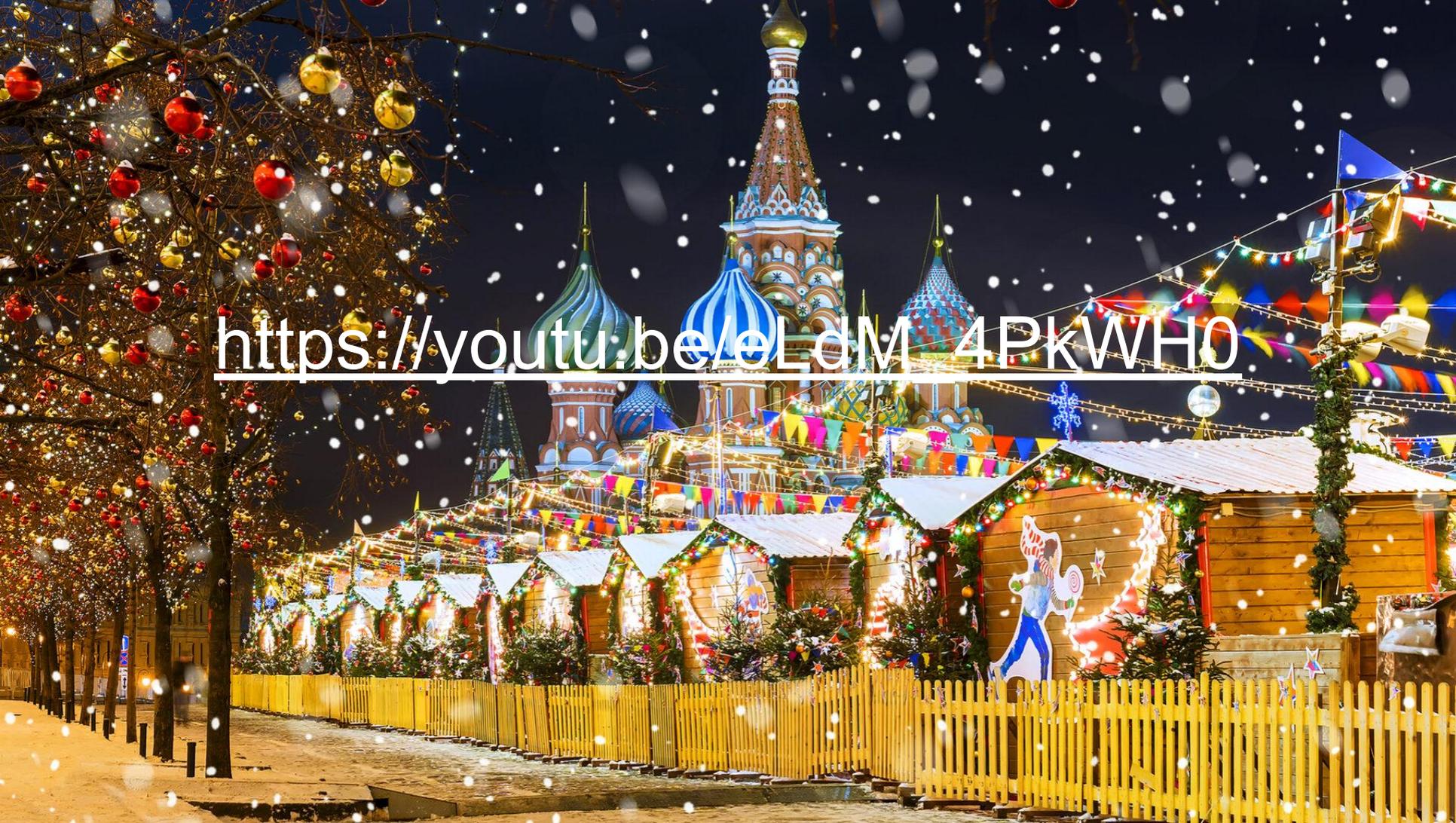
<https://youtu.be/52GsqHvrPBg>

BACKGROUND

- Celebrate Christmas on January 7th
- The date is different because the Russian Orthodox Church uses the old 'Julian' calendar for religious celebration days.
- In the days of the Soviet Union, Christmas was not celebrated very much. New Year was made into the important time. Following the revolution in 1917, Christmas was banned as a religious holiday in 1929 and Christmas Trees were banned until 1935 when they turned into 'New Year' Trees! If people did want to celebrate Christmas, they had to do it in secret just in their families.
- After the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, people were free to celebrate Christmas again. But it's still a quieter and smaller holiday in Russia after the big New Year celebrations.

- Grandfather Frost' (known in Russian as 'Ded Moroz' or Дед Мороз) brings presents to children. He is always accompanied by his Granddaughter (Snegurochka).
- Russians decorate their homes with a Christmas tree and often put pine leaves on their front doors, and in the house. The Russian Christmas tree is usually taken down at the end of January after the feast day of the Baptism of Christ.
- The official Christmas and New holidays in Russia last from December 31st to January 10th.

- In Russian Happy/Merry Christmas is 's rah-zh-dee-st-VOHM' (C рождеством!)
- The Russian word for Christmas Eve 'sochelnik'.
- Some people fast on Christmas Eve, until the first star has appeared in the sky.
- popular Christmas Eve foods include, beetroot soup (borsch) or vegan potluck (solyanka) served with individual vegetable pies (often made with cabbage, potato, or mushroom); sauerkraut, porridge dishes such as buckwheat with fried onions and fried mushrooms, salads often made from vegetables like gherkins, mushrooms or tomatoes, and also potato or other root vegetable salads. The meal often consists of 12 dishes, representing the 12 disciples of Jesus.



https://youtu.be/eLdM_4PkWH0

<https://youtu.be/Js1ztb9T3j0>

<https://www.food.com/recipe/russian-tea-cakes-57011>

