Chinese New Year



The Chinese New Year is a celebration of the beginning of the traditional Chinese lunisolar calendar. The actual date of the Chinese New Year falls on the date of the second full moon following the winter solstice (December 21st), so each year it is a different date between January 21st and February 20th.

Dating back over 3,000 years, the Chinese lunar calendar also incorporates the Chinese zodiac - the twelve equal positions of the sun through the universe. Each new year is marked by one of the 12 zodiac animals represented in the Chinese zodiac calendar: rat, ox, tiger, rabbit, dragon, snake, horse, sheep, monkey, rooster, dog and pig.

In 2021 - the "Year of the Ox" - Chinese New Year's Day falls on February 12th. In 2022 - the "Year of the Tiger" - Chinese New Year's Day falls on February 1st. Also known as the Lunar New Year or Spring Festival, the Chinese New Year is China's most important holiday, observed over the course of 16 days. The first seven days of the Chinese New Year is an official week-long public holiday in China, and is observed with family dinners, fireworks, special meals and gifts. Most businesses and government offices close early on Chinese New Year's Eve and are closed on Chinese New Year's Day.

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