

# Chinese Spring Festival

Kung Hei Fat Choy

快樂

Happy Chinese New Year

That's 'Happy New Year' in Cantonese. The dominant language is actually Mandarin, which would be 新年快乐 (xīnnián kuàilè)





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Chinese New Year is also known as the Spring Festival. It is the biggest and most important festival in China and is celebrated in Chinese communities all over the world.





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One in every six people in the world celebrate the Spring Festival. Customs vary but the main idea is to remember family and wish everyone peace and prosperity in the coming year.





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People celebrate Spring Festival by giving new clothes and presents of money in red envelopes (紅包, or hóngbāo)





















































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The date of is based on the lunar calendar and changes each year.



 2 SÁBADO - 05.31 - Virgo	 1 LUNES - 03.48 - Libra	 1 MARTES - 23.30 - Ophiucus	 7 JUEVES - 11.04 - Píscis	 6 VIERNES - 19.07 - Aries	 5 DOMINGO - 03.26 - Tauro	 4 LUNES - 11.29 - Gemini	 2 MARTES - 21.13 - Cáncer	 1 JUEVES - 09.07 - Leo	 9 DOMINGO - 04.14 - Sagittarius	 7 LUNES - 19.35 - Aquarius	 7 MIÉRCOLES - 09.45 - Apenrtus
 10 DOMINGO - 01.52 - Sagittarius	 8 LUNES - 19.04 - Apenrtus	 9 MIÉRCOLES - 01.56 - Aquarius	 14 JUEVES - 03.42 - Gemini	 13 VIERNES - 16.44 - Leo	 12 DOMINGO - 07.90 - Leo	 12 MARTES - 00.32 - Virgo	 10 MIÉRCOLES - 18.01 - Libra	 9 VIERNES - 11.29 - Ophiucus	 16 DOMINGO - 03.58 - Píscis	 14 LUNES - 18.40 - Tauro	 14 MIÉRCOLES - 00.19 - Tauro
 16 SÁBADO - 23.11 - Píscis	 15 LUNES - 07.30 - Tauro	 15 MARTES - 16.48 - Tauro	 22 VIERNES - 04.50 - Virgo	 21 SÁBADO - 20.58 - Libra	 20 LUNES - 11.16 - Sagittarius	 19 MARTES - 23.28 - Sagittarius	 18 JUEVES - 07.43 - Capricornus	 16 VIERNES - 18.35 - Aquarius	 22 SÁBADO - 19.32 - Cáncer	 21 LUNES - 09.50 - Leo	 21 MIÉRCOLES - 02.16 - Virgo
 24 DOMINGO - 02.16 - Cáncer	 22 LUNES - 18.40 - Leo	 23 MIÉRCOLES - 11.49 - Virgo	 30 SÁBADO - 03.45 - Aquarius	 29 DOMINGO - 12.27 - Aquarius	 27 LUNES - 18.46 - Ophi	 26 MARTES - 23.35 - Ophi	 25 JUEVES - 03.50 - Tauro	 23 VIERNES - 10.12 - Orión	 30 DOMINGO - 17.10 - Libra	 29 MARTES - 12.19 - Ophiucus	 29 JUEVES - 07.22 - Sagittarius
		 31 JUEVES - 15.35 - Sagittarius						 30 VIERNES - 23.44 - Virgo			





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The first day of the New Year falls between 21<sup>st</sup> January and 20<sup>th</sup> February. Celebrations last for 15 days from Chinese New Year's Eve to the Lantern Festival. In 2022 the first day is 1 February.





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There are several legends about how the Spring Festival came about.





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One legend is that Lord Buddha called together all the animals in the animal kingdom to say goodbye before he left Earth. Only twelve came. He rewarded them by naming a year after each one in the order they arrived.





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Another legend tells the story of a swimming race. Many years ago there was a rat, an ox, a tiger, a rabbit, a dragon, a snake, a horse, a goat, a monkey, a rooster, a dog and a pig.





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The animals argued about who was to be first in the cycle of years.  
They asked the Gods to decide.

No I should  
!



I should be  
first.



But I'm the most important!





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The Gods decided that there should be a swimming race. Whoever came first would be first in the cycle, the rest of the animals would be in the order they finished.





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1st  
rat



2nd  
ox



3rd  
tiger



4th  
rabbit



5th  
dragon



6th  
snake



7th  
horse



8th  
goat



9th  
monkey



10th  
rooster



11th  
dog



12th  
pig



This was the final order.





# 新年快樂 新年快樂 新年快樂 新年快樂



1st  
rat



2nd  
ox



3rd  
tiger



4th  
rabbit



5th  
dragon



6th  
snake



7th  
horse



8th  
goat



9th  
monkey



10th  
rooster



11th  
dog



12th  
pig



The calendar has followed a rotating cycle ever since then.



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Click on the animals to see and hear the story.

















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Here is the Chinese zodiac Calendar.



Year						Zodiac Animal
1960	1972	1984	1996	2008	2020	Rat 
1961	1973	1985	1997	2009	2021	Ox 
1962	1974	1986	1998	2010	2022	Tiger 
1963	1975	1987	1999	2011	2023	Rabbit 
1964	1976	1988	2000	2012	2024	Dragon 
1965	1977	1989	2001	2013	2025	Snake 
1966	1978	1990	2002	2014	2026	Horse 
1967	1979	1991	2003	2015	2027	Goat 
1968	1980	1992	2004	2016	2028	Monkey 
1969	1981	1993	2005	2017	2029	Rooster 
1970	1982	1994	2006	2018	2030	Dog 
1971	1983	1995	2007	2019	2031	Pig 

What is your zodiac animal?

















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What year will 2022 be?



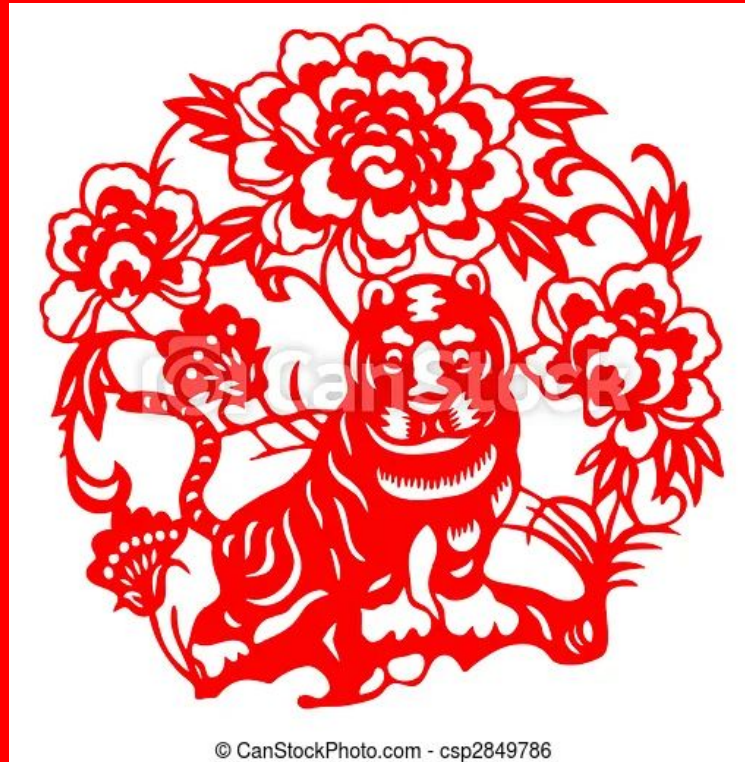
Year						Zodiac Animal
1960	1972	1984	1996	2008	2020	Rat 
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1963	1975	1987	1999	2011	2023	Rabbit 
1964	1976	1988	2000	2012	2024	Dragon 
1965	1977	1989	2001	2013	2025	Snake 
1966	1978	1990	2002	2014	2026	Horse 
1967	1979	1991	2003	2015	2027	Goat 
1968	1980	1992	2004	2016	2028	Monkey 
1969	1981	1993	2005	2017	2029	Rooster 
1970	1982	1994	2006	2018	2030	Dog 
1971	1983	1995	2007	2019	2031	Pig 





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2022 is the Year of the Tiger.



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You could have a go at making a papercut spring decoration at home.

You'll need paper, string and a pair of scissors



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Happy New Year

新年快樂

xīn nián kuài lè

San Nin Fai Lok

www.chinahighlights.com



There will be a special menu in the canteen on 1 February to celebrate!

