

Ukrainian Culture and Education

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Today all Ukrainians have a great holiday! It's the 31st anniversary of independence.



SLAVA UKRAINI!

Glory to Ukraine!

Ukraine Independence Day took place on August 24 and it marked the Ukraine's declaration of independence from the U.S.S.R. in 1991. This day is the most popular holiday of the year.

Ukraine has always had its own culture and language, although it has been dominated for centuries by Russia, Poland, Turkey, and other nations. As a result, the holiday has a special meaning for Ukrainians, as it allows them to express their affection for a country run by and for them. The time has come to recognize and celebrate Ukraine's past heroes and those who battled for their country's independence.

Culture

- Ukraine is a country with a mix of Eastern, Western European traditions and influences. It also shares similar cultures with neighboring countries such as Russia, Poland and Belarus. But mostly we have our own, taken from our great grandparents.
- Since the fall of the Soviet Union there has been an interest in the traditional Ukrainian culture, art, literature, history and music.





ГОПАК



МЕТЕЛИЦЯ



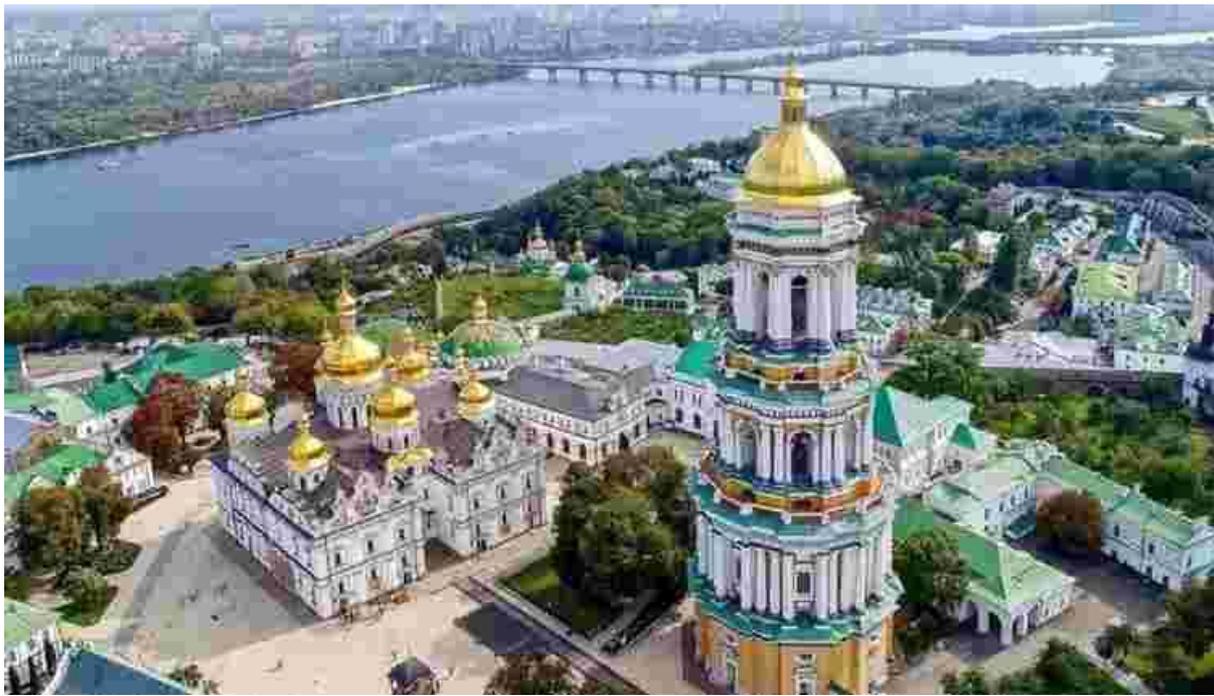
АРКАН



КОЗАЧОК

- Many celebrations include very old dances and songs that have been passed from generation to generation.





- Main **RELIGION** of Ukraine is Christianity.

It is represented by Orthodox Church.

We have many religious traditions : visiting a church, cooking special dishes, receiving guests, wearing national clothes, songs, dances,etc.



- Borscht, well-known beet soup;
- Yushka, fish soup;
- Varenyky;
- Kholodets;
- Pampushky;
- Babka;
- Kalach;
- Korovai;
- Palianytsia

Our cuisine is rich and delicious.

Ukrainians love good food and are skilled at cooking. We cook delicious meals not only to celebrate holidays but on the regular basis.

Ukrainians are family oriented people and value their time together. We are hardworking people, we work a lot, women and men. But when we have some free time we try to spend it with our families, friends and relatives walking in the parks, playing sport, having a picnic, traveling...



Children are our future!



EDUCATION IN UKRAINE

- preschool
- primary
- secondary
- upper secondary
- postgraduate (higher) education

Preschool Education

- Nursery schools
- Kindergartens

Age 1 - 6



There is a number of pre-school opportunities. Some busy parents take their children to the nursery, starting from 1 or 2 years old. There is also a chance to attend private kindergartens before going to school.

SCHOOL YEAR starts on the 1st of September



Grade	Age	School level
1	6/7	primary
2	7/8	
3	8/9	
4	9/10	
5	10/11	secondary, base
6	11/12	
7	12/13	
8	13/14	
9	14/15	secondary, last
10	15/16	
11	16/17	
12	17/18	

Schooling System

Almost 14.000 schools in Ukraine

Usual state school has about 1500 - 2000 pupils and nearly 150 teachers

- School is held five days a week.
- Classes last from 35 to 45 minutes.
- The intervals between the lessons are from 5 to 25 minutes, and there is no additional lunch break.

During the breaks children may stay in the classroom, visit school buffet or walk outdoors, but it's not necessary like here in Finland.

Canteens

At schools children eat healthy food, lunches are well balanced.

It can be paid or free, depending on the school and region.

Also pupils may bring their own lunch boxes from home. Parents may choose.



Since 2018, Ukrainian school education has been extended from 11 to 12 years. It now includes 4 years of elementary education, 5 years of middle school education, and 3 years of upper secondary (specialized) education. The changes will be implemented in the three levels in 2018, 2022 and 2027. However, pupils who started studying under the old system can still leave school after 11 years.

Primary schools *1 - 4 grades*



The curriculum includes reading, writing, mathematics, physical education, foreign language (usually English), nature, art, IT, and music.

Twelve-point rating system

Secondary Grading Scale	
Grade Range	Descriptor
10-12	Excellent
7-9	Good
4-6	Satisfactory
1-3	Unsatisfactory

Lower secondary, base, school is for scholars aged from 10 to 15. The curriculum includes Ukrainian Language and Literature, World Literature, Foreign Language, Algebra, Geometry, Biology, IT, Chemistry, Geography, History of Ukraine, World History, Physics, Music, Art, Crafts and Physical Education.

At the end of the 9th grade pupils pass their **state exam** and have to make the decision whether to continue studying at school or enter the vocational or technical school.

EXAMS

Upper Secondary

All graduates of basic secondary education may continue studying in upper-secondary school. Under the new regulations that will be in 2027, upper-secondary education will be three years (grades 9 to 12) instead of two years (grades 9 to 11). In 2027 Ukrainian education will start with the 12-year systems, found in most of the world.

Students have to take state exams at the end of Grade 11 or being still students of technical school.

All of these:

- Ukrainian language and literature
- Mathematics
- History of Ukraine or a Foreign language (optional)

one of the following:

- Biology
- Geography
- Physics
- Chemistry
- English
- Spanish
- German
- French.



Nowadays **After School Activities** are an integral part of every Ukrainian child. There is a huge variety of schools and clubs, they can be private and state.



- Sport
- Music
- Dances
- Science
- Basic of medicine
- Design and photography
- IT-technologies
- Foreign languages
- Art and crafts
- Drama Clubs
- Junior business



Higher education

Ukraine has built a great national education system.

There are many universities, academies and institutions, total amount is **282** :

- state / private
- free / paid

Every year nearly 1.3 million students get their education there, among them there are also foreign students (from India, China, Egypt, Morocco, Turkey, Israel, Azerbaijan, Nigeria, Iraq)

Because of educational establishments in Ukraine we are now one of the 10 leading countries in the sphere of international education.

Postgraduate education is also available in Ukraine. Those, who wish to continue studying after they've obtained a Master's or a Specialist's Degree, can enter the postgraduate school, called aspirantura.



Since the beginning of this terrible war more than 33,000 Ukrainians have already arrived in Finland. Most of the people seeking temporary protection are women and children. Nearly 7,000 pupils have started their education in Finnish schools.

Host countries need to develop compatible systems and flexible pathways in education given that many refugees might return to Ukraine in the future.

Unfortunately not all cities have included Ukrainian language to our children's studies. For the sake of our children's future they need to have opportunities to learn Ukrainian language and literature, history and culture, and other subjects in the Ukrainian curricular. That's why many of them attend afternoon or Saturday classes through online lessons. But the question is "When do they rest?"

I would like to express my deep gratitude for Finnish government and to every Finn for giving us a shelter in this hardest part of our life.

We hope soon the war will be over and we will start to rebuild our beautiful country. I'm sure our Motherland will be even better than before!

We cordially invite you to visit Ukraine one day!

Finnish nation!

You are very welcome to Ukraine!

