UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Duluth Campus Department of Studies in Justice, Culture, and Social Change College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences 228 Cina Hall 1123 University Drive Duluth, Minnesota 55812-3306 E-mail: troufs@d.umn.edu ZOOM: https://umn.zoom.us/my/troufs 22 January 2023



Lunar New Year Around the World -- Wikipedia



This year is the year of the Rabbit, a lucky year.

"In the Chinese culture, the rabbit is known to be the luckiest out of all the twelve animals. It symbolizes mercy, elegance, and beauty. People who are born in the year of the rabbit are calm and peaceful. They avoid fighting and arguing at all times, but are artistic and have good taste in life."



- Chinee Zodiac, Chinese New Year

"This year will bring prosperity, hope and calm because of the rabbit's characteristics, we can expect relaxation, quietness and contemplation" -- Dottie Li,

Lunar New Year 2023: What's in store for Year of the Rabbit? -- Pamela Parker, ABC30 (20 January 2023)



How to Celebrate the Year of the Rabbit - cnet (18 January 2023)

The Year of the Rabbit: An illustrated guide to Lunar New Year
- CNN Travel (20 January 2023)

Normally, without COVID, the Spring Festival (or Lunar New Year) is the occasion of the World's Largest Migration, the *chunyun*, the Chinese New Year Migration.

Hundreds of millions of people usually leave their cities in order to visit their families in more rural parts of the country. **In fact, practically all of China takes holiday at once, making the new year the biggest human event on earth.**

<u>What is China's Chunyun, the world's largest annual</u> <u>migration? What will it mean for the country battling</u> <u>COVID?</u>

- <u>Firstpost</u> (10 January 2023) The World's Largest Migration Is About To Begin Estimated number of people traveling to the following events (millions)* Travelers 385.0 50.9 40.0 30.0 2.0 Chinese New Year Thanksgiving Arba'een Pilgrimage Kumbh Mela Hajj (2016) (2018)(2017)(2013)(2017)China U.S. 💶 India Saudi Arabia 💶 Iraq * Chinese New Year figure is the forecast for 2018. The Kumbh Mela (cc)(i)(=)is based on the Hindu calendar and occurs every 12 years. statista 🔽 @StatistaCharts Source: News reports

Comparing China's largest annual migration with North America's is a good way to gauge its sheer size.

Statista

Pre-COVID Thanksgiving 2017 saw 50.9 million travelers negotiate long tailbacks on the interstate and overcrowded airports. **Even though Thanksgiving is a major travel event, China's new year is still seven times bigger,** with its massive population making a big difference of course.

Known as *chunyun*, the annual new year migration in China also **easily** surpasses the world's biggest pilgrimages in scale, with *Arba'een* and the *Hajj* much smaller by comparison.

Lunar New Year celebrations normally last 3-16 days, depending on where you are, ending with the "Lantern Festival".



Wherever you are.

During the celebration avoid eating foods that are white, for good luck in the new year.

But do eat some "longevity noodles" (*changshou mian*), some "spring rolls", and some oranges (or kumquats, or tangerines, or pomelos), some steamed *whole* fish, and sticky rice "year cake" (*nian gao*), "prosperity cake" (*fa gao*), sweet rice balls (*tang yuan*), and some dumplings. (According to ancient legend, the number of dumplings you eat during the Chinese New Year predicts the amount of money you'll make in the upcoming year, so the more, the better.)

Tim Roufs

<<u>http://www.d.umn.edu/~troufs/</u>> <<u>https://umn.zoom.us/my/troufs</u>> <<u>other contact information</u>>