

My Life in Norway

November

Hello. It's Shoma. I'm enjoying my life in Norway although it's very cold for me. I'm always looking forward to it getting warmer and warmer. Although it is still November, I can see a lot of Christmas decorations all over the place such as in the shopping center, in the school, and in the house. I will tell you about Christmas in Norway here.



I heard that for most Norwegians, the main celebration of Christmas is on 24 December (called Christmas Eve). Traditionally, this is a day to be spent in the company of family members. During noon, rice porridge (called lillejulaften in Norwegian) is usually served. An almond is often hidden in the porridge, and the person who finds it wins a treat or small gift - usually a marzipan pig. In the afternoon, church bells ring to beckon people to the church services. A lot of people attend these religious services. At 5 p.m., church bells toll to announce the beginning of Christmas. The main Christmas meal is served in the evening. The main dishes commonly include pork rib, "pinnekjøtt" (pieces of lamb rib steamed over birch branches). Traditional drinks are beer and aquavit for adults and "julebrus" (a sweet red fizzy drink made specially during Christmastime) for children. A favorite Christmas dessert is rice blended with whipped cream served with a red sauce.



beer



porridge

I'm very much looking forward to spending Christmas. I will talk more about Christmas in the next monthly report.

See you next month.