

“Bei uns ist immer was los!”

NIKOLAUSTAG—SANTA CLAUS DAY der 6. Dezember

Why St. Nicholas puts candy in boots and stole our hearts

Were your boots ready for St. Nicholas Day on December 6? DW's Sertan Sanderson explores why the saint means so much to both secular and religious people all over the world.

Out and about with staff and miter



Saint Nicholas was a 4th century bishop who lived in Myra, a town in what is today Turkey. According to legend, this son of rich parents gave his entire wealth to the poor. This made him the forerunner of Father Christmas or Santa Claus and Germany's Christ Child, as well as becoming a symbol of the Christmas season.

Of, and for the masses



Saint Nicholas was used by a cola company in 1931 in the United States to advertise their beverage, showing him in what has become the accepted attire of all red with white trimmings. These days those outfits must be flexible enough to withstand sporting activities, like the Father Christmas race in Michendorf in the German state of Brandenburg.