

<http://hungerarian.blogspot.hu/2011/04/easter-traditions-in-hungary.html>

People celebrate Easter in many different ways around the Globe. Easter being a Christian holiday, some of these traditions are naturally very similar to one another. But I have to say there's no other nation in the World that celebrate it like Hungarians do.

It's hard to forget waking up on Easter morning by a cold bucket of water in your face. Doesn't sound very welcoming, does it? It's called Ducking Monday.

Ducking Monday

On Easter Monday morning the neighboring boys playfully **sprinkle** perfume, perfumed water or just water on girls. They go around the neighborhood ringing doorbells. The girls open the door, when the men one by one **recite** a generally short poem with always the same question at the end: "Could I water you?" If the answer is "Yes" they **pour** a pinch of perfume on the girl's hair. For which we **reward** them with red painted eggs and a kiss.

I tried to translate one of the poems:

"I walked in green forest
I saw a blue violet
Could I water you?"

This is a very basic one, and probably doesn't make any sense in English. But there are some others that are **borderline offensive** or even dirty in a funny and **entertaining** way.

Of course over generations the tradition has been changed a little according to regions and societies. But the main action stayed pretty much the same.

Back in the old days, there was no perfume or kind words. The girls used to run around **chased** by the boys carrying huge **buckets** of water. Until pulled in a corner, or being **held down**. By the end of the morning every girl in town was **soaking wet**.

This side of the tradition is still practiced in many different regions on the country. Mainly on the **countryside**. Where both the ladies and men dress up in traditional Hungarian folk costumes. It's a pretty **amazing** site, and a fun celebration. Full of dancing, singing and of course amazing food.

Naturally me being from the country I have had the fortune to experience this wonderful tradition **on many occasions**.

In bigger cities, the men go around with perfume. And instead of red eggs, they mainly receive money and chocolate eggs. Which is less romantic I guess, but the funny poems they create makes it equally fun.

Needless to say, by the end of the day we all stink of cheap perfume.

Egg Painting

Easter eggs are beautifully **decorated** in Hungary, for the **ceremonious** occasion. The traditional methods of painting the eggs are still followed by people in the country. The patterns range from simple to **intricate**, and make the egg look very attractive. The folk patterns are drawn on the eggs by using **molten wax**. The painting liquid is traditionally made from onion skin, green walnut, wild pear or any other vegetable that **yield** natural color.

Of course today one can just go down to the supermarket and buy a professional egg painting kit specifically made for the holiday.

csodálatos

a sértő határán levő

vödör

ünnepélyes

kerget

vidék

díszített

szórakoztató

lefog

tekervényes, bonyolult(minta)

olvasztott viasz

mondani sem kell

sok alkalommal

önt

szaval

jutalom, jutalmaz

bőrig ázott

spriccel, fröcsköl (a húsvéti locsolásra is)

jövedelmez, termel