

Moscow Kicks Off 'Pancake Week' With Song, Dance and Blini

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Moscow is currently in the midst of one of Russia's most fun and light-hearted holidays — Maslenitsa, better known as Pancake Week. Maslenitsa has its roots in pagan tradition, marking the end of winter and the beginning of spring with brilliant bonfires. Today, Maslenitsa is a widely celebrated folk holiday with plenty of blini — Russia's crepe-like version of pancake — to symbolize the newly returned sun. From Feb. 21-March 1, Muscovites can embrace the maslenitsa mood with a packed schedule of festive activities, countless blini and the burning of a straw man. Here's a look at the celebrations as they get underway:



We don't recommend eating the baby. Alexander Avilov / Moskva News Agency

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