

## CITY DECORATIONS

### CHRISTMAS TREE

Here, in Catalonia, on Christmas' Eve people hang lots of decorations on their Christmas tree and in their houses. But we don't decorate as much as other countries like United States or other European Countries.



### PESSEBRE

“El pessebre” is especially important. It is the scene of Jesus' birth in the stable of Bethlehem with figures representing different symbols. El “pessebre” is built in houses and it is made by little figures and a house made of wood and people put rivers and other buildings or objects.

The city Council makes a big “pessebre” made with big figures; and theatres or communities make “el pessebre vivent” that is the same but with real people representing it.

The basic characters are:

- Baby Jesus: It is the most representative figure in the “Pessebre”.
- Mary: Jesus' mother.

- Joseph: Maria's husband.



- Donkey and mule: they provide heat to the baby Jesus.
- The Angel who is announcing the birth of Jesus.
- The star that guides the three Magic Kings to the stable.
- The Three Kings, coming from the East, are those who bring gold, incense and myrrh to the infant Jesus.

And the most traditional character of the Catalan “Pessebre” is el “Caganer”, that is a hidden person making a poo.

A new thing added more recently is the “Pixaner” that is like “Caganer” but making a pee.



## STREETS

In the street few days before Christmas, the city hall hangs Christmas lights between buildings, on some trees and in shopping centres.



A traditional thing that cities make every year is the St. Llúcia’s market. That market is a place where people buy figures to make their own “Pessebre”.

People also buy decorations for their houses, trees and moss to make the ground of



“Pessebre” look more real, it’s a very traditional and special market.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tB543zDAQds> (this is a video where you can see how “Fira de Santa Llúcia” is)

## **PRIVATE HOUSES**



In their own flats people hang lights and figures of the three kings or Santa Claus.

## **SHOPS**

Shops also decorate their windows with colourful Christmas things. But, probably they do it to attract children, so parents come and buy. But the real goal is to make

Christmas shopping for business and make more

money.



