

The Oct affair ca Hallowe



Candy stores around the world have one Modus Operandi as soon as October rolls out — prepare for Halloween. Concerns for cavities and nutrition go out the window, for this one day (rather one evening) only. Costumes, spooky decorations, and all that is scary on the silver and small screen — everything is rolled into a jam packed day of scare fest!



The Halloween festivities of today, with its origins in Celtic rites and rituals, has carried on with 'trick or treat-ing,' wearing costumes and masks, carving a pumpkin, and many more practices. What's even more interesting is how much US based television programmes have influenced our understanding of this particular day.

Over the last half decade or so, rather than the children, it's the adults and parents who are more invested in their celebrations of Halloween. From detailed costumes to a minimalistic touch of face paint or makeup, just about anyone can be a part of All Hallows' Eve.

It's not just the USA, and British Isles where this type of festivities take place. Take for instance, El Día de los Muertos (the day of the dead) celebrated in Mexico. This is a three-day celebration of remembering late family members, which begins on 31 October and ends on 2 November.

Then there is the Obon festival in Japan, held either mid-week of July or August, with a similar context to the Mexican festivities. While American-style Halloween has carved out a memorable place in most countries, every one of them has added their own celebrations to it.

Of course, let's not forget how much various companies have taken the chance to capitalise on this day. According to the National Retail Federation in the US, in 2019, more than 170 million Americans will be celebrating Halloween. As part of this celebration, the related sales, including buying candy, decorations and costumes, is expected to reach US \$ 9.7 billion.

While such numbers are not readily available for the local celebrations, preparations are visible. From hotels gearing up for the event, to gatherings being announced over social media, the vibe of Halloween is already in the air!

Often identified as one of the world's oldest holidays, Halloween itself was a harvest festival at heart. The myths and legends have been explored over the centuries, and out of those, the filtered remains still continue to inspire the generations for a day to break the mould of everyday life.

By Iris Farina

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CHECK IT OUT

Spooktober Finale at Sarina

October is not just about the Fall and the clear blue skies, but is also the perfect time to binge watch 1984's 'A Nightmare on Elm Street,' 'The Addams Family' and other horror movies to set the mood as Halloween arrives.

Living in Dhaka, a city that does not recognise Halloween as a holiday, people still do not fail to embrace the spooky and spine-tingling thrill the day entails. To add to the frisson of excitement, and for those looking to taste Halloween, Hotel Sarina will be hosting a Halloween themed buffet dinner, which will provide families with not only a diverse buffet dinner, but also the right amount of fright.

With a reputation of hosting themed dinner parties, Hotel Sarina, located at 27 Banani C/A, Road #17, will host its 'Ghostly Gala Dinner' on 30 October and 31 October (7 PM to 2 AM). The gala offers a themed buffet, consisting of a variety of salads, soups, starters, mains



and desserts. The aesthetics of the menu, starting from salads like 'Bloody Ball' and 'Gorey Gala,' to desserts such as 'Spine-Tingling Soirée' and 'Blood-Splattered Ball,' along with the ghostly presentation of the dishes, captures the playful essence

of Halloween. The ghost and vampire themed food items are sure to be fang-tastic!

One of the main attractions of the dinner will be the six live chefs cooking up 'Dead Man Party' (Raj Kachori),

'Vampire Weekend' (shredded carrots and radishes), and many more exciting dishes to further instil the sensation of excitement and thrill, along with providing an extra bit of entertainment for families and children.

No Halloween is complete without pumpkin carvings and skeletons. The dinner will include these aspects to create the ambiance of a haunted house, added with dimmed lights. Finally, to complete the horror scene, the food will be served by skeletons, the servers dressed to mimic the dead.

So enjoy, laugh, eat and have a ghoulishly frightful, but also a delightful time with family and friends on this bewitching night.

By Puja Sarkar

For further details about the event, contact Hotel Sarina at fbm@sarinahotel.com or call +880-2-9821111, 9821122