



Christmas in the Philippines

The Philippines is known for having the world's longest Christmas season. The four months that end with the syllable **-ber** are considered Christmas months, which is why stores and households start playing carols on the first day of September! And the holiday season extends beyond December 31st. It doesn't end until the Feast of the Epiphany or Three Kings (**Tatlong Hari**), which falls around January 6.

maligaya
joyful, happy

Pasko
Christmas

Maligayang...
Merry...

Maligayang Pasko!
Merry Christmas!

The Filipino word **Pasko** derives from the Spanish word *Pascua*. Although the word *Pascua* by itself means Easter, *Pascua de Navidad* refers to Christmas.

Tagalog Words for Christmas

maligaya
joyful, happy

Pasko
Christmas

Maligayang...
Merry...

Maligayang Pasko!
Merry Christmas!

Bisperas ng Pasko
Christmas Eve

Bagong Taon
New Year

regalo
gift

pamasko
Christmas gift

aginaldo / aguinaldo
money received as Christmas gift

belen
creche / Nativity scene

bituin
star

kandila
candle