

## Traditions of El Año Nuevo

### España:

New Year's Eve is called: La Noche Vieja (the old night). People eat twelve grapes, one at each stroke of the clock at midnight to wish good luck for each of the twelve months to come in the next year! The tradition of "las doce uvas de la suerte" (the 12 lucky grapes) is a century old!



**Panamá:** Burning "muñecos" or stuffed dolls of people who played a big role in news, politics, or even one's personal life throughout the previous year is how some signify doing away with the old. The muñecos are displayed after Christmas and then burned in a bonfire.

**México:** It's customary to hang a wool toy lamb from your front door for good fortune.



**Chile:** Waiting for the New Year in a Chilean graveyard is popular as to ring in the new year with the dearly departed.



### Ecuador:

Hiding money around the house is thought to bring prosperity. At the very least, if you've forgotten where you've hidden your cash and end up finding it again a few months down the road, it's like getting free money.

**Puerto Rico:** Holding silver at midnight is thought to bring fortune in the New Year. Another variation is to put money in your shoe, or in your pocket to supposedly guarantee wealth in the next 12 months.

