

The First Christmas Tree



Riga Latvia was home of the first Christmas Tree

When something happened over 500 years ago, it can be tricky to parse out fact from legend. Take the first ever Christmas tree. The custom of a decorated tree at Yuletide dates back centuries, to at least the 15th or 16th century. That much is fact, the very first one? The Christmas tree that started it all? That might be more a matter of legend.

A likely candidate was in the medieval city of Riga, the capital of Latvia. Riga's City Center is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, including the Town Hall Square. Flanking the south side of the Square is the House of the Brotherhood of the Blackheads, and it's here where the Christmas tree story takes shape.

Near the northwest corner of the ornate building is a slightly domed stone marker embedded in the cobblestones, staking its claim—in eight languages—as the spot of the first public Christmas tree.

The Brotherhood of the Blackheads was a guild of professional merchants and traders that banded together in the 14th century and remained active in Latvia and Estonia right up through the middle of the 20th century. They were known for their twice-yearly holiday celebrations, including the Christmas to New Years season. It's said that the Brotherhood put a fir tree in the square, festooned it with paper flowers, sang and danced and cheered the season, then lit the whole thing on fire. (Needless to say, it is also said that more than a few glasses were raised by the Brothers during the celebration.).

The First Christmas Tree Other Stories

J Spring



The First Christmas Tree Other Stories:

Decoding **The First Christmas Tree Other Stories**: Revealing the Captivating Potential of Verbal Expression

In an era characterized by interconnectedness and an insatiable thirst for knowledge, the captivating potential of verbal expression has emerged as a formidable force. Its ability to evoke sentiments, stimulate introspection, and incite profound transformations is genuinely awe-inspiring. Within the pages of "**The First Christmas Tree Other Stories**," a mesmerizing literary creation penned with a celebrated wordsmith, readers attempt an enlightening odyssey, unraveling the intricate significance of language and its enduring impact on our lives. In this appraisal, we shall explore the book's central themes, evaluate its distinctive writing style, and gauge its pervasive influence on the hearts and minds of its readership.

<https://archive.kdd.org/book/publication/fetch.php/Somewhere%20Between%20May%20And%20December.pdf>

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