

Your one-stop Guide to

清明

Qingming Festival

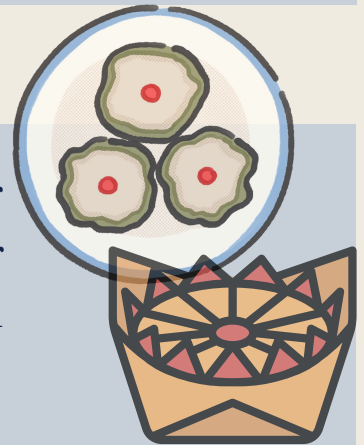
ABOUT



Also known as Tomb Sweeping day, Qingming Festival is a Chinese memorial festival for families and loved ones to clean ancestors' tombs and to honour them. It is seen as an act of filial piety and usually falls on early April, during Spring time.

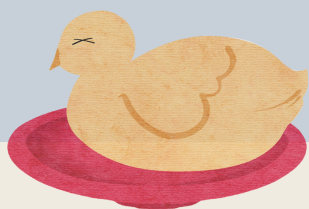
WHAT TO EXPECT

On this day, families will visit gravesites or columbariums to clean and tidy their relatives' tombs and niches. Food and ritual offerings are also prepared.



FOOD OFFERINGS

Depending on the religious practice of the family, food offerings can consist of either vegetarian meals or meat dishes. Traditionally, for those who consume meat, fruits, rice and five types of meat including, pork, duck, chicken, fish and seafood is offered.



RITUAL OFFERINGS

The burning of joss paper depends on the beliefs of the family. For example, in Buddhism, it is believed that everyone will be reincarnated, hence the custom of burning paper offerings is not mandatory. However, in Taoism, the burning of joss paper is a common tradition to ensure the dead is provided for in the afterlife.



DID YOU KNOW?

You can purchase joss papers and other prayer and ceremonial items online at websites such as ezbaibai.sg, kimzua.com.sg and josspaper.sg. They even provide various packages to suit different prayer needs.

In Taiwan, Mortuary Services Office Taichung City, has an online service that allows bereaved families and loved ones to virtually send-off their deceased loved ones. Click [here](#) to view this unique online service.

