

Ostara, Thursday March 21st 2024

- Second Solar festival in the Wheel of the Year
- Spring Equinox – Day & Night are equal
- Named after the Germanic Goddess Ostara
- A time when the Green Earth begins to awaken the Winter's sleep

Menu

Welcome Drink

Peppered Raspberry Rose Water - Raspberry Rose Water Jam, Dehydrated Jalapeno, Grapefruit Soda

1st

Blueberry Basil Jam Cobbler with Lemon, Sparkling Water & Basil Blossom

Honey Cured Egg Yolk Crostini - Orange Blossom & Gochugaru Honey with Rosemary Rosted Grapes, House made Chive Blossom Ricotta, Ginger Candied Pecans, Pinecone Syrup Drizzle, Sunflower Sprout & Thyme Flower Garnish on Grilled Sourdough

2nd

Violet Cream Soda - Vanilla & Sarsaparilla Syrup, Violet Floral Essence, Soda Water

Abundance Salad - Citrus Pickled Strawberries, Asparagus, Vegan Goat Cheese Crumble, Basil Chiffonade, Yuzu Vinaigrette

3rd

Thieves Berry Wine - Blackberry Rosemary Jam, Pomegranate Juice, Thieves Syrup - Clove, Cinnamon, Lemon & Thyme

Fae Garden Rabbit Ravioli - Trio of colorful flower shaped Ravioli stuffed with Rabbit Confit, on a bed of Spring Pea puree, Pickled Fiddlehead Ferns, Micro Greens and Edible flowers

4th

Strawberry and Elderflower Sour

Fertility & Rebirth - Rose Funnel Cake Nest, Macerated Rhubarb Sticks, Honey Suckle Ice Cream Eggs with a Pistachio White Chocolate Shell, Bee Pollen Garnish

Associated Goddesses

- Ostara – Germanic Goddess of the Dawn & Fertility
 - She is associated with renewal and rebirth from the death of Winter. Linked to Anglo-Saxon Goddess Eostre. Both were related to Spring, the coming of Dawn and green growth of the land.
- Persephone – Greek Goddess of the Underworld & Nature
 - Persephone was kidnapped by Hades and brought to the Underworld. She was forced to marry him, but her mother made a pact with Zeus, that Persephone would spend half the time on Earth and the rest of the time in the Underworld. Persephone's ascent to Earth is linked to Spring and her descent to the Underworld linked with Winter.

Ways Ostara was celebrated

- Spring celebrations are linked to Goddess worship and were centered on the growth and renewal of life.
- Eggs were ritualistically decorated and exchanged as talismans of abundance and fertility. They were also left on graves of the deceased to call for the rebirth of the deceased through reincarnation.
- Offerings and prayers were made to the Spring Goddesses in hopes that they would bless the crops and fields in the year ahead. Both to protect from illness and draw in abundance.
- When the last of the Winter's stores start to dry up, people would often start to hunt and collect the different colored eggs of wild birds.

Themes

Agriculture, Balance, Fertility, Growth, Light, Love, Rebirth/Renewal

Associated Animals

Hare, Rabbit, Sheep, Goat, Hawk, Sparrow, Robin, Deer

Associated Herbs, Plants, Vegetables & Fruit

Asparagus, Peas, Radishes, Artichokes, Rhubarb, Spinach, Strawberries, Oranges, Lemons, Sprouts, Honeysuckle, Rose, Violet, Maple, Yew, Apricot, Cherries, Mushrooms, Green Onions, Ramps, Fiddlehead Ferns, Swiss Chard, Garlic, Lime, Turnip, Purslane