

The Venetian Carnival

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The Venetian Carnival started in Venice, Italy in 1268. The use of masquerade masks has been a central theme to the Venetian carnival. The carnival was outlawed in the 1930s, and enjoyed a revival in the 1980s. The carnival starts two weeks before Ash Wednesday and ends the day before it also known as Shrove "Fat" Tuesday. There are three different types of masks commonly used during the carnival: the bauta, moretta, and volt0-larva. The bauta mask covers the whole face, with a stubborn chin line, no mouth, and lots of gilding. The moretta is an oval mask of black velvet that was usually worn by women visiting convents. The volt0-larva is a mainly white made to cover the identity of the individual that wears it and gives them an eerie appearance to resemble a ghost.

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