



[TOP](#)

I Lost My Poor Meatball, When Somebody Sneezed!

JANUARY 04TH 2015 BY DEE LOFLIN

I Lost My Poor Meatball, When Somebody Sneezed!

It's National Spaghetti Day!

United States - Sunday, January 4, 2015 is National Spaghetti Day in the United States. The long, thin cylindrical pasta of Italian and Sicilian origin which is made of semolina or flour and water, known as spaghetti and loved by millions has it's own special day. January 4th is National Spaghetti Day and is celebrated annually across the county.

There are a variety of different pasta dishes that are based on spaghetti from spaghetti alla Carbonara or garlic and oil to spaghetti with tomato sauce, meat sauce, bolognese, Alfredo sauce, clam sauce or other sauces. Spaghetti dishes are traditionally served topped with grated hard cheeses such as Pecorino Romano, Parmesan and Grana Padano.

The word "spaghetti" is plural for the Italian word spaghetti, which is a diminutive of spago, meaning "thin string" or "twine".

Spaghetti was offered in restaurants in the United States, around the end of the 19th century, as Spaghetti Italiane (which is believed to have consisted of noodles cooked past al dente and a mild tomato sauce flavored with easily found spices and vegetables such as cloves, bay leaves and garlic). It was decades later that it became commonly prepared with oregano or basil.

There is significant debate on the origin of spaghetti however we do know that pasta has been consumed for many many years. There are records in the Jerusalem Talmud of itrium, a kind of boiled dough, being common in Palestine from the 3rd to 5th centuries AD. A 9th century Arab dictionary describes itriyyaas, string-like shapes made of semolina and dried before cooking. In an 1154 writing for the Norman King of Sicily, itriyya is mentioned being manufactured and exported from Norman Sicily. Dried pasta became popular in the 14th and 15th centuries due to its easy storage. People were able to store the dried pasta in ships when exploring the New World. A century later, pasta was present around the globe during the voyages of discovery. (Wikipedia)

In March of 2009 the world record for the largest bowl of spaghetti was set and then reset in March of 2010 when a Garden Grove California Buca di Beppo restaurant successfully filled a swimming pool with more than 13,780 pounds of pasta.

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Sung to the tune of “On Top of Old Smoky”, the fun children’s song, “On Top of Spaghetti” was written and originally sung by folk singer Tom Glazer with the Do-Re-Mi Children’s Chorus in 1963.

“On top of spaghetti,  
All covered with cheese,  
I lost my poor meatball,  
When somebody sneezed.

It rolled off the table,  
And on to the floor,  
And then my poor meatball,  
Rolled out of the door.”

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