

Nowruz, meaning 'new day' in Persian, is the most important Persian festival, with roots extending over 3,000 years. Widely observed around world, the celebration has evolved with diverse traditions centred around the theme of rebirth. Celebrated around the spring equinox, Nowruz announces the transition from winter to spring.

During the joyous celebration, families gather around the Haft-sin table, decorated with items, each beginning with the letter 's', which combine to create a tapestry of wishes for the year ahead. Other items, such as mirrors, goldfish, painted eggs and candles, are frequently added, as they also represent life, love, health, and prosperity.

Use the map and clues on the following pages to find the elements of the Haft-sin table hidden on eggs in Waterlow Park!

Lauderdale House



You can start the trail in either direction, but we recommend you follow the route. Tag us @LauderdaleHouse so we can see your pictures! #NowruzInTheHouse

# Trail Clues

- This is Sumac,
   A delicious, zingy spice.
   It represents good defeating evil,
   And its \_\_\_\_\_ colour is so nice.
- 5 Samanu is a pudding -It's an after-dinner treat. It helps you grow big and strong, but it's not savoury, its . . . . ?
- 2 I represent beauty,
  I'm gorgeous, can't you see?
  I'm shiny and red,
  And I'm hanging on this tree.
  What fruit am I?
- 6 Mince, crush or chop me
  And add me to your dish,
  I come as a clove or as a bulb
  And with butter I'm delish.
  What am I?
- 3 Oleaster is a berryThat tastes very tart.It's a symbol of this emotionThat you feel in your heart.
- 7 Plant a seed in the winter, It'll need some time to come out Give it lots of sun and water And in spring it will \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 You'll find me in the chippy, Next to the pepper and salt, I come in lots of different types: Apple cider, balsamic, and malt.

Now turn to the back page to find the answers and the good fortune the elements bring!

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#### 1. Answer: Red

Somagh, or Sumac, symbolises the sunrise and the victory of light over darkness. Sumac is a tangy spice which tastes a bit like lemon and can be used to flavour meat and vegetables.

## 2. Answer: Apple

Seeb (or apple) represents beauty on the Haft-sin table.

#### 3. Answer: Love

Senjed, or oleaster (also known as wild olive or silver berry), represents love and affection. Traditionally renowned for its medicinal purposes, the fruit is sweet and a good source of vitamins.

## 4. Answer: Vinegar

Serkeh, or vinegar, symbolises patience and wisdom. It reminds us of the value of experience and the ability to endure challenges with resilience and grace.

### 5. Answer: Sweet

The fifth element is samanu, which is a sweet pudding made from wheat. Holding the samanu is the legendary Iranian hero Rustam, who faced seven challenging trials in the epic poem by Ferdowsi. Samanu brings hope of wealth and sweetness in the new year.

#### 6. Answer: Garlic

In the tradition of Haft-sin, seer or garlic is associated with protection and good health.

## 7. Answer: Sprout

Sabzeh, which means 'sprouts,' represent rebirth and growth.

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