



Samhuinn Night at Home

Your Beltane community invite you to make a small, and meaningful to you, ritual on Samhuinn night.

This year we face extra challenges around being creative in our festival celebrations. We are also in some ways more motivated to connect with each other in our community.

Thus we invite you to step into the celebration of Samhuinn from your home or a place in nature knowing that you are part of a whole community celebrating today. This community is even wider this year, with our festival group Global Sojourn reaching out with fire and dance to Beltaners around the globe.

Begin by preparing a sacred space for the evening somewhere in your home or in a spot you have chosen in nature. The protection rune can sometimes be used to mark an intention to pass safely through this night of transformation. You may wish to create a mandala and place items that feel meaningful to you, creating a kind of honouring of the essence that makes Samhuinn special for you.

You can light a candle to connect with the light of our festival's Neid fire at 7.05PM, and think about others in our community lighting their symbols of fire at the same time.

As the night unfolds you might wish to connect with the different parts of the traditional Samhuinn narrative, or to a particular character in the story.

Some suggestions for this may be:

- To find a rune that you feel represents the character or energy you feel akin to and paint this on/make a drawing of it in your sacred space
- To choose a colour and a pattern which represents the energy you feel like embodying and paint this on
- To make a fire if you are in a suitable space outside where it is safe to do so and in a way that is well contained
- To put on some music that is evocative of the Samhuinn essence for you this year
- To pick up a drum or another musical or percussive instrument and offer some beats or sounds that come to you from a place of connection with Samhuinn night
- To use your voice to give expression to your inner melodies which feel called out by the moment, the characters, the energies of transformation you are feeling

There could be three simple phases to your night in line with the three energies emerging at our festival, confronting each other and coming through: the Summer's last rejoicing; the Winter growing in strength; the Cailleach's embracing and taking care of the way of things.



From our Cailleach

The Cailleach's character this year journeys deep into the earth, and reconnects with her ancestors and the ancient crafts that wove our stories and our landscape into being. If you feel called to, you could take some time on Samhuinn night to do some crafting, or spend time in nature, pondering the feet that walked where you walk many thousands of moons before.

From our Kings

Bidding Summer farewell

We've all had a Summer unlike every other in recent history. Now is a time to put that behind us and look to the future.

Find two objects, one to represent an unwanted aspect of the Summer past, and one to represent the future you, enjoying Summer as only you can.

Take the first object and place it in a twist or wrap of paper. Take a moment to remember the tricky path you have trodden this year, and, without forgetting the important things associated with it, place these negative thoughts into the object. If you have a fire to hand, you can burn the object, or save it aside for a future memory.

Take the second object, and take a quiet, calm moment to picture all the best things of Summer for you - friends, festivals, endless sunsets, music - and place these intentions into the object. Put it somewhere you will see it over the cold months ahead and remember that Summer will be here again!

Transitioning into Winter

Find a comfy space, either sitting or standing. Close your eyes and breathe slowly for a count of at least five.

Picture in your mind something you are looking forward to in Winter - fires, reuniting with friends, snowball fights, mulled wine, or anything!

Find a warm place in your body (tummy, heart...) and allow the warmth to spread all the way out until it reaches your toes and fingertips.

Open your eyes and move on.



Of course there are many nuances and character groups you may be following this year as part of the online festival. These may call to you to do some creative or expressive representation, celebration and marking of.

You may also have character concepts and feelings and ideas on the night that speak to you and bring out creative expression. It would be wonderful to see people following their own intuition and sharing some of their creative ideas.

At the end of the night, do take a moment to close your sacred space - this could be done in a therapeutic way by making a personal intention for the coming season. You may wish to reflect on what came up for you during the Samhuinn night. You may wish to write or draw something to make this and put in the fire or keep or share with friends. As you come to a close you could put out the main sacred space candle that you lit to represent the Neid fire.

We wish you a beautiful, cosy, heart warming Samhuinn and we call out from our different places to you and each other our traditional call.

Love,
Your Blues