



HOLIDAY TRAIL *of* LIGHTS



CHATTANOOGA, TENN.



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Nov. 13, 2020 - Jan. 17, 2021
visitchattanooga.com/winter

The Chattanooga Holiday Trail of Lights features 14 major holiday experiences with millions of twinkling lights. Along the way, you'll find holiday meals on a river cruise, activities and entertainment, animal encounters, ice skating, Santa sightings, train excursions to the North Pole and New Year's celebrations!



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#TrailofLightsCHA

A collage of Thanksgiving-themed images including a roasted turkey, pomegranate seeds, autumn leaves, and a glass of red wine.

THANKSGIVING MEALS

Thanksgiving Cruise/Southern Belle Riverboat

Nov. 26, 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.

Thanksgiving Family-Style Meals To-Go/ Bluff View Art District

Nov. 26, call (423) 265-5033 by Nov. 24 to order

A collage of Christmas-themed images including a lit Christmas tree, a glowing star, and festive lights.

CHRISTMAS MEALS

Christmas Dinner Train/Tennessee Valley Railroad

Nov. 20-Dec. 28, times vary

Christmas Carol Dinner Cruise/Southern Belle Riverboat

Nov. 27-28, Dec. 4-5, 16 & 19, 7 p.m.

Breakfast with Santa Cruise/Southern Belle Riverboat

Dec. 2020 (call to schedule)

'Tis the Season Lunch Cruise/Southern Belle Riverboat

Dec. 5, 12 & 19, 1 p.m.



Twinkling Lights Chattanooga - Downtown

Walnut Street Bridge Snowflakes

View the thousands of twinkling lights in snowflake form along the **Walnut Street Bridge**, one of the longest pedestrian-only bridges in the world at 2,370 feet. The bridge connects downtown Chattanooga with the historic North Shore District, offering incredible views of the Tennessee River. At each end are a variety of shopping, green spaces, dining, attractions, galleries and more.

EPB's Holiday Windows

Explore **EPB's Holiday Windows**, depicting the sights and sounds of the season. The displays feature unique and known holiday characters as well as Chattanooga scenes and landmarks. The celebration continues a tradition that dates back to the World War II era. Located on Broad and Market Streets around EPB's downtown headquarters building at 10 W. M.L. King Blvd.

Lighted Boat Parade

Make your way to the Riverfront District the day after Thanksgiving for the **Lighted Boat Parade**. Decked out boats float down the Tennessee River to delight everyone on shore. For prime viewing, pick a spot along the Walnut Street Bridge.

Insider Tips

- Grab a hot drink from the Ice Cream Show at the South end of the Walnut Street Bridge or try a Clumpies' holiday ice cream on the NorthShore.

Schedule Highlights

- Twinkling Snowflakes: Nov. 2020-Feb. 2021, lights turn on daily at dusk
- Holiday Windows: Nov. 25, 2020-Jan. 1, 2021
- Lighted Boat Parade/Riverfront District: Nov. 27, 5-8:30 p.m.



Enchanted Garden of Lights Rock City

Guests to **Rock City's Enchanted Garden of Lights** can decorate a gingerbread cookie in downtown Yule Town, experience the icy borealis lights of the Arctic Kingdom and explore the digital enchantment of the Magic Forest's dancing trees. Visit Santa in his North Pole workshop and enjoy plenty of holiday treats including hot cocoa, kettle corn, homemade fudge and beer from Chattanooga Brewing. Tickets are sold **ONLINE ONLY**, and admission begins at 5 p.m. Leashed pets are welcome! As in years past, a portion of ticket proceeds from this event benefits the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Greater Chattanooga.

Plan

- seerockcity.com/lights | 706-820-2531
- Nov. 20, 2020-Jan. 2, 2021, nightly (closed Christmas Eve night)

Insider Tips

- Tickets must be purchased online in advance, with no walkup availability.
- Capacity is limited nightly, so plan ahead to reserve your entrance time.

Schedule Highlights

- Weeknights, 5 p.m.-9 p.m.; Fridays-Sundays & Dec. 21-23, 5 p.m.-10 p.m.
- Gingerbread cookie decorating: 5 p.m.-close (Big Rock Grill, limited capacity, also available to-go)
- Enjoy hot drinks and Reindeer Corn (weather permitting) in North Pole Village.
- Meet Santa Claus: Nov. 20-Dec. 23 (North Pole Lodge, masks required)



rockcitylights



seerockcity



seerockcitygardens



Discover Wonder & Adventure Ruby Falls

Discover wonder and adventure this holiday season at **Ruby Falls!** The splendor of Christmas comes alive with magical views of the Cumberland Plateau, holiday decorations on the Village Plaza, and nighttime twinkling city lights. See intricate cave formations created over millions of years along the cavern trail on a Cave Walk to the thundering waterfall or explore the beauty underground with hand-held lanterns illuminating the trail and waterfall on an after-hours Lantern Tour. Find perfect one of a kind gifts and delightful Christmas ornaments at the charming Village Gift Shop. Make Ruby Falls your holiday tradition.

Plan

- rubyfalls.com | 423-821-2544
- Nov. 13-Dec. 31, 2020, 8 a.m.-8 p.m. (Closed Christmas Day)


Insider Tips

- Tours sell out quickly. Make reservations soon.
- Tickets are for a specific date and entry-time; sold only at rubyfalls.com.
- Learn about COVID-19 safety precautions at rubyfalls.com.

Schedule Highlights

- Take a group photo in front of the 35-foot Christmas tree on the Village Plaza or on the steps of the beautifully decorated Ruby Falls Castle.
- Recharge in peace and quiet atop historic Lookout Mountain Tower with a spectacular view of the city's twinkling lights.
- Enjoy an after-hours Lantern Tour and see the famous cave and waterfall in an entirely new way.
- Find the perfect addition to your Christmas tree in the pop-up holiday shop inside the Village Gift Shop.





Holidays Under the Peaks Tennessee Aquarium & IMAX 3D

Head inside under the **Tennessee Aquarium's** lighted candy cane peaks for some underwater holiday fun. Whether you are watching for snowflakes or listening for sleigh bells, plenty of attention is paid to the sky during the holidays, but even underwater, there's yuletide cheer aplenty waiting at the Tennessee Aquarium. This year, guests can enjoy fin-tastic appearances by SCUBA Claus (weekends) as well as special programs featuring penguins and sea stars. In keeping with holiday tradition, The Polar Express 3D returns to the Tennessee Aquarium IMAX 3D Theater (check website for dates/times).

Plan

- tnaqua.org | 800-262-0695
- Nov.-Dec., 2020, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
- Closed Thanksgiving and Christmas Days

Insider Tips

- Purchase tickets in advance online to secure the time slot of your choice.
- Download the Tennessee Aquarium app to see daily schedule of programs.

Schedule Highlights

- Special holiday animal programs featuring penguins and sea stars in addition to regular daily programs with lemurs, alligators, otters and more
- SCUBA Claus dive shows: weekends
- Polar Express 3D: check tnaqua.org for screening times



tennesseeaquarium



tnaquaarium



North Pole Limited & Train Excursions Tennessee Valley Railroad

Hop on board the **Tennessee Valley Railroad's North Pole Limited** for an imaginary journey to the North Pole where a special guest will join the group. Along the way, you'll be treated to lighted displays just outside the train car windows, refreshments, keepsakes, storytelling and occasional sing-a-longs. The Tennessee Valley Railroad's other special holiday excursions offer even more fun for children and adults: Christmas Special Dinner Train, Hiwassee Holiday Train, and New Year's Eve Dinner Train.

Plan

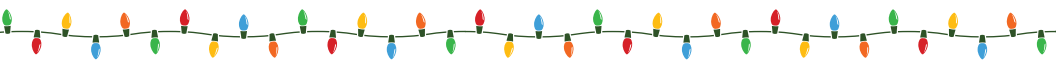
- tvrail.com | 423-894-8028
- Nov. 21-Dec. 27, 2020

Insider Tips

- Trips sell out quickly so book early.
- Come early and check out the trains in the rail yard and railroad artifacts in the depot.

Schedule Highlights

- North Pole Limited: Nov. 21-Dec. 27
- Christmas Special Dinner Train: Nov. 20-Dec. 28
- Hiwassee Holiday Train: Dec. 5-20
- New Year's Eve Dinner Train: Dec. 31





Holiday Season of Cheer Chattanooga Riverboat Company

Float down the Tennessee River aboard the Chattanooga Riverboat Company's **Southern Belle** for a truly unique **Holiday Season of Cheer!** View the Chattanooga skyline from the water and revel in the winter wonderland of holiday lights. Board a lunch or dinner cruise and have fun listening to live music, dancing, hanging out with Santa, learning more about river navigation on a Pilot House tour, and indulging in holiday meals.

Plan

- chattanoogariverboat.com | 423-266-4488
- Nov. 26-Dec. 31, 2020

Insider Tips

- Purchase tickets online to save time.
- Wear holiday clothes for a festive feeling.
- Book the Over the Top package at Chattanooga Riverboat Company's Mayor's Mansion Inn (includes a cruise for two) - mayorsmansioninn.com.

Schedule Highlights

- Thanksgiving Lunch & Dinner Cruises: Nov. 26, 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.
- Thanksgiving Dinner on Pier 2 followed by one-hour sightseeing cruise: Nov. 26, 1:30 p.m.
- Christmas Carol Dinner Cruises: Nov. 27-28, Dec. 4-5, 16 & 19, 7 p.m.
- 'Tis the Season Lunch Cruises: Dec. 5, 12 & 19, 1 p.m.
- Breakfast with Santa Cruise: Call to schedule
- New Year's Eve on the River: Dec. 31, 9 p.m.



[southern.riverboat](https://www.facebook.com/southern.riverboat)



[noogariverboat](https://www.instagram.com/noogariverboat)



Ice on the Landing Chattanooga Choo Choo

Make memories on skates under twinkling lights and a crisp winter sky at **Ice on the Landing**. The outdoor ice skating rink in the historic Chattanooga Choo Choo's Glenn Miller Gardens is surrounded by lanterns, fountains and the holiday grandeur of the Southside's iconic landmark. The open air, warm drinks, magical lights and laughs with friends and family will create a fun holiday evening. The Ice on the Landing experience includes general skating time, special themes, holiday music, a rotating schedule to benefit local nonprofits, sweet and savory crepes from Adelle's, hot chocolate, cider and other toasty drinks. Step Outside named Ice on the Landing a Best Outdoor Rink in Tennessee.

Plan

- iceonthelanding.com | 423-265-0771
- Nov. 13, 2020-Jan. 25, 2021, daily
- Open every day including Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve & New Year's Day

Insider Tips

- Take basic skating lessons on Saturday mornings before opening.
- Save money and buy a season pass so you can visit multiple times.
- Make holiday birthdays extra special with a party package to Ice on the Landing.

Schedule Highlights

- Various nights with special themes (check website)
- Hot chocolate and Adelle's Crepes available for purchase
- Join the Iron Skillet Curling League (yes, iron skillets!) – sign up online to join the league.





Holiday Magic Chattanooga Choo Choo

As if the famous free-standing dome of the **Chattanooga Choo Choo** isn't impressive enough, enter the festive lobby to see one of the city's tallest Christmas trees at 28 feet. The lights and cheer throughout the property create a magical wonderland complete with ice skating at Ice on the Landing, holiday music, Station Street activities, special holiday treats at restaurants, shopping specials at retail shops like the Chattanooga Jewelry Store and pop up shops. While on site, enjoy comedic fun at the Comedy Catch or a Runaway Train Escape Experience. The grounds of the Chattanooga Choo Choo provide endless opportunities for holiday photos, including the soaring Christmas tree, the colorful caboose in Glen Miller Gardens and the dozens of light bulbs that make up the Chattanooga marquee sign.

Plan

- choochoo.com | 423-266-5000
- Nov. 13, 2020-Jan. 25, 2021

Insider Tips

- Be one of the first to dine at **Nic & Norman's**. The Chattanooga Choo Choo's newest restaurant is a concept from an actor and a director of the hit TV show *The Walking Dead*. Opening in December.
- Park at the South Garage near the free electric shuttle stop – \$6/day
- Order your cocktail to-go and enjoy it on Station Street under the glittering strings of lights.

Schedule Highlights

- Ice on the Landing: Nov. 13, 2020-Jan. 25, 2021
- Comedy shows and escape room – check dates at choochoo.com



[chattanoogachoochoo](https://www.facebook.com/chattanoogachoochoo)



[chattanoogachoochoohotel](https://www.instagram.com/chattanoogachoochoohotel)



[chattchoochoo](https://twitter.com/chattchoochoo)



Christmas Experience on the Bluff Bluff View Art District

The historic **Bluff View Art District**, nestled on the bluff overlooking the beautiful Tennessee River, transforms into a storybook holiday experience with thousands of twinkling lights for you and your family to enjoy. The magic takes you along stone-paved walkways throughout the district into the Enchanted Forest, around nooks and crannies decked out in red and white seasonal delights, down Candy Cane Lane into the courtyard, on adventures with the little elves Rosemary, Basil, Cocoa, and Cookie and to the Mezzo to see the grand Christmas tree.

Plan

- bluffviewartdistrictchattanooga.com | 423-265-5033
- Nov. 26, 2020 –Jan. 2, 2021 (closed Christmas Day)

Insider Tips

- For specials and coupons, pick up a Bluff View Holiday Gift Guide at any business in the District.
- Share your photos and tag @bluffviewartdistrict on Instagram and Facebook with #ChristmasOnTheBluff for a chance to be featured.

Schedule Highlights

- Thanksgiving Family-Style Meals To-Go: Nov. 26; call by Nov. 24 to order
- Open House: Nov. 27, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. with live music from 12-3 p.m.
- Working pastry chefs, bakers, coffee roasters and chocolatier: during the weekdays peek into the working artists' windows to see them in action
- Working Artist Demo Days at River Gallery: Nov. 27 & 28
- 20% Snowbird Special at Bluff View Inn: Jan. & Feb. 2021 (Sun.-Thurs. only), full details online at bluffviewartdistrictchattanooga.com/snowbird-special



Explore Light & Science Creative Discovery Museum

Holiday lights come in all forms, and at the hands-on **Creative Discovery Museum**, kids can explore several kinds! Discover the twinkling lights on the RiverPlay boat. Visit the Barsamian Sculpture, a one-of-a-kind exhibit made especially for the Museum. See how the use of light and science trick the eye into seeing the sculpture in animation. Learn how electricity enters your home to power on lights in Make It. Have your kids try their hand at a gingerbread house in one of multiple workshops throughout the holidays. Experience the wonderment of winter without the cold with the return of Creative Discovery Museum's popular exhibit, **Winter Wonders!** From Nov. 21, 2020 to Feb. 21, 2021, children and families can explore a cozy cottage, "ice skate," brave the blizzard pool noodle maze and more.

Plan

- cdmfun.org | 423-756-2738
- Nov. 21, 2020-Feb. 21, 2021
- Winter hours: Thurs.-Mon., 10 a.m.- 1 p.m., 2 p.m. -5 p.m.
- Timed tickets required. Open select Tuesdays and Wednesdays. See website.
- Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

Insider Tips

- Research gingerbread house designs before going to the workshop.
- Follow Creative Discovery Museum on Facebook and Instagram; use #cdmfun.

Schedule Highlights

- Special exhibit: Winter Wonders, Nov. 21, 2020-Feb. 21, 2021
- Gingerbread Workshops: Nov. 27-29, Dec. 5-6, 12-13, 19-20



creativediscovery



cdmfun



Wonder Wall High Point Climbing & Fitness

During the holidays, you typically view the beautiful lights while walking or driving. At **High Point Climbing and Fitness** downtown, experience the lights of Chattanooga in a whole new way by scaling an architectural wonder glowing with holiday colors – the transparent exterior climbing wall that hangs over Broad Street! Named “the country’s coolest gym” by Climbing Magazine, High Point is one of the nation’s most unique climbing facilities with 30,000 square feet of climbing inside and outside.

Plan

- highpointclimbing.com | 423-602-7625
- Wonder Wall holiday lights: Nov. 15-Dec. 31, 2020, 5:30 p.m.-10 p.m.
- Regular Hours: Sun., 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Mon./Wed./Fri., 6 a.m.-10 p.m.; Tues./Thurs./Sat., 10 a.m.-10 p.m.
- Holiday hours: Thanksgiving and Christmas Days, closed; Christmas Eve, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; New Year’s Eve, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; New Year’s Day, 12-10 p.m.

Insider Tip

- Fill out the online waiver form online prior to visit to save time upon arrival.

Bonus

While you’re climbing the exterior wall, you can see the magical lights throughout the city!





Holiday Lights Chattanooga Zoo

Come see the **Chattanooga Zoo** transformed into a magical winter wonderland where you can view hundreds of lights that weave through the habitats. Holiday Lights at the zoo offers guests the opportunity to see the zoo transformed with lights for the season, visit the animals and watch them open their presents, and enjoy walking around in our winter wonderland!

Plan

- chattzoo.org | 423-697-1322
- Dec. 11-12 & 18-19, 2020, 5-8 p.m.

Insider Tips

- Bring quarters so you can purchase food to feed the animals in the Petting Zoo area and around the zoo.
- Meet some of the newest members of the zoo's family like the giraffes, which arrived this year.
- Browse and discover special treasures in the zoo's gift shop that will make the perfect holiday gift for the animal lover in your family.
- Check in on your favorite animals all season long using the live streaming webcams at chattzoo.org.

Schedule Highlights

- Watch animals open Christmas presents.
- Feed animals in the Petting Zoo area.
- 15-minute long Keeper Chats at various exhibits



[chattzoo](http://chattzoo.org)



[chattanooga_zoo](https://twitter.com/chattanooga_zoo)

Santa Sightings

Holiday Open House/Shops Along Manufacturers Road

Nov. 23 (socially distanced photos)

North Pole Limited Adventures/Tennessee Valley Railroad

Nov. 21-Dec. 27

Christmas Carol Dinner Cruises/Southern Belle Riverboat

Nov. 27-28, Dec. 4-5, 16 & 19

Breakfast with Santa/Southern Belle Riverboat

Dec. (call to schedule)

Enchanted Garden of Lights/Rock City

Nov. 20-Dec. 23 (North Pole Lodge, masks required)

SCUBA Claus Dive Shows/Tennessee Aquarium

Nov.-Dec. (weekends)

Holiday Music & Performances

Christmas Carol Dinner Cruises/Southern Belle Riverboat

Nov. 27-28, Dec. 4-5, 16 & 19, 7 p.m.

Open House/Bluff View Art District

Nov. 27, 12-3 p.m.

Chattanooga Holiday Market/Chattanooga Convention Center

Dec. 5-6, 12-13 & 19-20

'Tis the Season Lunch Cruise/Southern Belle Riverboat

Dec. 5, 12 & 19, 1 p.m.

Check visitchattanooga.com/winter for details

Holiday Trail of Lights



Holiday Events Around Chattanooga

Christmas Dinner Train/Tennessee Valley Railroad

Nov. 20-Dec. 28

Holiday Window Treasure Hunt/North Shore District*

Nov. 18, 2020-Jan. 3, 2020

Holiday Open House/Shops Along Manufacturers Road*

Nov. 18-23

Gingerbread Workshops/Creative Discovery Museum

Nov. 27-29, Dec. 5-6, 12-13, 19-20

Holiday Lighted Boat Parade/Riverfront District*

Nov. 27, 2020, 5-8:30 p.m.

Breakfast with Santa Cruise/Southern Belle Riverboat

Dec. (call to schedule)

Gingerbread Workshop/Sweet & Savory Classroom

Dec. 1, 6-9 p.m.

It's a Wonderful Life: Live Radio Play/Chattanooga Theatre Center

Dec. 4-20

Hiwassee Holiday Train/Tennessee Valley Railroad

Dec. 5-20

Chattanooga Holiday Market/Chattanooga Convention Center*

Dec. 5-6, 12-13 & 19-20

Lodge Cast Iron Bake-Off/Chattanooga Convention Center*

Dec. 12, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

Christmas Cookies & Fancy Treats/Sweet & Savory Classroom

Dec. 15, 6-9 p.m.

****Free***

**Holiday Trail of Lights Questions & Assistance
Call Santa's Helpers @ Chattanooga Visitors Center
(800) 322-3344**

Nov. 13, 2020-Jan. 17, 2021, Mon.-Fri., 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Call one of Santa's helpers and get insider tips, recommendations
and more. Chattanooga Visitors Center specialists are standing by
to ensure you experience the most wonderful time of the year!



NEW YEAR'S EVE

New Year's @ Noon/Creative Discovery Museum Dec. 31, 12 p.m.

River Cruise/Southern Belle Riverboat Dec. 31, 9 p.m.

Dinner Train/Tennessee Valley Railroad Dec. 31, 5 & 8 p.m.

Check visitchattanooga.com/winter for additional celebrations.



Gift an Experience

- **The Comedy Catch + The Terminal**
- **Ice on the Landing + STIR**
- **Retail Therapy at Warehouse Row + Public House**
- **Photos in the West Village + Easy Bistro**
- **Walk the Walnut Street Bridge + Whiskey Thief**
- **Membership to Hunter Museum of American Art**
- **Season Passes to Chattanooga Lookouts, Chattanooga Football Club or Chattanooga Red Wolves SC**

Shop Chattanooga

- **VisitChattanooga.com/Store**
- **Hamilton Place**
- **Chattanooga Holiday Market**
- **Warehouse Row**
- **North Shore Shops**
- **Locals Only Gifts**
- **Boxcar General Store**

***Coming soon... Spring
Break Safari 2021!***



visitchattanooga.com/spring

visitchattanooga.com | 800-322-3344

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