Visit Effingham: A Holiday Getaway

· AN EXCLUSIVE THANKSGIVING WEEKEND ITINERARY ·

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25TH

5 to 8 p.m. - Walking Through Wonderland: a Visit Effingham Experience in Community Park
Get an up-close look at our holiday light displays, meet Santa, his reindeer and other holiday characters, listen to live Christmas carols, and keep the little ones entertained with fun kids' activities!
Save yourself the mess and grab a festive dinner or treats, too (available for purchase).
*Free hot cocoa, coffee and cookies, while supplies last!

***For the Family:**
8 to 10 p.m. - Light up the Lawn in Downtown Effingham
Snap this year's Christmas card photo with one of our larger-than-life holiday light displays in Downtown Effingham! Explore the lights on the Courthouse lawn before you head home to prepare for Thanksgiving Day.

***For the Adults:**
8:15 p.m. - Experience Miracle at Wheat Penny in Downtown Effingham
One of 200 locations, worldwide - and the ONLY location in Illinois - Miracle Bar is more than just a holiday cocktail bar - it's a destination. This floor-to-ceiling wonderland will feature themed cocktails, collectible glassware and tons of holiday spirit(s). *Reservations are recommended!

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26TH

8:30 a.m. - Hotel? Airbnb? Wherever you choose to stay, don't miss the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade!

10 a.m. - Brunch at Niemerg's Steakhouse
Nothing says 'home for the holidays' like dining at Niemerg's Steakhouse. Enjoy a made-from-scratch breakfast in the cafe or brunch in the dining room (with a legendary salad bar) after 11 a.m. Don't forget a slice of their famous pie! Heading to a family or friend's later? Pick up a homemade pie to share!

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. - a Thanksgiving Feast (wherever you are)
Enjoy time with family, friends or whoever you're thankful for, this year. Stay tuned into our social media channels for a list of restaurants that are open for Thanksgiving Day.

3 p.m. - See a movie at RMC Cinemas
Kick back and catch Hexed or the new Hunger Games movie at RMC Cinemas - the perfect way to unwind and keep the holiday fun going. Check their website for showtimes!

5:30 p.m. - Wonderland in Lights
Enjoy a cruise through our whimsical drive-thru light display, open 5 to 9 p.m. The display is free to go through, but donations are welcome!

THE FUN CONTINUES ON PAGE 2...

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27TH

6:30 a.m. - Breakfast to-go at Fox Holler Coffee
Save precious shopping time by picking up coffee and breakfast at Fox Holler's drive-thru.

Friday Morning - Shop Local!
Make your Friday morning about exploring, discovering and finding one-of-a-kind gifts at our downtown boutiques and local small businesses. Stay tuned for updates on store hours and special Black Friday deals!

11:30 a.m. - an Early Lunch at Lucia's Italian Kitchen
Skip the leftovers and dig into authentic pasta, sauces and all your Italian favorites at Lucia's. It's the perfect way to re-energize before an afternoon of shopping.

Friday Afternoon - Choose Your Own Adventure!
***For the Adults:** keep hunting for local deals or go out in search of a festive holiday cocktail.
***For the Kids:** stop by The Play Social, a screen-free, imaginative play cafe for little ones; enjoy a warm, hand-crafted beverage from the cafe while the kids run off some energy.

5:30 p.m. - Get Cozy in the Domes at Pinky's
Warm up lakeside with soup flights, holiday cocktails and festive bites in your own private dome, lakeside.
*Reservations are recommended!

7:30 p.m. - Tinsel & Tails at Cardinal Golf Course
Take a golf cart ride through the lights! Cocoa, s'mores and cozy fires await in support of E.A.R.S.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28TH

9 a.m. - A Slow Start at Joe Sippers Cafe
Set the tone for a perfect Saturday with handcrafted coffee, a fresh pastry and all the holiday vibes...

10 a.m. - Celebrate Small Business Saturday
Check out Effingham's small businesses to find unique gifts, festive surprises and the joy of shopping local.

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. - Potted Charm's Holiday Open House
A magical stop for all - visit Santa, enjoy holiday music and a fully-stocked hot chocolate bar. Then, pick out the perfect Christmas tree or wreath (a travel-friendly option)!

12 p.m. - Lunch at Joe's Pizza & Pasta
Indulge in Effingham's favorite comfort food - homemade pizza, hearty pastas and cozy classics that hit the spot.

3 to 5 p.m. - Downtown Effingham's Hometown Christmas
Join the community for holiday cheer: festive activities, sweet treats and moments that make this season shine...

5 p.m. Lighted Christmas Parade
Bundle up and watch the streets glow as dazzling floats, music and Christmas spirit fill downtown Effingham.

6:15 p.m. - The Fun Continues...
***For the Kids:** Visits with Santa on the square until 8 p.m.
***For the Adults:** Enjoy a festive performance by the FACE Christmas Choir & Orchestra.

7 p.m. - Late Night Bites & Drinks
***For the Kids:** Pop by Ginger Ale's for a festive drink or treat... and maybe one last cruise through the lights!
***For the Adults:** Wind down at Village Wine with a cozy cocktail or glass of wine... and maybe cross a few gifts off your list while you're there.

THE FUN CONTINUES ON PAGE 3...

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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29TH

10 a.m. - Brunch at Firefly Grill
Start your Sunday with a farm-fresh brunch at Firefly Grill. Think comfort food with a culinary twist, peaceful waterfront views... and the perfect slow start to a busy travel day, if you're heading home.
*Reservations are recommended!

12 p.m. - One More for the Road
***For the Adults:** Settle in for board games, light bites and cozy sips at The Wandering Whistler. With 200+ games, cocktails, mocktails, coffee and tea, it's the ideal spot for relaxed fun after a jam-packed weekend.
***For the Kids:** Jump, run and play at The Arena Trampoline Park or the TREC Trail (weather permitting) before everyone buckles in for the drive home.

