

Some Polar Express and Christmas trains are running this season. Here's what to know if you go.

Expect masks, social distancing, and other safety measures as part of the festivities.

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Holiday events such as [Christmas tree lightings](#) have been cancelled due to the [coronavirus pandemic](#), but there are still Christmas trains delivering cheer this year to families across New England.

"We know that 2020 has been challenging for everyone, and our mission is to wrap up this year with a safe, socially distanced, and magical experience to keep the spirit of Christmas alive for the young and young at heart," Connecticut's Essex Steam Train & Riverboat wrote on its [website](#), which will offer a "Reindeer on the Rails" Christmas train.

Ahead, discover which New England Christmas trains are operating and which are closed this holiday season. Keep in mind that capacities are limited and [COVID-19](#) travel restrictions must be followed when crossing state lines, in addition to safety guidelines from local officials and the train operators.

Christmas trains that are operating:

Though the [Blackstone Valley Polar Express](#) has been cancelled due to COVID-19, producers are instead offering a "[Search for Santa](#)" ride from Nov. 27 to Dec. 20. The 20-minute boat ride to the "North Pole" on the Blackstone Valley Explorer in Central Falls includes a reading of "'Twas the Night Before Christmas," activity sheets and crayons, treats, hot chocolate, and a scavenger hunt to find Christmas characters. Children also receive a gift from Santa. As part of the COVID-19 safety measures, all guests get free masks and hand sanitizer, according to the [website](#). View [Rhode Island's COVID-19 travel restrictions](#).