

TRAVEL

Where to go for the holidays





Enchant Christmas, St. Pete/Clearwater, Florida Credit: VisitStPeteClearwater.com

It's hard to believe the holidays are weeks away. Chances are last year you didn't travel because of the pandemic. This time around though, you may feel a bit more confident about celebrating beyond your hometown.

While visiting family likely tops your list, if you're feeling like you want to do something different and enjoy the holidays with a vacation, the festivities abound. You won't have to miss out on the joy of the season. Here are a few ideas for where to go.

Providence and Newport, Rhode Island

Why not go for a two-fer? Providence and Newport are less than an hour away from each other. Load up on the holiday fare in both cities. In Providence there's the Roger Williams Park Zoo's Holiday Lights Spectacular, with more than 1.5 million illuminated lights and larger-than-life dazzling displays, running on select dates from Nov. 26 to Jan. 2. In Newport it's all about The Classic Coast, with happenings like the Newport Illuminated Boat Parade, the tree lighting at Bowen's Wharf, a brand-new European Christmas Market and more. Warm up with The Black Pearl's famous clam chowder or enjoy a hearty seasonal meal at White Horse Tavern, America's oldest tavern. Settle in to The Chanler at Cliff Walk or Forty 1 North, which both offer cozy fireplaces in all rooms and suites. Do plan to check out the Newport Mansions. Admire the over-the-top decorations throughout The Marble House, Elms, and The Breakers including the grand 15-foot-tall Poinsettia Tree in the great hall of The Breakers.