



# RHODE ISLAND

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## The Holidays in Rhode Island (Times and availability vary)

Please enjoy our inspirational state-wide holiday itinerary. This is not a complete list of available attractions, events, or dining places but is provided to assist with the creative process in planning a Rhode Island holiday experience.

### Day 1

The holiday season in Rhode Island is filled with tradition, exciting activities, and Christmas themed attractions; fun for all groups. Discover more than 150 points of interest when you depart on a **local tour** through three centuries of legendary history and culture. Take in the rugged beauty along Newport's Ten-Mile **Ocean Drive** and the fabulous mansions on Bellevue Avenue.

<https://www.newport-discovery-guide.com/viking-tours.html>

Experience the holiday traditions and winter caretaking practices at **Doris Duke's** Newport home, **Rough Point**. Rooms of the museum estate are spruced up for the Christmas holiday while other rooms will be cloaked in their winter coverings. Together, these spaces tell the story of Miss Duke's holiday traditions and the off-season routines of one of Newport's summer cottages.

<https://www.newportrestoration.org/roughpoint/>

This evening, immerse yourself in the classic tale of humbuggery, ghosts, and redemption. The interactive retelling of the Charles Dickens' classic "A Christmas Carol" by the Marley Bridges Theatre Company is an evening of music, laughter, food, and spirits aboard the **Newport Dinner Train** in their custom-designed theater car <https://trainsri.com/>

### Day 2

Choose from three magnificently decorated Houses. **The Breakers, The Elms and Marble House--three National Historic Landmarks** and icons of the Gilded Age in America--are filled with thousands of poinsettias, fresh flowers, evergreens, and wreaths. Thirty decorated Christmas trees will reflect the magnificent decor in many of the rooms. Dining tables set with period silver and China complete the elegant setting. Windows of each mansion are lit with individual white candles, in keeping with the colonial tradition. <https://www.newportmansions.org/>

Make the yuletide spirits bright at **Newport Vineyards** where you may sip and savor a touch of Napa, right here in Newport and get a behind-the-scenes look on your winery tour. Pair this experience with a wine tasting and journey through a selection of Vineyard's estate-grown wines. Enjoy dining at **Brix, Newport Vineyards' award-winning restaurant**. <https://www.brixnewport.com/>



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Newport Historical Society's **Holiday Lantern Walking Tour** is where you will hear the history of early American holiday traditions during a stroll through town. Learn how colonial Newport recognized (or didn't) the holidays. <https://newporthistory.org/>

At the **Newport Playhouse** your group will savor an extensive hearty buffet, a spectacular holiday themed performance followed by a fun-filled cabaret, all part of the experience. <https://www.newportplayhouse.com/>

## Day 3

Join the Island Moving Company for its one-of-a-kind performance of **The Nutcracker set within salons, a ballroom and the iconic staircase of Rosecliff Mansion**. Move throughout the house with the performers, as the traditional story unfolds before your eyes. <https://islandmovingco.org/performances-events/nutcracker/>

**Sparkling Lights at The Breakers** brings the magic of the holidays inside and outside this landmark Gilded Age mansion! You'll stroll along a half mile-long path glittering with hundreds of thousands of holiday lights while music fills the winter air. See illuminated displays and sparkling surprises along the way. Tour the opulent interior of The Breakers decorated in holiday splendor. Enjoy holiday treats and adult beverages for purchase at the back terrace and The Breakers Welcome Center. <https://www.newportmansions.org/events/sparkling-lights-2025/>

Dining in Gilded Luxury at **Ocean Cliff**, perched along Newport's World-famous Ocean Drive, offers breathtaking views. The magnificent castle's Safari Room is the perfect location for a group lunch or dinner. To learn about their new group tour menu and special group pricing go to <https://www.newportexperience.com/dine>

## Day 4

Bristol is a Christmas wonderland where the picturesque colonial village is draped with holiday spirit including Santaclauses house. Enjoy a stop at **Blithewold Garden and Arboretum** transformed into a dazzling display celebrating the magic of Christmas. Each room of the mansion is filled with elaborate holiday decorations, and the gardens become a glimmering winter wonderland <https://www.blithewold.org/>

We invite your group for **Tea in Blithewold's festively decorated Dining Room**, a place where fine meals have always been served to cherished guests. Gather with friends and exchange stories while delighting in a cup of tea, freshly baked scones with sweet cream, and a three-tiered tray filled with sweet and savory treats. Simply luxurious! <https://www.blithewold.org/event/winter-afternoon-tea-members-only-until-10-7/>



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Later, A towering Christmas tree framed by a four-story spiral staircase, elegant decorations on every mantle and in every nook and cranny and original artwork by top local artists...these are just a few of the many delights that await you this Christmas season at **Linden Place Mansion**.

<https://www.lindenplace.org/>

Off to the Blackstone Valley where your **Polar Express** excursion begins aboard a real-life train that is filled with a telling of the classic children's story, sing-a-longs, hot chocolate, delicious cookies, games, and a special visit from Santa where he personally delivers the first gift of Christmas to every child!!!

<https://www.blackstonevalleypolarexpress.com/site/>

Dinner this evening is at **Wrights Farm**, a Rhode Island tradition! The family-style dinner is an all-you-can-eat meal of roasted chicken, salad, pasta, potato, and rolls. Unique to the Blackstone River Valley, this is an absolutely don't miss feast. <https://www.wrightsfarm.com/restaurant/dine-in-menu/>

## Day 5

Providence is a living art gallery with more than 150 outdoor installations. There is truly something to experience on every corner. Enjoy a guided tour with **Avenue Concepts**, a non-profit organization that nurtures and supports Providence's public art ecosystems. <https://theavenueconcept.org>

Then a special stop at **Rhode Island School of Design Museum** "Americas top design school, "and hundreds enduring examples of period architecture. <https://risdmuseum.org/>

Celebrating 45 years at **Trinity Rep**, "A Christmas Carol", is Rhode Island's family holiday tradition that brings Ebenezer Scrooge, Jacob Marley, Tiny Tim, and the ghosts of Christmas Past, Present, and Future to the stage in a glorious re-telling of the classic story that has delighted and inspired millions.

<https://www.trinityrep.com/>

Experience the **Holiday Lights Spectacular at Roger Williams Zoo** – Rhode Island's brightest annual walk-through experience, lighting up the season with more than 3.5 million twinkling bulbs across 40 acres of festive fun. Stroll, sip, and saunter your way through glowing pathways and whimsical displays that bring the holidays to life. From playful penguins to shimmering snowflakes, the magic of the season is on display at New England's favorite winter tradition. Stop and grab a hot chocolate or an adult beverage, toast s'mores by the fire, and take in the glow that makes the Zoo shine after dark. It's the perfect holiday experience to share with friends and family

<https://www.rwpzoo.org/holidaylights/>

This evening, Providence offers **amazing gastronomy** from authentic Italian, fresh seafood, to Asian fusion, vegan, Greek, French the choices are endless.

## Day 6



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**Christmas at Clouds Hill Museum** in Warwick, offers a Victorian-themed holiday experience with rooms decorated in period style, featuring antique ornaments, fresh evergreens, and changing displays each year, often with staff in costume sharing stories, creating a historical, immersive holiday feel without typical farm activities. <https://www.cloudshill.org/>

Overlooking beautiful Narragansett Bay, the seventy-room, French chateau hosts a unique blend of European artistry and craftsmanship reflecting an era of yesteryear. Situated on seventy acres, **The Aldrich Mansion** is the perfect place to enjoy a Christmas themed lunch.

<https://www.aldrichmansion.com/christmas-at-the-mansion>

## Day 7

**The Nutcrackers** arrive in Westerly on November 28, and this public-art installation of 100 life-sized nutcracker sculptures can be seen in downtown Westerly and neighboring villages throughout December. Each Nutcracker is an original work of art, hand painted by a variety of talented local artists to celebrate the Ocean Community Chamber of Commerce's 100 Anniversary. [About.](#) | [The Nutcracker Trail](#)

**Wilcox Park in Westerly** transforms into a magical holiday spot at Christmas. The park's twinkling with lights, plus other events like wreath-making workshops hosted by the Westerly Library & Wilcox Park. The park's historic trees are adorned with lights, creating an enchanting atmosphere for evening strolls and community celebrations throughout December.

"**United Holiday Spectacular**" — a one-hour production inspired by Radio City's Christmas Spectacular that features more than 60 young, local performers ready to dance, play and sing festive holiday favorites— is set to take place this Sunday, keeping a new holiday tradition alive. <https://unitedtheatre.org/shows/united-holiday-spectacular/>

### **Additional group attractions open at this time of year:**

The Newport Car Museum (Great catered group lunch option)  
The Audrain  
The International Tennis Hall of Fame  
The Newport Art Museum  
The Museum of Work and Culture  
The John Brown House  
Wine Tasting at the Newport Vineyards  
Citywide step on service in Newport and Providence



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