



'Tis the Season in Williamsburg

The holidays are a wonderful time to [Visit Williamsburg](#), when Williamsburg, Jamestown, and Yorktown light up with seasonal decorations, markets, and entertainment.

Holiday Lights and Decorations

On December 1, the [Yorktown Christmas Tree Lighting](#) takes place at Victory Walk and Riverfront Landing. The evening is filled with live music including a performance by the Fifes and Drums of York Town. A procession will then make its way from the Victory Monument to Riverwalk Landing, where the tree lighting ceremony takes place.

A community tradition returns to the Yorktown Waterfront on December 2 for the [Yorktown Holiday Boat Parade](#), where a fleet of decorated boats navigate around the York River and compete for best in show. Festivities include caroling around a beach bonfire, a musical performance by the Fifes & Drums of York Town, and complimentary hot cider. The boats finish the evening as they make their way down the river in a dazzling show of lights.

On December 2, 9, and 16, [Colonial Williamsburg's Grand Illumination](#) lights up the night sky over the colonial capital. Visitors can begin the special day by checking out the unique decorations throughout the Historic Area. Then, enjoy musical performances on multiple stages throughout the streets and fireworks displays from the Capitol and the Palace.

Historic hotels, estates, and inns throughout the region sparkle with traditional lights and décor throughout the Christmas season. [A Williamsburg White House Inn](#), themed after the White House, is draped in holiday decorations. And [Colonial Williamsburg Resorts](#) is celebrating the holiday season with a festive array of events and experiences including the [Annual Lighting Ceremony](#) at the iconic Williamsburg Inn and the highly-anticipated [Annual Gingerbread Open House](#) at the Williamsburg Lodge.

Markets

On December 2 and 3, Yorktown's [Christmas Market on Main](#) returns to historic Main Street. Close to 100 vendors line the street selling everything from nautical paintings to handmade soaps to Christmas wreaths! The Town Crier will ring in the market, followed by a performance from the Fifes and Drums of York Town, an appearance by Santa Claus himself, and musical entertainment throughout the day to add to the festive atmosphere.

At the [Williamsburg Christmas Market](#) dozens of vendors sell holiday gifts and décor, while shoppers enjoy photo ops with Santa, live entertainment, gluhwein (warm spiced wine), craft beers, Christmas music, fire pits, and delicious market food from local restaurants.

Entertainment

From November 11 through January 7, [Christmas Town at Busch Gardens Williamsburg](#) returns. Visitors enjoy heart-warming holiday shows and classics such as Santa's Workshop, the Christmas Town Express, 'Twas that Night ice skating show, and the new Santa's Fireside Feast presented by Coca-Cola®.

On December 9, visitors can enjoy "At Christmas be mery": A Special Evening at Historic Jamestowne. Guests join an early Virginia Christmas celebration complete with costumed interpreters, madrigal singers, a seasonal bonfire, and caroling, along with a musical performance by William and Mary's Christopher Wren Singers.

From December 16-31, visitors will celebrate 17th- and 18th- century holiday traditions through festive interpretive programs, traditional cooking, caroling, and musical entertainment at [Christmastide in Virginia at Jamestown Settlement](#).