



What's New: Winter 2018

Shopping & Leisure

Local Holiday Shopping in Oakland

'Tis the season for hosting parties, game nights, dinners, and holiday festivities. Whether you are adding a statement piece or setting a pretty table, Oakland offers products that will create a welcoming home. Throughout the 2018 holiday season visitors and locals are encouraged to shop, dine, and play here in Oakland. You can find Oakland holiday gift guides [here](#), to complete all of your holiday shopping.

Food & Drink

Oeste Begins Brunch and Lunch Service

Oeste is now open for brunch and lunch. Their brunch hours are Tuesday – Friday 6:30am – 3:00pm and Saturday and Sunday 11:00am-2:30pm. They've also started serving lunch throughout the bar and even on the outdoor deck.

Oakland's Chef Smelly Finds Permanent Space in North Oakland

Chef Smelly is now a permanent resident at OVO Tavern and Eatery in North Oakland. The menu includes his classics, including surf and turf fries, dungeneous crab and garlic noodles, served up fresh six days a week.

Cupcakin' Bakeshop Breaks Ground on Swan's Market Location

A gourmet bakery is moving into Swan's Market, and will be offering artisan sweet treats to the masses. Lila Owens opened her first location in Berkeley and is excited about an expansion into Oakland.

Upscale Seafood Restaurant, Marica, Reopens As Casual Pizzeria

The upscale Rockridge eatery shut down in July, but has been reopened as a more casual, fast-dining Pizzeria. The business has remained under the same family ownership, and has undergone a full menu and space redesign. They will offer a full bar, Italian starters and a mix of classic and creative pizza toppings.

Vietnamese Street Food, Co Nam, Debuts in Temescal

A rustic themed Vietnamese eatery has opened for dinner in Temescal. The casual décor compliments the rotating menu inspired by south Vietnamese street food that the owners experienced in their childhood. Offering a full bar and lunch hours soon, but until then give their jalepeno-glazed chicken hearts a taste with a locally brewed craft beer.

Côte West Moves to New Space in Embarcadero Cove

Côte West is a boutique, family-run urban winery based in Oakland. They seek out special vineyard sites and use minimal intervention in the winery to highlight the unique characteristics of their sources. The result is Old World-style, yet undeniably Californian wines. Côte West recently moved to a new winery in Embarcadero Cove.

FOB Kitchen Opens in Temescal Neighborhood

FOB Kitchen, a Filipino restaurant, is now open in Oakland's Temescal neighborhood. After being a pop-up for a few years, they are now opening their first brick-and-mortar location at 5179 Telegraph Avenue, in the former Juhu Beach Club space.

Tiger's Taproom Now Open in Jack London District

Jack London District is now home to the beer bar and bottle shop, Tiger's Taproom. They have 16 beers on tap along with a selection of cans and bottles to take home.

New Developments

Oakland Airport Announces Local Fare Dining Makeover

The Port of Oakland and the Board of Commissioners has announced 16 local restaurants that will replace the airport's current dining spaces. Long term agreements with current concession operators will end on January 1st 2019 and renovations will begin soon after. New restaurants include Tanya Holland's famous Brown Sugar Kitchen Counter and Oakland A's Club House. All new restaurants are expected to be operating by the end of 2019.

Oakland Athletics to Build a New Ballpark at Howard Terminal and Redevelop Oakland Coliseum Site

The Oakland A's have announced that they intend to build a next-generation urban ballpark at Howard Terminal. The A's also plan to pursue a second project to redevelop the Coliseum site. The two-project approach will create significant economic and community benefits for West and East Oakland.

Events

Black Santa Pop-Up in Jack London Square: November 23 – December 24

Black Santa has turned 54 Washington in Jack London Square into a winter wonderland. During the weekends, children can make custom ornaments in Santa's workshop, buy holiday candy in Mrs. Claus's sweet shop, get your presents wrapped and of course meet and take a photo with Black Santa.

blacksanta.com/pages/black-santa-wonderland

Jack London Square Tree Lighting Ceremony: November 30

Oakland's favorite annual holiday tradition promises to deliver holiday magic to the Oakland waterfront with the lighting of the spectacular 55-foot Mount Shasta Fir Tree adorned with 5,000 sparkling white lights and 600 colorful ornaments. The ceremony will be from 5pm-8pm in Jack London Square.

www.jacklondonsquare.com/events/special-events

Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir's 33rd Holiday Concert: December 1

Interfaith Gospel Choir is a non-profit arts organization founded in Oakland in 1986. The award-winning Choir is bringing their exquisite harmonies and stirring gospel repertoire to the Paramount Theater for their 33rd annual holiday concert. Tickets can be purchased at the Paramount box office or online.

www.oigc.org/withonevoice/

13th Annual Jingletown Winter Art Walk/Open Studios: December 1 & 2

The Art Walk event includes open studios and gallery exhibits highlighting the work of outstanding artists who live and/or work in Jingletown, a recognized arts district in the Bay Area. Enjoy local artists and gallery shows displaying art in a unique and walkable neighborhood.

<https://jingletown.org>

Second Annual Temescal Holiday Fair: December 2

This year's Holiday Fair theme is Creators and Critters and lives true to its name. This year will feature a free petting zoo, luminary bag decorating, and holiday wreath making all hosted by local businesses. Come and support Temescal artists and see their amazing art from 11pm-5pm.

www.oaklandgrown.org/holiday-season-events/2018/12/2/second-annual-temescal-holiday-fair

Holiday Caroling on Lake Merritt: December 2-23

Celebrate this holiday season with hot cider and cookies before beginning your voyage around Lake Merritt. After you've met at the Lake Merritt Boating Center you'll climb aboard your water sleigh and sail past the 19th street fountain and holiday cove before returning to the boat center. Tours are available four days a week throughout December.

www.visitoakland.com/event/holiday-caroling-on-lake-merritt/23761/

ZooLights at the Oakland Zoo: December 7-23 & 26-31, January 1-6

Oakland Zoo is set to turn on a holiday tradition known as ZooLights, a festival of lights, on Friday, December 7. Bigger and better than ever before, guests can ride the festively-lit gondolas up to the Landing Café, open for the first time during ZooLights, for dinner and other holiday fare while enjoying the spectacular Bay Area views at 650 feet above sea level. Also new is a Winter Wonderland attraction, where kids can visit with Santa in his spacious workshop and enjoy 'snow' falling from the night sky.

www.oaklandzoo.org/programs-and-events/zoolights

33rd Annual Christmas Revels: December 8-9 & 14-16

For its 33rd year, Oakland's beloved Christmas Revels salutes the season, this time taking audiences to Medieval Spain for "Ancient Mysteries of Andalusian Spain." Performances are on two weekends, December 8-9 and 14-16, 2018 at the Scottish Rite Auditorium. www.californiarevels.org/show/

Holiday Tradition at Dunsmuir Hellman Historic Estate: December 8-22

A Holiday Tradition at Dunsmuir Hellman Estate offers high tea, mansion tours, brunch with Santa, walk through winter wonderland, holiday movies, holiday family photos and much more.

www.eventbrite.com/e/holiday-tradition-high-tea-at-the-dunsmuir-estate-12918-tickets-51418087885?aff=ebdssbdestsearch

Fairy Winterland at Children's Fairyland: December 14-23

In December, Fairy Winterland celebrates the winter holidays of many cultures: Christmas, Chanukah, Kwanzaa, Las Posadas, Diwali, and Chinese New Year. Join for stories, crafts, a festival of lights and a visit from Santa. <https://fairyland.org/events-and-performances/annual-events/>

Friday Nights @ OMCA, Winterfest: Oakland Museum of California: December 14

Celebrate diverse winter traditions reflected in the Bay Area, including Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa. Enjoy story time with the Oakland Public Library, winter themed activities, strolling carolers and a special Balinese dance and music performance by Gamelan Sekar Jaya Ensemble.

<http://museumca.org/2018/friday-nights-omca-dec14>

SantaCon Oakland, Festival Booth and After Party: December 15

Join SantaCon in Jack London Square for music, food, Santa games and fun. The Official after party is from 9pm-2am at Esports Arena. A portion of all proceeds benefit Intercity Services, and Covenant House.

www.santacon.info/Oakland-CA/

Old Oakland Holiday Ice Rink: December 14– January 6

Old Oakland's first outdoor ice skating rink will make its debut this holiday season. Oakland Central is encouraging the community to come out and celebrate this holiday season together. Skate rentals are available as well as a beverage garden, and the rink will be located on the corner of 9th and Washington.

<https://oaklandcentral.com/therink/>

Graham Lustig's the Nutcracker: December 22 & 23

The spirit of the holidays is brought to life with beautiful dancing, magnificent scenery and imaginative costumes. Cheer on Marie and her soldiers as she rescues the Nutcracker Prince from the evil Rat King and then soar with dancing snowflakes to the Land of Sweets where luscious treats await.

<http://oaklandballet.org/wp/performances/graham-lustigs-the-nutcracker/>

New Year's Eve Party on the Waterfront: December 31

Eve's Waterfront is hosting a party on New Year's Eve. The gathering features an open bar, live music, and a sparkling wine toast at midnight. The stellar views and great company are guaranteed to make this a night to remember. www.eveswaterfront.com/nye

Women's March Oakland: January 21

Women's March Oakland 2019 will flood the streets with a wave of self-identified women and their allies from the East Bay and beyond. At this nonpartisan, peaceful event on the Saturday before Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, communities will activate and publicly proclaim their commitment.

<https://womensmarchoakland.org/events/2019/1/19/womens-march-oakland-2019>

ABOUT VISIT OAKLAND

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