

# Frommer's

## Holiday Dazzle: The USA's Most Spectacular Winter Light Displays

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Wanna go on a holiday lights safari this winter? You have plenty of options. When the weather turns chilly, gardens, zoos, racetracks, caverns, city parks, resorts, and mansions across the U.S. outdo themselves with multitudes of twinkling lights and stunning décor involving trains, animals, North Pole denizens, and other creations.

Here's where to get happily mesmerized by holiday magic.



[The Preservation Society of Newport County](#)

## Holidays at the Newport Mansions, Rhode Island

During **Holidays at the Newport Mansions**, over-the-top homes that once belonged to Gilded Age industrialists get even more over the top with elaborate wreaths, flower displays, and Christmas trees in nearly every room. At **The Breakers**, built for the Vanderbilt family, a 15-foot-tall stack of poinsettias dominates the Great Hall; take a close look at the tree in the bedroom of patriarch Cornelius Vanderbilt to see if it's bedecked with train ornaments in reference to a major source of his wealth. Kids can follow a child-friendly audio tour at the Breakers or **The Elms**, where antique circus toys are on display. Don't neglect the gardens, either. "Sparkling Lights at The Breakers" (pictured above; separate ticket required) offers 6 acres' worth of stately luminance.

*Dates: November 19–January 1*