NEWS RELEASE

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Inclusive Santa and Visiting with Santa at James Island County Park

Multiple ways to see St. Nick this year

[CHARLESTON, SC] – This year's Holiday Festival of Lights is here, and Santa himself is at the festival each night from Nov. 13 through Dec. 23. In addition to visiting with Santa during the light show at James Island County Park, Charleston County Parks offers other ways to experience a visit with Santa during daytime hours.



Inclusive Santa
People with disabilities and their families are invited to schedule private visits with Santa on Sunday, **Dec. 6 and 13 between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.** at James Island County Park. Experience the time-honored tradition of a visit with Santa Claus during dedicated hours in a calming, subdued environment. A professional photographer will take photos of each group of up to five people with Santa. Advance registration is required, and includes a full digital package of all images of your visit, as well as a gift pass to visit the Holiday Festival of Lights on an evening of their choosing. Each visit with Santa will be on a first-come, first-served basis during their time slot. Santa is even fluent in American Sign Language. To better accommodate guests with sensory difficulties, KultureCity sensory bags equipped with noise canceling headphones, fidget tools, and verbal cue cards are available during the event. A dedicated space is available for guests who may feel overwhelmed by the environment. Gift shops and Santa's Sweet Shop will be open during the event hours. Register at https://www.ccprc.com/holiday-festival-of-lights/visit-with-santa/.



Mingle with Kringle
Book a private visit with the big elf himself outside of festival hours. Known as Mingle with Kringle, these special daytime appearances will be offered on Saturday, **Dec. 5 and 12**. Advance registration is required and open to the public. Available timeslots are 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 12 p.m., 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. Groups of up to 5 people will have a chance to tell Santa Claus their Christmas wishes and receive a digital download of photos from a professional photographer. Registration includes photography downloads and a Gift Pass to visit the Holiday Festival of Lights on an evening of their choosing. Each visit with Santa will be on a first-come, first-served basis during that time slot. Gift shops and Santa's Sweet Shop will be open during the event hours. For details or to register, visit https://www.ccprc.com/holiday-festival-of-lights/visit-with-santa/.

At the Festival
Kris Kringle will be at the Holiday Festival of Lights nightly starting at 6 p.m. Nov. 13 through Dec. 23. Visiting with Santa at the festival is free with your admission to the Holiday Festival of Lights; digital photos are available for an additional fee. When you arrive at the festival, sign in with one of the elves at Santa's stage to be added to a virtual queue. Families will be able to take advantage of all the event has to offer while waiting. Guests will receive a notification on their mobile phone when their time to see Santa is approaching.

The Holiday Festival of Lights features over 750 light displays along a three-mile drive at James Island County Park and is open Nov. 13 – Dec. 31, 2026. Guests can park their car and explore other areas of the park to enjoy family activities, holiday shopping, delicious treats, and so much more. For more information on the event, including hours and admissions information, call 843-795-4386 or visit HolidayFestivalofLights.com. This event is presented by Boeing, South Carolina Federal Credit Union and your Charleston County Parks.

Owned and managed by the Charleston County Park and Recreation Commission (CCPRC), James Island County Park is located at 871 Riverland Drive. The mission of CCPRC is to improve the quality of life in Charleston County by offering a diverse system of park facilities, programs and services. The large park system features over 11,000 acres of property and includes six land parks, a skate park, three beach parks, four seasonally-lifeguarded beach areas, three dog parks, two landmark fishing piers, three waterparks, 19 boat landings, a climbing wall, a challenge course, an interpretive center, a historic plantation site, an equestrian center, cottages, a campground, a marina, as well as wedding, meeting and event facilities. The park system also offers a wide variety of recreational services – festivals, camps, classes, programs, and more. For more information on CCPRC, call 843-795-4386, visit CharlestonCountyParks.com.

Photos and b-roll available upon request; please email sarah.reynolds@ccprc.com. Please visit the Holiday Festival of Lights media room at https://www.ccprc.com/holiday-festival-of-lights/media/