

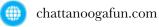


Nov. 17, 2017 - Jan. 21, 2018 chattanoogafun.com/winter

The holidays are here and it's a great season for spending time with family and friends, parties, incredible cuisine, and lots of shopping.

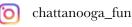
In Chattanooga, you'll find plenty of incredible experiences along the new Holiday Trail of Lights. The trail has eight major points of interest featuring millions of twinkling lights at Chattanooga's top holiday attractions. Visitors will also get to enjoy a varied array of festivals, holiday events, delicious holiday meals, Santa sightings, shopping, and live music and entertainment scattered throughout the city.

For a chance to be featured on our social media, let us know about your Chattanooga holiday vacation by posting pictures and using #TrailofLightsCHA.



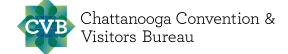


ChattanoogaFun





chattanoogafun



Head high atop Lookout Mountain to the award-winning, 23rd annual light extravaganza. New paths were created in 2016 that allow you to choose one of four uniquely themed realms of wonder to start with (map available online). Evening includes hundreds of thousands of LED lights that transform the gardens' natural daytime splendor into a magical fantasyland, pictures with Santa, gingerbread cookie decorating, hot cocoa, and nightly entertainment.

#### Plan:

- Nov. 17, 2017-Jan. 6, 2018: Nightly, 6-9 p.m.
- · Closed Christmas Eve night.
  - seerockcity.com

seerockcity

- seerockcitygardens
- SeeRockCityGardens
- seerockcity

800-854-0675

## **Insider Tips:**

- Prior to arrival, check out the new map of the lights and four realms of wonder online.
- Visit Mondays-Thursdays for discounted tickets!

#### **Schedule:**

- Dazzling lights (4 realms).
- Cookie decorating with Mrs. Claus (North Pole Lodge).
- Nightly entertainment (North Pole Lodge).
- Meet Santa Claus & get a photo (North Pole Lodge).

During the holidays, the Tennessee Aquarium offers special holiday programming which includes interacting with animal experts, weekend appearances by SCUBA Claus who will be diving in the River Giants or the Lake Nickajack exhibits, feedings, enrichment programs, and opportunities for kids to become Young Scientists. Special screenings of Polar Express 3D in IMAX with Laser will be shown Dec. 1-24.

#### Plan:

- Nov. 17-Dec. 31, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
- Closed Thanksgiving & Christmas Days.
  - tnaqua.org
- tnaquarium
- tennesseeaquarium
- **TennesseeAquarium**
- tennesseeaquarium

800-262-0695

## **Insider Tips:**

- Purchase tickets on your mobile device and scan in when you arrive.
- Download the Tennessee Aquarium app to see daily schedule of programs.

#### **Schedule:**

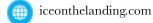
- New special animal programs with invertebrates, Freshwater Pipefish, penguins, & more: Daily, Nov. 17-Dec. 31.
- Weekend SCUBA Claus dive shows: Nov. 18-Dec.17.
- Caroling with the Fishes: Dec. 3.
- PJ's and the Polar Express Events: Dec. 16 & 17.
- Polar Express 3D: Daily, Dec. 1-24.



The much anticipated temporary outdoor ice rink has moved to the Chattanooga Choo Choo Gardens. Schedule includes general skating time, special themes, appearances by Santa, and a rotating schedule to benefit local not-for-profits. Food vendors available on site. The Chattanooga Choo Choo also includes true Rock & Roll experiences at **Songbirds Guitar Museum**, world-famous comedians at **The Comedy Catch**, and regular live music at the **Revelry Room**.

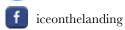
#### Plan:

- Nov. 17, 2017 Jan. 21, 2018 (times vary).
- Open Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve, & New Year's Day.





iceonthelanding





423-265-0771



## **Insider Tips:**

- Take basic skating lessons on Saturday mornings before opening hours (ages 5 & up).
- Save money and buy a season pass so you can visit multiple times.

#### Schedule:

- Live music (check schedule).
- NYE Special Late Night Skate: 11 p.m.-1 a.m. (special ticket price).

Walk across Walnut Street Bridge, one of the longest pedestrianonly bridges in the world at 2,370-feet, as you enjoy the thousands of twinkling lights in snowflake form. The bridge connects downtown Chattanooga with the vibrant historic North Shore District and offers incredible views of the Tennessee River. The bridge connects visitors to the revitalized riverfront, Tennessee Aquarium and other attractions and restaurants on the south side, and many shops, galleries, and restaurants on the north side.

#### Plan:

• Mid-Nov. 2017-Jan. 2018.

## **Insider Tips:**

- Watch the fireworks from the bridge during the Holiday Cheer at the Pier on Nov. 24. Event runs 5-9 p.m. with fireworks at 7 p.m.
- South end of the bridge: Grab a hot drink from the espresso bar at the Ice Cream Show before walking across the bridge.
- North end of the bridge: Take a ride on the antique carousel and enjoy dinner at one of the delicious restaurants before walking across the bridge. (Carousel Hours: Mon.-Thurs., 11 a.m.-7 p.m.; Fri., 11 a.m.-8 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; & Sun., Noon-7 p.m. Closed Mon.-Thurs. during Jan. & Feb.)

#### **Schedule:**

• Lights turn on daily at dusk.



Chattanooga Riverboat Co.'s Southern Belle Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Eve Lunch & Dinner Cruises

Enjoy a trip to the "North Pole" pulled by a locomotive with refreshments, storytelling, caroling, and more! During the return ride, Santa makes his way through the train cars to greet every child and presents a keepsake item to all the children. Dates have multiple times - check website for schedule. These trips sell out so book early. Be sure to check out the additional special holiday trips: **Nightcaps with St. Nick** (adults only) and the **Santa's Hiwassee Holiday Train**.

#### Plan:

• Nov. 24-Dec. 31: Dates & times vary.

tvrail.com

y t



**f** tvrail





423-894-8028

## **Insider Tips:**

- Come early and check out the trains in the rail yard and the railroad artifacts displayed throughout the Depot.
- Upgrade your ticket to ride in Santa's Private Car with perks such as more time with Santa!

#### **Schedule:**

- Storytelling on the train.
- Visit the North Pole.
- Meet Santa Claus after picking him up at the North Pole (special Santa Car gets you extra time with Santa).

Travel down the Tennessee River for a truly unique holiday experience! During the lunch and dinner cruises, guests will have fun listening to live music, dancing, hanging out with Santa, learning more about river navigation on a Pilot House tour, and indulging in holiday meals of sage-roasted turkey breast, sweet potato casserole, and much more. Don't miss the community event **Holiday Cheer on the Pier** on Nov. 24 from 5-9 p.m. Event features a lighted boat parade (40+ boats), local crafters and food, visits from Santa Claus, and fireworks sponsored by the Southern Belle Riverboat at 7 p.m.

#### Plan:

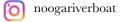
- Nov. 23-Dec. 31: Dates & times vary.
  - chattanoogariverboat.com

NoogaRiverboat

f southern.riverboat



423-266-4488



## **Insider Tips:**

- Purchase tickets online to save time.
- Dress in festive holiday clothes to make an even greater photo that's taken right before you board. Santa will be pleased!

#### **Schedule:**

- Thanksgiving Lunch & Dinner Cruises: Nov. 23, 11 a.m. & 5 p.m.
- Christmas Carol Dinner Cruises: Nov. 24-25 & Dec. 2-3, 7-10, 14-17, & 23
- 'Tis the Season Lunch Cruises: Dec. 1-3, 8-10, 15-17, & 23
- Breakfast with Santa Cruise: Dec. 2 & 9
- Holiday Cheer on the Pier: Nov. 24 from 5-9 p.m.



Ruby Falls' Christmas Underground offers a magical holiday adventure for the whole family. Explore the cave for the magical "Joystone," walk through a secret underground ice cave that leads straight to Santa at the North Pole, see the Northern Lights, check out the Sugar Plum Fairy Village, and don't forget to tell Santa everything that you want for Christmas. Additional option includes the standard Ruby Falls Tour.

#### Plan:

- Dec. 1-10: Thurs.-Sun., Noon-8 p.m.
- Dec. 14-23: Daily, Noon-8 p.m.

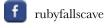




seerubyfalls

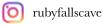


seerubyfalls





rubyfallscave





800-755-7105

## **Insider Tips:**

- Visit during daytime hours for a more personal experience.
- There's plenty of individual visit time with Santa, so have kids prepare their wish list and bring it with them!

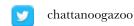
#### **Schedule:**

- Underground ice cave.
- Crack open your very own Joystone.
- Northern Lights.
- Sugar Plum Fairy Village.
- Pictures with Santa at the North Pole.

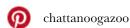
The Chattanooga Zoo is transformed into a magical wonderland where you can view hundreds of lights that weave through the habitats, visit the animals and watch them open their Christmas presents, decorate cookies, get your picture taken with Santa, enjoy delicious treats, and much more.

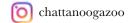
#### Plan:

- Dec. 1-3, 8-10, 15-17: 5:30-8 p.m.
  - chattzoo.org











423-697-1322

## **Insider Tips:**

- Avoid the photo line by going straight to Santa when event opens at 5:30 p.m.
- Bring quarters so you can feed the animals in the petting zoo area and around the zoo.

#### **Schedule:**

- View hundreds of sparkling lights.
- Watch animals open Christmas presents.
- · Decorate cookies.
- Get a picture with Santa.



If spending days preparing large holiday meals adds extra stress to an already hectic schedule, then take a break this year and enjoy a variety of ready-made holiday meals. Get together with your family at one of Chattanooga's attractions or delectable restaurants offering special holiday meals.

### **Thanksgiving Meals**

### Thanksgiving Lunch & Dinner Cruises on the Chattanooga Riverboat Co.'s Southern Belle & Pier 2

Nov. 23, 11 a.m., 2 p.m. & 5 p.m.

chattanoogariverboat.com

Lunch and dinner cruises are at 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. Dinner on the Pier is at 2 p.m. Both cruises feature live entertainment and a holiday meal of hand-carved smoked ham, sage-roasted turkey breast, savory cornbread dressing, sweet potato casserole, all the trimmings, & plenty of traditional desserts. Reservations can be booked online or by phone.

## Thanksgiving Feast at the Chattanoogan Hotel

Nov. 23, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

chattanooganhotel.com

Enjoy Thanksgiving with family and friends at this Thanksgiving Feast.
Executive Chef Tanner Marino and his culinary team will prepare a delicious meal featuring dozens of dishes such as bourbon-glazed ham and boursin whipped potatoes. Reservations required.

#### **Christmas Meals**

### Christmas Carol Dinner Cruises on the Chattanooga Riverboat Co.'s Southern Belle

Nov. 24-25 & Dec. 2-3, 7-10, 14-17, 23, Dates and times vary chattanoogariverboat.com Enjoy lunch while on a relaxing cruise down the Tennessee River. Cruise includes live entertainment, dancing, appearance by Santa, and a dinner of prime rib, shrimp creole, savory cornbread dressing, desserts, and more. Reservations can be booked online or by phone.

## Christmas Special Dinner Train aboard the Tennessee Valley Railroad Museum

Nov. 25, Dec. 1-3, 8-9, 15-17, 29-30, 6-8 p.m.

tvrail.com

Enjoy a special four-course holiday dinner aboard a restored 1924 dining car. The excursion departs from Grand Junction Station, travels through the Tennessee Valley, and then returns to GJS. The menu includes herb-roasted chicken, crusted salmon filet, mashed potatoes, and much more.

### Chattanooga Riverboat Co.'s Southern Belle 'Tis the Season Lunch Cruises

Dec. 1-3, 8-10, 15-17, 23, times vary

chattanoogariverboat.com

Enjoy lunch while cruising down the Tennessee River. Cruise includes live entertainment, Pilot House tours, and a lunch of prime rib, lemon basil chicken, desserts, and more. Reservations can be booked online or by phone.

## Breakfast with Santa Cruise on the Chattanooga Riverboat Co.'s Southern Belle

Dec. 2 & 9, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

chattanoogariverboat.com

Join us for a delicious Pancake Breakfast of pancakes, eggs, hashbrowns, and more followed by a magic show and an appearance from Santa Claus. Reservations can be booked online or by phone.

#### **New Year's Eve Meals**

## New Year's Dinner Train aboard the Tennessee Valley Railroad Museum

Dec. 31, 8-10 p.m.

tvrail.com

This special excursion includes a special three-course dining experience on board a restored 1924 dining car. The excursion departs from Grand Junction Station, travels through the Tennessee Valley, and then returns to GJS. No alcohol allowed on trains.

Check out more member restaurants online that have special hours leading up to/or are open on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day,
New Year's Eve, and New Year's Day.



In addition to the main Holiday Trail of Lights, Chattanooga features a varied array of festivals, holiday events, Santa sightings, shopping, and live music and entertainment scattered throughout the city.

## Snow Day at the Creative Discovery Museum

Nov. 18, Noon-4 p.m. cdmfun.org

Let it snow! Spend the afternoon enjoying the first "snowfall" in Chattanooga with special guests Jack Frost and Suzy Snowflake. After the first flakes are ushered in, guests will enjoy a performance by Tempo Dance Studio. After that, the snow will fly every 30 minutes.

## Holiday Cheer at the Pier at Ross's Landing

Nov. 24, 5-9 p.m.

Enjoy this new holiday event which includes shopping from local artisans and crafters, dining from local food trucks, pictures with Santa, Lighted Boat Parade with 40+ decorated boats, and a grand finale of fireworks sponsored by the Southern Belle at 7 p.m. *FREE!* 

## Gingerbread Workshops at the Creative Discovery Museum

Nov. 24-26, Dec. 2-3, 9-10, & 16-17, Times vary per day cdmfun.org
The whole family will enjoy creating sweet houses from gingerbread, icing, candy, and other sugary confections. The workshop includes hot chocolate, cookies, pre-built houses, icing, candy, and holiday music. Reservations required.

## The Polar Express 3D at the Tennessee Aquarium's IMAX Theater

Dec. 1-24, Shown daily-times vary

tnaqua.org

Even if you have seen this heart-warming classic before, watching it on the giant, six-story IMAX Theater screen with Laser creates a magical new experience. The Polar Express is based on the beloved children's book and takes audiences on an extraordinary train ride to the North Pole.

## MORE Holiday Events

#### Tennessee Valley Railroad's Nightcaps with St. Nick

Dec. 1-2, 8-9, 15-16, & 22-23, times vary per date

tvrail.com

Board a first-class observation train for a 75-minute trip to the North Pole. Along the way, guests will enjoy holiday alcoholic beverages, dessert, and singing carols while costumed entertainers read "Twas the Night Before Christmas." Upon arriving at the North Pole, St. Nicholas will board the train and talk about Christmas past. Adults-only excursion.

#### MainX24 24-Hour Festival in the Southside District

Dec. 2, 9 a.m.-Dec. 3, 9 a.m.

mainx24.com

Celebrate Main Street & the Southside District for a 24-hour long festival. The packed schedule of entertainment includes fashion shows, parades, parties, live music, Big Wheel contest, chili cook off, an ice-skating rink, and so much more. Some special events require a charge. *FREE!* 

## East Main Block Party (part of MainX24) – BYOP (Bring Your Own Pet!) at Sculpture Fields

Dec. 2, 2-5 p.m.

sculpturefields.com

Enjoy family fun, food, music, a 33-acre international sculpture park with 35 colossal sculptures, meeting adoptable pets, and creating an aluminum holiday casting led by nationally recognized sculptor Isaac Duncan, III. Be sure to bring your pets following the morning pet parade so they can roam the park and go on a pet obstacle course! *FREE!* 

## Singing Christmas Tree at the Tivoli Theatre

Dec. 2, 12 p.m. & 5:30 p.m.

tivolichattanooga.com

Enjoy the 53rd Annual Singing Christmas Tree with your favorite traditional carols and holiday songs. Program performed by the Chattanooga Boys' Choir, Chattanooga Symphony & Opera Youth Orchestra, Metropolitan Bells, and Ballet Tennessee.

## Chattanooga Holiday Market at the Chattanooga Convention Center

Dec. 2-3, 9-10, 16-17, times vary

publicmarkets.us

As part of the Chattanooga Market, this market offers a special holiday theme with live music, caroling, festivities, and more than 200 vendors providing a great assortment of unique, locally hand-made items, holiday décor and artisan foods for all those holiday gifts. *FREE!* 

## **MORE Holiday Events**

#### Caroling with the Fishes at the Tennessee Aquarium

Dec. 3, 6-8:30 p.m. tnaqua.org

The Tennessee Aquarium's galleries will be decked with sounds of the season from choruses, singers, and local musicians! Visit with Santa and take home a keepsake photo then treat yourself to a seasonal beverage and enjoy holiday shopping with a 20% member discount at the River Journey Gift Shop. Registration required.

### The Nutcracker by Chattanooga Ballet at the Tivoli Theatre

Dec. 9, 2 & 7:30 p.m. and Dec. 10, 2 p.m.

tivolichattanooga.com

Sugar Plum fantasies and snow covered dreams come true as Chattanooga Ballet presents their 30th annual production of Tchaikovsky's magical classic ballet. The performance is fully staged with music by the Chattanooga Symphony Orchestra.

## PJs and The Polar Express at the Tennessee Aquarium's IMAX 3D Theater

Dec. 16 & 17, 9:30-11:45 a.m.

tnaqua.org

Choo! Choo! All aboard the Polar Express for a trip to the North Pole! Dress in your favorite pajamas and enjoy a special screening of The Polar Express 3D. Before the movie, guests will get the chance to meet the "real" Conductor, sip hot cocoa, and enjoy pastries.

## Home for the Holidays at the Tivoli Theatre

Dec. 16, 7:30 p.m. and Dec. 17, 3 p.m.

chattanoogasymphony.org

Enjoy a special evening with all of your favorite traditional holiday songs by the Chattanooga Symphony & Opera and the Center for Creative Arts Concert Choir. You'll also get to mingle with Santa and other special guests.

#### Moscow Ballet's Great Russian Nutcracker at the Tivoli Theatre

Dec. 20, 3 p.m. & 7 p.m.

tivolichattanooga.com

Marking the 25th Anniversary Tour, Moscow Ballet's Great Russian Nutcracker features over-the-top production and world-class Russian artists, larger-than-life puppets, nesting dolls, and gloriously hand-crafted costumes that bring the Christmas spirit to life.

Find more holiday events at chattanoogafun.com/winter.



The holidays will come and go quickly and then it's time to ring in the New Year. The NYE party you go to can be one of the biggest festivities of the year – if you know where to party. Celebrate in Chattanooga, with a variety of family-friendly and adult options.

#### KIDS

#### New Year's at Noon/Creative Discovery Museum

Dec. 31, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

cdmfun.org

Celebrate New Year's with your kids. Create noise makers to use in the parade, enjoy live music and toast the New Year at Noon with apple juice.

## New Year's Eve Early-Bird Dinner Cruise/Chattanooga Riverboat Co.'s Southern Belle

Dec. 31, 4 p.m.

chattanoogariverboat.com

Bring in the New Year a little early! Enjoy a delicious dinner, live entertainment, Pilot House tours, and more. Reservations can be booked online or by phone.

## Ice on the Landing's Special Late Skate New Year's Eve Party

Dec. 31, 11 p.m.-1 a.m.

iceonthelanding.com

Ice on the Landing is the perfect place for the family to ring in the New Year. Enjoy fun music, skating, and a sparkling cider toast at midnight. This event does require a separate ticket.

#### **ADULTS**

#### New Year's Rockin' Eve Party at the Chattanooga Choo Choo

Dec. 31, 7:30 p.m.-1:00 a.m.

choochoo.com

Ring in the new year with games, tasty food, and dancing along to live music from Chattanooga's own, The Beaters, who specialize in classic rock, Motown, and soul.

## MORE New Year's Eve Events

#### New Year's Dinner Train aboard the Tennessee Valley Railroad Museum

Dec. 31, 8-10 p.m. tvrail.com

Join the Tennessee Valley Railroad for a special Dinner Train excursion on New Year's Eve. The trip includes a three-course dining experience usually on board a restored 1924 dining car. No alcohol allowed on trains. Departs from Grand Junction Station.

#### New Year's Eve at Songbirds Guitar Museum ft. Unknown Hinson

Dec. 31, 9:00 p.m.-12:15 a.m.

songbirdsguitars.com

Unknown Hinson is known for his politically incorrect songs and unpredictable performance style! Dance the night away in the Southside's newest attraction.

## New Year's on the River on the Chattanooga Riverboat Co.'s Southern Belle

Dec. 31, 9 p.m.

chattanoogariverboat.com

Ring in the New Year with great food, live entertainment, DJ, dancing, toasts, Pilot House tours, and more. Must be 21 or older and have valid ID. Reservations can be booked online or by phone.

## New Year's Eve Party on the Bluff at the Hunter Museum of American Art

Dec. 31, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.

huntermuseum.org

Kick off 2018 in unmatched style at the Hunter Museum of American Arts' annual New Year's Eve Party on the Bluff! Gather with friends for a remarkable evening of dancing and the best views in Chattanooga.

## New Year's Eve at The Chattanoogan Hotel

Dec. 31, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.

chattanooganhotel.com

Stay and celebrate the New Year at the Chattanoogan. Party includes a plated gourmet dinner served in the ballroom, live entertainment by The Power Players, party favors, and a champagne toast at midnight.

Find more New Year's Eve and/or New Year's Day events at chattanoogafun.com/winter.



It's challenging trying to figure out the perfect gift for everyone on your Christmas list. Will they love it? Will they re-gift it? Give your loved ones special hands-on experiences they can enjoy by themselves or together as a family — all year long.

## Here are some great Chattanooga-only gift ideas for everyone on your list (or even a special gift to yourself!):

- Tennessee Aquarium Membership and VIP Backstage Pass.
- **Rock City Gardens** Annual Pass along with a famous black and red birdhouse.
- Cruises on the Chattanooga Riverboat's **Southern Belle Riverboat** or the **River Gorge Explorer**.
- Year-round train rides aboard the Tennessee Valley Railroad Museum.
- Membership to **High Point Climbing & Fitness.**
- Creative Discovery Museum Family Membership.
- Season tickets for the **Chattanooga Lookouts** (or renew your own season tickets!).
- Zoo Keeper for a Day program at the  ${\bf Chattanooga\ Zoo.}$
- Outdoor Adventures with various tickets to tandem hang gliding, whitewater rafting, kayaking on the river downtown, or SUP.

# And everyone loves a great deal. Here are a few ways to save with shopping specials:

- Special **deals and coupons** provided online by our members at chattanoogafun.com.
- Tennessee's Largest Shopping Complex: Hamilton Place offers nearly 250 fabulous stores and restaurants with great holiday specials. The Special Chattanooga Holiday Market boasts one-of-a-kind gifts that are made by Chattanooga's local artists.

# Coming Soon...



## chattanoogafun.com/spring



chattanoogafun.com



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