



Celebrating the Season

-Atlanta embraces the holidays with events for everyone-

ATLANTA – Atlanta is celebrating the holidays with festive events, shows, and special performances. Enjoy Thanksgiving meals, parades and tree lightings all over the city from Atlantic Station to Buckhead, Downtown, Midtown and more.

Atlanta Convention & Visitors Bureau has made it easy for visitors to extend their stay for holiday shopping with its [Legendary Shopping in Buckhead](#) hotel package. Visitors can also experience Atlanta with other [extraordinary weekend escape hotel packages](#). For information on all holiday events, please visit www.atlanta.net.

- **Atlantic Station:** On Nov. 18, [Atlanta's newest holiday traditions](#) begins in Atlantic Station; a new Midtown development with retail, office, park, residential, and hotel space. The area's first and brightest holiday celebration begins with "The Lighting of Atlantic Station." Also debuting that day is the Steel Mill Express, a charming, miniature "trackless" train ride for all ages. Beginning this year is "[Carols in the Park](#)," a free holiday concert hosted by a local radio station on Nov. 18 and Dec. 2 and 16. Later in the month, it's "Snowin' in the Station" this holiday season as Atlantic Station debuts its grand 50-foot tree on Nov. 24 and brings the magic of a realistic snowfall with music and lights. To end the season with a bang, Chick-fil-A Bowl organizers host a [Peach Bowl event](#) in Atlantic Station with a pep rally, music, street games and activities to welcome visitors for the Dec. 31 Chick-fil-A Bowl Game.
- **Buckhead:** Since 1953, holiday visitors and native Atlantans have ridden Priscilla the Pink Pig. Starting Nov. 5, everyone can ride through a life-sized storybook in the [Pink Pig tent at Macy's Lenox Square](#). On Nov. 23, the 59th lighting of the [Macy's Great Tree at Lenox Square](#) will take place. The evening includes a dazzling display of fireworks and other special presentations. Before the season ends, the [Atlanta History Center](#) celebrates with holiday music and evening tours of the Tullie Smith farm and the Swan House mansion on Dec. 12 and 19.
- **Callaway Gardens:** Now in its 15th year, the "[Fantasy in Lights](#)" is an outdoor show consisting of eight million holiday lights at Callaway Gardens from Nov. 17-Dec. 31.
- **Downtown:** Centennial Olympic Park's annual "[Holiday in Lights](#)" opens Saturday, Nov. 18 and provides holiday family fun through Jan. 7. [The city's only](#)

[outdoor skating rink](#) features a three-inch thick sheet of ice with theatrical lighting, covered observation seating, and decorative lighting in the trees surrounding the rink. On Dec. 2, families crowd the streets of downtown Atlanta for the [Children's Healthcare of Atlanta Christmas Parade](#) to officially kick off the [2006 Festival of Trees](#). The Georgia World Congress Center hosts this annual event from Dec. 2-10 where decorated trees, wreaths and vignettes created by the city's top artists and designers are displayed with gingerbread houses, specialty shops and handmade dollhouses that celebrate holiday traditions from around the world.

- **Midtown:** Families can be entertained this holiday season as the Center for Puppetry Arts presents a heart-warming adaptation of Margery Williams' timeless story, "[The Velveteen Rabbit](#)" from Nov. 17-Dec. 31. Performed at the Alliance Theatre Company from Nov. 24-Dec. 24, the musical rendition of "[A Christmas Carol](#)" will make even the most miserly Scrooge feel the warmth and joy of the season. From Dec. 2-30, audiences can indulge in "[The Nutcracker](#)," one of the most adored holiday shows, performed by the Atlanta Ballet. And with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, kids and the power of music save the day – indeed Christmas – for the little town of Second Chance at "[Kids' Holiday](#)" from Dec. 3-10. Over at the [Atlanta Botanical Garden](#), a "Holidaze Ride-on Train" with a conductor, train whistle and caboose will circle the Great Lawn for rounds of fun from Nov. 24-Dec. 30 at select times. The garden's botanically-themed St. Nick will also meet children in a naturalistic seasonal display on Dec. 9 and 10. And to wrap the season up, the garden will feature "Holidaze Nights" with candlelight, music, celebratory fare and hot drinks from Dec. 26-30.
- **Stone Mountain:** "[A Southern Christmas](#)" offers holiday fun for the entire family with the 1870s town of Crossroads decked in more than one million Christmas lights and holiday decorations including an amazing 50' tree, life-sized snowmen, giant wreaths and the Musical Tree of Lights.
- **New Year's Events:** For the traditional [Peach Drop at Underground Atlanta](#), families can enjoy activities through the day until just before midnight, when the 800-pound peach begins its descent with a spectacular fireworks display. At the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra's annual [New Year's Eve concert celebration](#), guests can enjoy music from Strauss, waltzes, Broadway classics and a complimentary glass of champagne following the concert. At the [Chateau Elan Winery and Resort](#), guests can enjoy deluxe accommodation packages that include a cocktail reception, dinner celebration, and festive music playing into the New Year.

Established in 1913, the ACVB is a private, nonprofit organization created exclusively to market metro Atlanta and Georgia as the premier convention, meeting and leisure destination in the regional, national and international marketplace and to favorably impact the Atlanta economy through conventions and tourism. www.atlanta.net

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For more information, please contact ACVB Public Relations:

Lauren Jarrell
Director
404.521.6649
ljarell@atlanta.net

Jessica Lumsden
Specialist
404.521.6645
jlumsden@atlanta.net

Suzanne Forte
Specialist
404.521.6632
sforte@atlanta.net

Tara Burnham
Assistant
404.521.6398
tburnham@atlanta.net