



Holiday Events for 2017

BUSCH GARDENS CHRISTMASTOWN

The world's most beautiful theme park is aglow with over eight million Christmas lights, making it the largest light display in North America. Festive food and drink, holiday shopping and heart-warming shows make the spirit of the season come alive. **(NO MEALS OR PICTURES)** Purchase tickets through MWR Annapolis.

November 24, 2017 – January 1, 2018 (Select Days only). 2:00 P.M. – 10:00 P.M. **Wednesdays ONLY** prices are cheaper. ***** Parking is not included in the ticket purchase*****

HERSHEY PARK

Christmas Candy Lane – November 10, 2017 – January 1, 2018 **(Select Days only)**.

*****NEW***** Visit Rudolph's Winter Wonderland located in the Holiday Hills. Guests can take photos with him and his friends Clarice, Bumble and Yukon Cornelius! You can also play themed games like Bumble's Snowball Toss and also enjoy some hot cocoa and a cinnamon bun at Cocoa Café. Or for a special dining experience, mingle with Rudolph and Clarice at Dine with Rudolph & Friends. **Purchase tickets through MWR Annapolis.**

DUTCH CHRISTMAS WONDERLAND

Come and celebrate the holiday season at Dutch Winter Wonderland with rides, entertainment, and thousands of twinkling lights! General parking is \$5.00. Gold Season Pass Holders park for free. Visit Dutch Wonderland at www.dutchwonderland.com/winterwonderland

- November 18, 2017 – December 30, 2017 **(SELECT DAYS ONLY)**

GAYLORD ICE

November 18, 2017 – January 1, 2018. Customer should use “**ANNAPOLIS**” as the promo code for both calls or at the gate.

- **New this year**, a live entertainment show, “JOY” – A Holiday Spectacular, will be performed within the hotel's stunning 19-story atrium. Visitors can enjoy the rich harmonies of classic and modern songs that celebrate the joy of the holiday season performed by Gaylord National singers.
- Also new is a **Glacier Glide** Ice Skating experience in the resort's ornate Christmas Village. Ice Skating costs \$16.99 for all ages.
- An exclusive **Build-A-Bear Workshop** experience that lets guests build their very own furry winter friend—a cuddly, cute polar bear plush which can be personalized with cozy winter clothing and accessories.
- The **Christmas Village** is home to a variety of family-friendly entertainment including Cookies with Mrs. Claus, a carousel, miniature train ride, photos with Santa and Gingerbread Decorating Corner
- A new family breakfast experience features Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer, Bumble the Abominable Snow Monster and Clarice. Offered on select days, \$39.99 for adults ages 12 and older and \$26.99 for children ages 4 to 11. Kids 3 and younger are free. **Tickets through MWR Annapolis.**

ANNAPOLIS HOLIDAY EVENTS

- **NSA Annapolis 2nd Annual Christmas Tree Lighting** – December 1, 2017 5:00 p.m. at Bldg. 89. Join MWR Annapolis for Caroling and Hot Cocoa during the tree lighting event!
- **NSA Annapolis – Santa Will Be Visiting Base Housing!!!** – December 13, 2017
- **Youth Center Gala** - Youth Center's Annual Family Winter Gala on December 8 from 1500-1800! Dress in your holiday finest and enjoy a lovely winter wonderland afternoon at the Billy the Kid Center – the gala will feature food, music, fun, games, prizes and the annual holiday stocking decorating contest (pick up your stocking in advance for decorating at home and bring it back for judging!); \$3 per person; sign up soon by calling 410-293-9396.
- **NEX Shopping with Santa** – December 2, 2017, 8 – 10 a.m. – Annual Holiday Shopping Event for Military Children! We'll learn: how to think carefully about purchases, how to compare prices, Smart Buying Tips, and, we'll have fun shopping for family and friends. Breakfast at Subway. Cost for Breakfast \$1.25. Call for more information. Please make your reservations no later than 7 December. Hope to see you there!
- **Annapolis City Downtown Shopping (Midnight Madness I, II)** Dec 7th and 14th, 2017, 5:00 P.M. – 12 midnight. Historic Annapolis' shops stay open late for this community block party that is open to all. Enjoy musical performances, food and refreshments and enjoy some holiday cheer! Downtown Annapolis along Maryland Avenue, Main, and West Streets. ***The City of Annapolis will offer FREE 3-hour valet parking, free Circulator buses and discounted garage parking during the annual holiday event***
- **Holiday Open House: William Paca House and Hogshead** – Join the Pacas for a festive occasion as they entertain for the holidays! The Living historians will bring the house to life with laughter, games, music, and, sweet treats to share! At Hogshead, see how the middling sort celebrate the holiday season with living historians and a variety of fun activities fit for the whole family. Reservations encouraged. Free for HA Members and Volunteers; \$10 for Non-Members. annapolis.org/historic/events





- **Military Bowl and Parade** - December 28, 2017. U.S. Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium. The Military Bowl® presented by Northrop Grumman, benefiting the USO, will match a team from the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) against an opponent from the American Athletic Conference (AAC) live on ESPN. militarybowl.org/tickets/ - General admission \$25.00

******Annapolis Honors Our Military Year Round******

Many local businesses offer discounts year-round to members of our armed forces. The Downtown Annapolis Partnership thanks our members and others for showing their support to our military! [Show your military ID active or retired.](#)

- **The Nutcracker, Ballet Theatre of Maryland at MD Hall** - Dec. 9, 2017 – Dec. 17, 2017, Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts, 801 Chase Street, Annapolis, MD 21401, Phone: 410-224-5644. For tickets visit www.marylandhall.org.
- **Eastport Yacht Club – Parade of Lights** – December 9, 2017 6-8 p.m. Annapolis, MD.
- **Lights on the Bay** (Sandy Point State Park) sponsored by Anne Arundel Medical Center. More than sixty animated and stationary displays – Mid November 2017 through January 1, 2018. 5-10 p.m. **\$15 per car. 1100 East College Parkway, Annapolis, MD 21409.**
- **Annapolis Christmas Tree Lighting**, Santa Arrives by Carriage – November 26, 2017, 5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., Market House, 25 Market St., Annapolis City Dock.
- **Handel's Messiah Concert** – Dec 2-3, 2017, Main Chapel, USNA. USNA Glee Club, Hood College Choir and the Annapolis Symphony Orchestra. The USNA Glee Club joins the Annapolis Symphony Orchestra and soloists from the Metropolitan Opera Company to present selections from Handel's beloved Messiah.
- **Six Flags Holiday in the Park** – November 18, 2017 – January 1, 2018. A winter spectacular featuring more than a million glittering lights, holiday entertainment, delicious seasonal treats. Visit with Santa and enjoy many of our popular theme park rides. Upper Marlboro, Maryland. www.sixflags.com/america or call **(301) 867-0272.**
- **Anne Arundel County Holiday at the Farmers Market** – 7:00 a.m. til Noon, every Saturday, Now thru Dec 24, 2017. Harry S. Truman Parkway and Riva Road, Annapolis MD. A variety of vendors from Anne Arundel County will be selling homegrown and handcrafted locally produced items. Items available include wreaths, fresh greens, baked goods, coffee, herbs, candy and seasonal produce.
- **New Year's Annapolis** – Dec 31, 2017. 3:00 p.m. Family oriented event. Weems Whalen Field (located behind Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts). Face painting, moon bounce music by kids rock bands.
- **Fireworks at 5:30 p.m.** A free Circulator Shuttle will be running to and from the Park Place Garage and Weems Whalen field.

- **Welcome in 2018** at City Dock in downtown Annapolis for a night of entertainment, food, and fireworks displays in the Annapolis Harbor.
 - 3:00 - 5:30 pm: Family Friendly Entertainment
 - 5:30 pm: Early Bird **Fireworks Display at Weems Whelan Field** behind



Maryland Hall and Bates Middle School

- 8:00 pm - **Midnight Party at City Dock** with a DJ from 8pm-9pm and Radio City Band from 9pm-midnight (**Susan Campbell Park**)
 - Midnight - Fireworks Spectacular

Spots to View the Fireworks (downtown Annapolis)!!!

- Susan Campbell Park
- Main Street
- Spa Creek Bridge
- Eastport
- City Dock/Ego Alley
- Aboard a boat in Annapolis Harbor

JOLLY EXPRESS CRUISE

Adorn Miss Anne in reindeer spirit as the crew serve up hot cocoa to all jolly passengers. Captain Santa is at the helm during this cozy evening cruise of Spa Creek. Enjoy holiday music while Santa takes you on a relaxing and enjoyable 45-minute boat ride. Cozy blankets are available on board. Advanced reservations recommended but not required. Book your cruise at watermarkjourney.starboardsuite.com. Walk-ups welcome. Purchase your tickets from our Elf at Annapolis City Dock. \$23/Adult, \$13/Children under 12. Cruise times: Fridays, Saturdays & Sundays 6 p.m., 7 p.m., 8 p.m. ****Except December 10, 2017****

HOLIDAY CANDLELIGHT STROLL

- On this 1 and 1/2 hour walking you'll learn about the origin of holiday traditions – including the significance of evergreens, Yule logs, Christmas trees and Santa Claus as you stroll through Annapolis with a festively attired guide. The stroll Includes a tour of the Hammond-Harwood House. Visit www.watermarkjourney.com for more information and booking.
 - Fridays and Saturdays, December 1, 2, 8, 15, 16, 2017; 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Tours depart from the Information Booth at City Dock, 1 Dock Street, Annapolis, MD. Admission: \$21, adults; \$12, children ages 3-11; children 2 and under, free.

ANNAPOLIS HOLIDAY EVENT PARKING

- South Street Lot, South St. off of Church Circle
 - Knighton Parking Garage – 1A Colonial Avenue
 - Park Place - 1 Park Place
 - Noah Hillman Parking Garage - 150 Gorman St.
 - Gotts Court Parking Garage - 25 Northwest St.
- Visit www.AnnapolisParking.com





WASHINGTON DC HOLIDAY EVENTS

- **Zoo Lights at the National Zoo** – Friday, November 24, 2017 to Monday, January 1, 2018, Closed Dec. 24, 25 and 31, Hours: 5-9 p.m. rain or shine. Join the thousands of visitors who make Zoo Lights a part of their annual holiday tradition. **A free event**, Zoo Lights includes live music performances and tasty winter treats. **Free Admission.**
- **National Christmas Tree Lighting and Pageant of Peace – November 30, 2017.** The event is held rain or shine. White House Ellipse. Since 1923, the United States has held a tradition of lighting a National Christmas Tree in Washington, DC each holiday season. During the National Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony, nationally known entertainers and a military band perform and the President brings a message of peace to the nation and the world. Academy Award-winner Reese Witherspoon will host this year's event. Visit the National Christmas Tree Throughout the Holiday Season. The National Christmas Tree and the Pathway of Peace will be open to January 1, 2018 from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Seasonal displays include a Yule log, a large-scale model train and a Christmas manger. Tickets are only required for the lighting ceremony. Musical performances by volunteer choirs, bands and dancers, will be held nightly throughout the holiday season. Performances will generally start at 5 p.m. and end by 8:30 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, performances run from 1-8:30 p.m.
- **National Hanukkah Menorah Lighting Ceremony 2017** December 13, 2017, 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM. Ellipse, White House Grounds, Washington DC. The lighting of this menorah is the world's largest and is attended by thousands every year and is seen via TV newscasts, internet feeds and other media. Visit www.eventbrite.com.
- **53rd U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree Lighting** – Early Dec, 2017, 5:00 p.m. as set by Speaker of the House Paul Ryan. The tree will be lit by the Speaker of the House Paul Ryan. USMC Band (The Presidents Own) will play Christmas carols and carols will be sung by the Congressional Chorus. Sitting on the West Lawn, the U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree, or "The People's Tree", represents Christmas for our whole country. The Capitol Christmas tree is selected by the US Forest Service from a national forest each year which provide the tree. This year the Capitol Christmas tree will arrive from the Kootenai National Forest in Montana. The tree is decorated with thousands of unique ornaments donated by people from all over the country. www.capitolchristmastree.com
- **A Christmas Carol at the Fords Theater.** November 11, 2017 – December 31, 2017. Visit Fords.org for tickets. Ages 5 and up.
- **National Cathedral** - G. F. Handel's Messiah - Fri., Dec. 1, 2017, 7:30 pm, Sat., Dec. 2 and Sun., Dec. 3, 4 pm. Admission: \$25 – \$95; Student tickets: \$15. Cathedral.org for tickets.
- **National Cathedral** – Christmas Jazz Vespers. Celebrate the joyful Christmas story through scripture and song, led by the Washington Performing Arts Gospel Choir and the Cathedral Band. December 22, 2017 @ 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm. **Admission is Free.**

- **Smithsonian Holiday Festival 2017** Dates to be announced for early Dec. 2017, 10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Washington DC. Get in the holiday spirit with free festive musical performances, book signings, crafts, special foods and more. Complimentary gift-wrapping will be available at the National Museum of American History. The free Circulator bus will transport visitors to the other festivities around the National Mall. <https://www.si.edu/events/calendar>
- **The Washington Ballet: The Nutcracker**, Warner Theater, Nov 30 - Dec 24, 2017, 513 13th Street, NW Washington, DC 20004. 202.783.4000. Purchase tickets through ticketmaster.com or www.washingtonballet.org.
- **Arlington Wreath Laying Ceremony** - December 16, 2017. Gates open at 8 a.m. Holiday wreaths adorn thousands of headstones at Arlington National Cemetery in Wreaths Across America. Visit wreathscrossamerica.org.
 - 9:00 a.m. Opening Ceremony at the McClellan Arch
 - 9:30 a.m. Wreath laying ceremony at President Kennedy's grave
 - 11:30 a.m. Wreath laying ceremony at USS Maine Mast
 - 12:00 p.m. Wreath laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier
 - 1:00 p.m. Two-millionth wreath to be placed by WAA founder Morrill Worcester on **Pvt. William Christman's** grave, cemetery's first military burial (Section 27).



Over 540,000 memorial wreaths will be laid at 545 locations. A Moment of Silence will be held at ALL locations on December 13, 2017 at Noon EST.

*****The cemetery will be closed to vehicle traffic until 3 p.m.*****

- **'Season's Greenings' at the Botanical Gardens** - The U.S. Botanic Garden gets decked out for the holidays! Open from Nov. 24-Jan. 2 (10 a.m.-5 p.m.), and will stay open until 8 p.m. with holiday concerts most Tuesday and Thursday evenings in December. Admission to the U.S. Botanic Garden is free.
- **Downtown DC Holiday Market** - November 24-December 23, 2017. Sidewalk on F Street between 7th and 9th in front of the National Portrait Gallery. Enjoy a unique seasonal shopping marketplace of downtown Washington DC including gift items by more than 180 exhibitors and artisans including fine art, crafts, jewelry, pottery, photography, clothing, prepared food and more. A wide range of live, local musicians and bands will entertain shoppers. Jazz, swing, blues, reggae, bluegrass, klezmer, a cappella, brass and more create a fun, energetic atmosphere.
- **Washington Nationals Winterfest**, December 16 & 17, 2017, 11:30a.m – 4:00 p.m. Join the Nationals for Winterfest 2017 at the Washington Convention Center, 801 Mt. Vernon Place Northwest, Wash, DC. Metro: Vernon Square/7th St-Convention Center. Activities include: Clinics with Nationals players and coaches, Home Run Derby featuring the Nationals mascots, participate in the steal home challenge and take batting practice, hear a winter or baseball-themed story, read by a Nationals player, kids Press Conferences, sign up for 2018 season Jr. Nats Kids Club memberships at the Jr. Nationals Kids Club kiosk and much more! Tickets available at <http://m.mlb.com/nationals/tickets/info/winterfest>.



LARGE PARKING LOTS AND ACCESS TO THE NATIONAL MALL

To get to the west end of the mall (and the Tidal Basin), take a tour bus for \$5 or ride the Metro to Smithsonian Station. This is also a starting point for sightseeing tours - Old Town Trolley, and DC Ducks.

-East Potomac Park/Haines Point - Ohio Drive. 320 parking spaces. This parking lot is FREE and convenient to the Tidal Basin and the Jefferson Memorial. It's more than a mile walk to the Smithsonian museums.

-Union Station - 50 Massachusetts Avenue, NE. More than 2,000 parking spaces. Rates: \$8-22. The parking garage is near the east end of the National Mall near the U.S. Capitol Building.

-Ronald Reagan International Trade Building - 1300 Pennsylvania Ave. NW. More than 2,000 parking spaces. Rates: \$10-23. Access is available from Pennsylvania Avenue and via two entrances on 14th Street. The parking garage is near the National Mall, the National Theater, and Freedom Plaza.

BALTIMORE CITY HOLIDAY EVENTS

- **B&O's Magical Holiday Express, B&O Railroad Museum**, 901 W. Pratt Street December 1-31, Monday-Saturday, 10am-4pm / Sunday, 11am-4pm. Museum closed Christmas Eve, Christmas Day & New Year's Day. Celebrate the holiday season at the B&O's Magical Holiday Express, an annual tradition devoted to trains of all sizes, your favorite holiday characters and a train load of fun for the entire family! **Purchase admission on-site!** General Museum admission: \$18 for Adults, \$16 for Seniors (60+), \$12 for children (2-12) Train Rides tickets are \$3 for adults, \$2 for children with paid admission. Admission & Train Rides are FREE for B&O Members. For tickets visit borail.org.
- **Christmas Village in Baltimore (West Shore Park)** – Inner Harbor, (501 Light St.) November 23 – December 24, 2017. German Christmas Market, complete with more than 50 vendors selling traditional European crafts, arts, jewelry, holiday gifts, food, sweets & drinks. Special holiday-themed programming will take place each weekend.
 - Sunday – Thursday, 11am-7pm
 - Friday & Saturday, 11am-8pm
- **Bach in Baltimore's Christmas Concert: Handel's Messiah** – December 3, 2017, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m., Emmanuel Episcopal Church, 811 Cathedral Street, Baltimore, MD 21201. This performance features a sublime quartet—soprano Jessica Beebe; alto Jessica Renfro; tenor Min Jim, and bass Andrew Thomas Pardini. General Admission \$25.00, register at: www.bachinbaltimore.org.
- **PANDORA Ice Rink at Baltimore's Inner Harbor**, Harbor Place Amphitheater, November 10, 2017 – January 15, 2018. Complete with a skate shack, rentals, concessions and entertainment, as well as special events like Skatefest.
- **National Aquarium's Holiday 4-D Experience** – "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer 4-D" November 10–January 1, 2018. Tickets to the Aquarium's 4-D films are just \$5 and can be purchased with general admission online at aqua.org or at the admissions window.

- **Merriment & Melodies in Harbor East** – Come and on out and listen to the holiday sounds of Baltimore's choirs while taking in the gorgeous sight of Katlyn Circle. Local shops will be extending their shopping hours so that patrons can get some holiday shopping done. Enjoy the various holiday characters that will be around. Guests are welcome to enjoy some of the delicious hot cocoa and other refreshments that will be made available throughout.
- **A HOLIDAY TRADITION AT THE ZOO** - **When:** Sat December 2 , 2017 @ 11:30 am - 1:00 pm , **Where:** Mansion House Porch. Enjoy a buffet brunch inside the Zoo's historic Mansion House, create unique seasonal crafts, and meet some of Santa's wildest friends with up-close animal encounters. When you hear the jingle bells begin to jingle, Kris Kringle is on his way! Visit Santa and tell him your wishes for the holiday season. All tickets also include same-day admission to the Zoo. **Reservations are required and tickets are expected to sell out quickly.**



Ticket Prices: Adults ages 12 Members \$30, Non Members \$35, children ages 2-11, Members and Non Members \$20. Children under 2 are free but still require a ticket. The event space does NOT have high chairs or booster seats, but guests are welcome to bring their own. For tickets, please visit www.marylandzoo.org/event/brunch-santa-friends-december-2nd.

EACH BRUNCH TICKET INCLUDES:

- Buffet-style hot, catered brunch
 - Crafts and holiday activities
 - Up close encounters with animal ambassadors
 - Same-day admission to the Zoo
- **New Year's Eve Spectacular** – Baltimore's Inner Harbor – Dec 31, 2017, 9:00 – 12:30 a.m., music and official countdown to 2018 with fireworks.
 - **New Year's Eve at Power Plant** - December 31, 9pm – 1am. Ring in 2018 in style at Power Plant Live! DJ performances, themed party favors, laser shows, dancing, and a huge midnight celebration. For tickets visit www.powerplantlive.com.
 - **Midnight Noon – Maryland Science Center** – Dec 31, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., Children enjoy the ball drop before bedtime. Live concert by Grammy Nominated popular kids band "Milkshake". **Free.**
 - **12 Days of Science, Maryland Science Center** - 12 Days of Science begins December 22 and features a different theme every day through January 2. Drop in workshops, live demonstrations, and hands-on building will be happening throughout the Science Center. www.mdsci.org.
 - **Festival of Trees, Timonium** - November 24-26, 2017. 2200 York Rd, Timonium, MD 21093, 800-830-3976. Festival of Trees, a three-day spectacle filled with approximately 600 holiday trees, wreaths and gingerbread houses. Stop by Santa Land, and check out the carousel, "reindeer" pony and train rides, crafts, games and more. <http://festivaloftrees.kennedykrieger.org/tickets>.

BALTIMORE CITY PARKING GARAGES

Harbor Park Garage
55 Market Pl
(410) 234-3631
Open 24 hours

Pier V Parking
711 E Pratt St
(410) 972-3370

The Gallery Garage
101 S Calvert St
(410) 547-1537



Happy Holidays from MWR Annapolis!!!