

Entertainment & Activities: Santa



Family Zone

Santa in the Family Zone inside the Municipal Gym

Free letters to Santa, visit, and photos with Santa.

Santa is available Friday 3 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Santa is available Saturday 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.

San Diego Automotive

Visit the Automotive Museum for cars and motorcycles! Our 1909 Harvester will be decked out for the holidays. Along with holiday trees, lights, and Santa! Santa will be seated in the car and it makes a great family photo. Pets are welcome to take pictures with Santa as well.

Enter at the Southeast Corner of the building.

Santa is available Friday 5:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Santa is available Saturday 5:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

San Diego Model Railroad Museum

Holiday Fun at the Model Railroad Museum! Visit us for pictures with Santa, enjoy our Toy Trains Through the Decades winter exhibit, and see our Toy Train Gallery decked out for the holidays!

5pm - 9pm, free admission

San Diego Air & Space Museum

The museum decorated with a holiday theme and lights inside, special festive holiday drinks at the bar, food service with desserts, DJ playing music both nights, and simulator rides for purchase.

The Museum will be open for free admission from 4 pm until 10 pm with final admission at 9:30 p.m. Closed during normal hours.

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The Prado

The Prado Restaurant will be open for dinner service at 4:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. The Prado Courtyard and Grand Ballroom will be open with a DJ, Bars, Holiday drinks, and Santa Claus! DJ 6PM-10PM 7pm-10PM selfie booth

Casa del Prado Building

Continuing a December Nights tradition, the San Diego Civic Dance Company will perform the classic "We Need A Little Christmas" Rockette-style number along with other favorites in the interior patio of the Casa del Prado Building. As in years past, the patio will be transformed into a holiday wonderland--coming alive with magical lights, great dancing, hot beverages and pastries, and photos with Santa and his elves & reindeer.

Shows Friday 5:15 pm, 6:15 pm, 7:15 pm, 8:15 pm, 9:15 pm

Saturday 6:15 pm, 7:15 pm, 8:15 pm, 9:15 pm

In addition, recreation level shows:

Saturday 12 pm, 2 pm, 4 pm

Photos with Santa:

Friday 6-9 pm Saturday 2:30-9 pm

Spanish Village Art Center/Village Arts & Education Foundation

The Village will be decked in festive decor and lights. Artists will share their work, both in their studios and in booths on the colorful patio. Visitors can watch art demonstrations, engage in make-and-takes, and enjoy a cup of cocoa with kettle corn.

11:00am - 11:00 pm, free admission always

Santa will be available from 5pm - 8pm, free but donations welcome.

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Comic-Con Museum

Guests can participate in a FREE activity called "Paint and Take".

Each guest (ages 5+) can choose a small miniature figure to paint and take home. Activity takes about 30 minutes per guest once seated.

Friday: 3pm-8pm & Saturday: 2pm-7pm

Minors must be accompanied by an adult. Supplies limited. Retail shop open. Museum exhibits closed.

WorldBeat Cultural Center

Celebration of Kwanzaa and its meaning, which is an African- American cultural holiday. Kwanzaa Cultural education throughout books, T-shirts, and artifacts.

The WBCC, performances will be on various stages for December Nights from 11 am to 5 pm

San Diego Floral Association

Visitors to 'The Festival of Trees' in the Casa del Prado building will enjoy festively decorated fir trees and other holiday displays created by over twenty community organizations. There will be protea blooms and gingerbread cookies for sale, as well as many flora-based craft items. The theme of this year's festival is 'Celebrating San Diego Holiday Traditions'. 12 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

Save Starlight

Christmas under the Stars with live musical performances, Silent Disco, door prizes and locally made Star ornaments with donations.



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Forever Balboa Park/Balboa Park Visitors Center

Shop for souvenirs and gifts, including socks for the sock drive, as well as holiday decorations, fun light-up necklaces and toys, and cold weather attire.

Friday from 12 pm - 10 pm

Saturday from 11 am - 10 pm

Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theater

The Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theater is showcasing a variety of puppetry and the talents of the puppeteers who have performed at the theater in 2024, Holiday style! Family Friendly at 5:30pm and 7:30 pm, and an Adult Oriented show at 9:30pm!

Puppet Sing-A-Long on Saturday at 1pm and 3 pm for families. The Theater is fully decorated with a tree and garland to add cheer to the season, along with a visit from Father Christmas on both days.

Gift wrapping at the Theater for any purchases at our gift shop as well as purchases made in the Park, by donation

Friday Performances:

5:30, 7:30, 9:30 pm

Saturday Performances:

5:30, 7:30, 9:30 pm