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NOVEMBER 2011

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# Southern California's Winter Wonderland

## CHECK IT OUT

There's the old joke that there are no seasons in Southern California. However, you can celebrate winter here with some seasonal activities.

A number of outdoor skating rinks can give you a bit of wintry chill (and perhaps a bruise or two if you're not that agile). **Downtown on Ice** is set up in Pershing Square Nov. 17 through Jan. 16. You can skate at the **Lakes at Thousand Oaks Ice Rink** Nov. 17 through Jan. 18. The Westfield Promenade also offers skating and shopping. Its **Woodland Hills Ice** is open now through Feb. 5. You can enjoy frozen water by the ocean at the **ICE at Santa Monica** Nov. 11 through Jan. 16. All of these rinks offer special activities, too.

Near the Ice at Santa Monica is the Third Street Promenade, which will host a **Winterlit Holiday Celebration and Concert** Nov. 26 with a variety of special performances. The city will also host a double tree lighting (on the Promenade and at Santa Monica Place) Nov. 19. DWP's well-known Holiday Lights Festival is on hiatus again this year. If you are looking for a spectacular light show, consider heading east to Riverside on Nov. 25 for the **Festival of Lights** the Mission Inn has been doing for almost 20 years.

Among the holiday events at regional amusement parks, you can find snow near San Diego (yes, it's true) at Legoland's **Holiday Snow Days**. From Nov. 19 to Jan. 2, there will be a real snow fall in the park's Fun Town, along with other winter-themed activities. If you are looking for a little different holiday adventure, climb aboard a Fillmore & Western Train. Their **Christmas Tree Holiday Train** and **North Pole Express** roll out of the station starting this month. The Holiday Train will take you to Heritage Valley where you can pick your own Christmas tree. The North Pole Express doesn't go to the North Pole, but it does feature elves and treats on its way to pick up Santa.



You can skate in the shadow of downtown skyscrapers.

- **Downtown on Ice**, various times Nov. 17-Jan. 16, Pershing Square, 532 S. Olive St., L.A. \$6 admission; \$2 skate rental. 213-847-4970.
- **The Lakes At Thousand Oaks Ice Rink**, various times Nov. 17-Jan. 18, The Lakes At Thousand Oaks, 2200 E. Thousand Oaks Blvd., Thousand Oaks. \$9 per one-hour session, \$3-\$4 skate rentals. [www.shoplakes.com](http://www.shoplakes.com)
- **Woodland Hills Ice**, 1-10 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-midnight Sat. and holidays, 9 a.m.-10 p.m. Sun. Oct. 21-Feb. 5, Westfield Promenade, 6100 Topanga Canyon Blvd., Woodland Hills, \$15 adults, \$13 students, \$12 ages 12 and younger (all-day skating and skate rental). [www.woodlandhillsice.com](http://www.woodlandhillsice.com)
- **ICE at Santa Monica**, 2-10 p.m. Mon.-Thurs., 2 p.m.-midnight Fri., 10 a.m.-midnight Sat., 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Sun. Nov. 15-Jan. 16, 1324 5th St., Santa Monica. \$12 admission and skate rental. [www.iceat santamonica.com](http://www.iceat santamonica.com)

- **Santa Monica Winterlit Holiday Celebration & Concert**, 6 p.m. Nov. 26, Third Street Promenade, Third and Wilshire, Santa Monica. **Free**. [winterlit.com](http://winterlit.com)
- **Santa Monica Tree Lightings**, 6 p.m. Nov. 19, Third St. Promenade and Santa Monica Place, Santa Monica. **Free**. [www.winterlit.com](http://www.winterlit.com)
- **Festival of Lights**, 5:30 p.m. Nov. 25-Jan. 8, The Mission Inn Hotel & Spa, 3649 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside. **Free**. [www.missioninn.com](http://www.missioninn.com)
- **Holiday Snow Days**, various times, Nov. 19-Jan. 2, Legoland, One Legoland Dr., Carlsbad. Admission: \$69 adults, \$59 children. [www.legoland.com](http://www.legoland.com)
- **Christmas Tree Holiday Train**, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Sat.-Sun. Nov. 26-Dec. 11, Fillmore & Western Railway, 364 Main St., Fillmore. \$24 adults, \$14 ages 4-12, \$10 ages 2-3. [www.fwry.com](http://www.fwry.com)
- **North Pole Express**, various times Nov. 26 and Dec. 3-4, 9-11, 15-23 and 26, Fillmore & Western Railway, 364 Main St., Fillmore. \$29 adults, \$19 ages 2-12. [www.fwry.com](http://www.fwry.com)

\$77 adults, \$67 children. [www.legoland.com](http://www.legoland.com). (SD)

**Climbing with a Jedi Master**, 10-11 a.m., Blue Chair Children's Books, 177 N. Glendora Ave., Glendora. You don't have to be a Jedi Master to climb with a Jedi Master. \$5 per Padawan Climber. 626-335-8630. (SGV)

**Weekend Tidepool Walks**, 2:30-4 p.m. (3-4:30 p.m. *en Español*) today, 3-4:30 p.m. Nov. 13, 2:30-4 p.m. Nov. 26, 3-4:30 p.m. Nov. 27, Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, 3720 Stephen M. White Dr., San Pedro. Take a naturalist-led stroll around the Point Fermin State Marine Park. Outdoor clothing and sneakers suggested. Young kids must be accompanied by adults. **Free**. 310-548-7562. (SB)

## 13 Sunday

★ **Didipop Concert**, 11 a.m., McCabe's, 3101 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica. The local musician recently won a John Lennon Songwriting Prize and has a new CD, *Everyday Adventures*, to

share. \$8. 310-828-4497. (WS)

★ **Family Flicks Film Series: Popeye**, 11 a.m., Hammer Museum, 10899 Wilshire Blvd., L.A. Robin Williams stars as the iconic character in this 1980 Robert Altman film. Please leave your cans of spinach at home. Ages 6 and older. **Free**. 310-443-7000. (WS)

★ **Peter Yarrow: A Family Concert**, 2-3 p.m., Skirball Cultural Center, 2701 N. Sepulveda Blvd., L.A. A preeminent figure in the folk music world, Yarrow shares his new *Puff, The Magic Dragon* pop-up book and plays classic folk tunes. Reservations recommended. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Admission: \$10 adults, \$7 students, \$5 ages 2-12. 877-722-4849. (WS)

**Sunday Family Program: The FUNDamentals of Theater!**, 3-4 p.m., Zimmer Children's Museum, 6505 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 100, L.A. The energetic troupe will lead theater games that will spark children's imaginations. Admission: \$8 adults, \$5 ages 3 and younger. [www.zimmermuseum.org](http://www.zimmermuseum.org). (WS)