



HOLIDAY LIGHTS 2011

November 22, 2011



100 Miles of Lights display at Newport News Park in VA

Wherever you find yourself this holiday season, stop and enjoy a holiday light display. Make it a family tradition. Here are big and smaller ones in cities and towns around the country. Let us know if you have a favorite you'd like us to add.

ALBUQUERQUE, NM – **The Rio Grande Botanic Garden** hosts New Mexico's largest walk-through holiday light show, "The River of Lights" featuring giant sculptures of plants, animals and seasonal themes created by hundreds of thousands of lights. Visit between November 26 and December 30 (closed on December 24 and 25).

ANNAPOLIS, MD – "**Lights on the Bay**" is a drive-through holiday light show at Sandy Point State Park along Chesapeake Bay, where there are stationary and animated displays. Visit between November 19 and January 1.

ATHENS, OHIO where you can hike through the forest to view 100,000 plus lights at "**Holiday Trail of Lights**" in Lake Hope State Park in southeast Ohio. Visit from December 1 to 31.

AUSTIN, TX – Zilker Park's "**Trail of Lights**," a mile long stretch with seasonal scenes composed of multi-colored twinkling lights, will be on display from December 9-18. Additionally, there is an annual "Armadillo Christmas Bazaar" featuring work by artists and artisans plus musical performances from December 14-24.

PINE MOUNTAIN, GA north of Atlanta is where, for the 20th season, **Callaway Gardens Resort** will present 8 million lights stretching more than five miles from November 18 to December 30.

PORTSMOUTH, NH hosts "**Vintage Christmas**" with sparking lights and a festival of strolls and shows on December 3-4, 8-11 and 17-18. A free Vintage Christmas Trolley shuttles patrons around the historic seaport. Visit **Strawbery Banke Museum**, a living history museum celebrating holiday traditions from around the world and join a Candlelight Stroll (December 3-4, 10-11 and 17-18), where you can experience the sights, sounds and smell of a traditional New England Christmas.

RICHMOND, VA- "**Tacky Light Tour**" is a local tradition where people dive, or even rent buses or limos to take the tour.

RIVERSIDE, CA is home to the 19th annual "Festival of Lights" at the historic **Mission Inn Hotel and Spa**. Free and open to the public, it features 3.6 million lights, more than 400 animated figures, horse-drawn carriage rides, Santa and reindeer sightings plus entertainment. The event runs from November 25 through January 8.

SAN ANTONIO, TX where 1.8 million lights sparkle along the **San Antonio River Walk** from November 25 to January 1.

SAN DIEGO, CA boasts "Garden of Lights" in **San Diego's Botanic Garden** with over 100,000 lights illuminating all of the displays (from December 8-30) and the "**Holiday of Lights**" at the Del Mar Fairgrounds north of San Diego with more than 400 family-oriented light displays (from November 24 to January 1). **Legoland** also touts an annual "Holiday Block Party" with a 30-foot tall Christmas tree constructed of 245,000 green Legos displaying Lego ornaments, Lego Santa and reindeer, lights and holiday music throughout the park from November 25 to December 24.