

About.com > About Travel > Philadelphia > ... > Christmas

6 of Philadelphia's Best Holiday Light Displays

Get in a festive mood with a visit to these Philly holiday light shows.



By Julie Davis
Philadelphia Expert

f SHARE

p PIN

+

Ads [Christmas Lights](#) [Holiday Lights](#) [Christmas Displays](#) [Holiday Lighting](#) [Display Lighting](#) [Christmas Lighting](#) [Light Show](#)

PHILADELPHIA CATEGORIES

- Neighborhoods >
- Events & Things to Do >
- Food & Drink >
- Arts, Entertainment & Media >
- Sports & Recreation >
- Shopping >
- Transportation >
- Lifestyles >
- History >
- Education >
- Real Estate >
- Government & Civic Issues >
- Family and Kids >
- Hotels >
- Blog >
- Beauty and Health >
- Philadelphia Weddings >
- Professional Services >
- Philadelphia Neighborhoods >
- Things to Do in Philadelphia and South Jersey >

VIEW MORE ▾

FREE EMAIL NEWSLETTER

Let About.com send you the latest from our Philadelphia Expert.

Your email address here

SIGN UP

You can opt-out at any time. Please refer to our [privacy policy](#) for contact information.

You [shop](#), you wrap, you bake, you mix, you mingle, you look up and—poof!—it's January 2 and the whirlwind otherwise known as the holiday season is but a memory. Perhaps that's why holiday light displays are so popular: They allow the viewer to steal a few moments of stillness within a season dominated by wish lists and task lists.



1. Macy's Christmas Light Show

What: A Philadelphia holiday tradition since 1956, the Macy's Christmas Light Show weaves a holiday tale starring Frosty the Snowman, frolicking reindeer, dancing ballerinas, glittering snowflakes and seasonal music by the historic Wanamaker Grand Organ. More than 100,000 LED lights twinkle and glow against a four-story-tall velvet curtain that spans nearly the entire height of the department store's cavernous atrium.

Where: Macy's Center City, 1300 Market St., Philadelphia, PA 19107

How much: Free

When: Friday, Nov. 28–Wednesday, Dec. 31, repeating every two hours beginning at 10 a.m. and ending at 8 p.m. [More »](#)

Ads

[SkyDeck Chicago](#)

[smartdestinations.com/Chicago](#)

25+ Chicago Attractions 55% Off. Get Your Tourist Pass Instantly!

[Top 7 Pendant Lights](#)

[comparestores.net/Pendant-Lights](#)

2015 Bestselling Pendant Lights Compare Latest Deals & Save Big!



2. A Longwood Christmas

What: Comprising 1,077 acres in Delaware County, Longwood Gardens is unsurpassed in terms of horticultural diversity in the Philadelphia region. But those visiting the gardens between late November and early January likely arrive

for a different reason: to marvel how Longwood Gardens seamlessly merges the beauty of nature with the magic of the holiday season.

A stroll through the massive greenhouse reveals thousands of poinsettias and lilies lining a manicure lawn, while outdoors, nearly 500,000 lights emit an ambient glow as they snake around leafless tree branches and illuminate water features from within.

Where: 1001 Longwood Road, Kennett Square, PA 19348; (610) 388-1000

How much: \$20-27 for adults, \$10-13 for children 5-17. Kids 4 and under admitted free.

When: Thursday, Nov. 27-Sunday, Jan. 11 [More »](#)

[3. Franklin Square Holiday Festival](#)

What: Perched in the center of the historic Franklin Square Fountain, a larger-than-life kite electrifies the night sky with more than 50,000 festive string lights. As you've probably already guessed, this high-wattage seasonal spectacle takes inspiration from Benjamin Franklin's famous kite experiment, but it also pulsates with the energy of visitors fulfilling a [family holiday tradition](#).

Where: Franklin Square Park, 200 N. Sixth St., Philadelphia, PA 19102

How much: free admission; pay-as-you-go activities

When: Thursday, Nov. 13-Wednesday, Dec. 31, repeating every 30 minutes between 4:30 and 8:00 p.m. [More »](#)

Ads

[Watch Full TV Episodes](#)

www.yidio.com/TV-Shows

Find anything available. Fast and Easy.

[Learn Writing Basics](#)

www.universalclass.com

Learn From The Comfort Of Your Home Take A Quality Online Course Today!



[4. Holiday Garden Railway](#)

What: Crafted from natural materials such as twigs, moss and bark, a festive holiday town sets the scene for a miniature holiday railway at the Morris Arboretum, a beloved [Philadelphia public garden](#). Toys in tow, the train follows an illuminated, quarter-mile-long

track across bubbling streams, through tunnels and under bridges.

If you wish to see the railway set aglow in all its holiday glory, be sure to purchase advance tickets for Friday Night Lights, a weekly event that occurs in December.

Where: Morris Arboretum, 100 E. Northwestern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19118; (215) 247-5777

How much: \$16 for adults, \$8 children 11 and under

When: Friday, November 28, 2014-Monday, January 5, 2015 [More »](#)

[5. The Comcast Holiday Spectacular](#)

What: The Comcast Holiday Spectacular promises a holiday experience that's a little more state-of-the-art than most. Screened on the 2,100-square-foot LED video wall (the largest of its kind in the world!) in the Comcast Center lobby, the 15-minute-long show takes viewers on a seasonal journey that bridges the gap between the high-tech and the nostalgic.

Where: Comcast Center lobby, 1701 JFK Blvd, Philadelphia, PA 19103

How much: Free

When: Thursday, November 27, 2014-Thursdays, January 1, 2015, repeating at the top of every hour between 10 a.m. and 8 p.m. [More »](#)

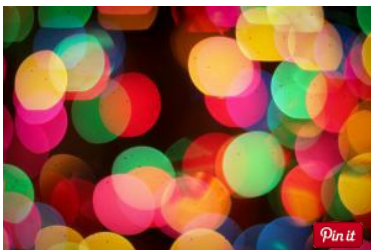
Ads

[Want To Publish A Book?](#)

www.iuniverse.com/How-To-Publish

Learn How To Get Published Today With Our Free Guide To Publishing.

[6. Smedley Street Christmas Light Spectacular](#)



What: South Philly natives need no introduction to the Smedley Street Christmas Light Spectacular. The combined effort of Philly residents living on the 2700 Block of Smedley Street, the light show boasts a city block's worth of twinkling lights and dazzling displays.

Where: 2700 S. Smedley St., Philadelphia, PA 19145

How much: Free

When: Thursday, November 27, 2014–Thursday, January 1, 2015 [More »](#)



Related Articles

- [Christmas Attractions in Philadelphia](#)
- [Christmas and Other Holiday Events and Attractions](#)
- [A Longwood Gardens Christmas](#)
- [Part 2: Natural Settings and Places to Shop](#)
- [Longwood Gardens](#)
- [7 of Philadelphia's Most Popular Public Gardens and Arboretums](#)

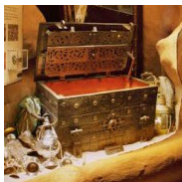
Our Expert Recommends

- [Philadelphia's Top 10 Kid-Friendly Holiday Attractions](#)
- [The Very Best of Philly's Holiday Pop-Up Shops](#)
- [Where to Go Ice Skating in Philadelphia](#)

More from the Web



12 Worst Things to Say to a Flight Attendant



The Museum That Has A Real-Life Pirate Chest



9 of the Most Dangerously Stupid Theme Park Rides Ever



The Birthplace Of American Pow Wow Magic

Powered By ZergNet

Philadelphia Essentials



Philadelphia's Top 10 Outdoor Attractions for Kids and Families
Events & Things to Do



8 of Philadelphia's weirdest, wildest attractions
Arts, Entertainment & Media



7 of Philadelphia's Most Popular Public Gardens and Arboretums
Family and Kids



31 awesome spots to play Quizzo in Philly
Food & Drink



How to get to Center City from the Philadelphia International Airport
Food & Drink

Travel Slideshows



13 Steps to the Perfect Barcelona Vacation
Spain Travel



24 Fantastic Hours in Paris: How to Visit the City in a Single Day
Paris Travel



Take the Plunge at These 12 Amazing Hotel Pools
Hotels



7 Hotels That Will Make Your Instagram Feed Drool-Worthy
Hotels



It's Sidewalk Sale Season in Montreal: Here's Why You Need to Go
Montreal

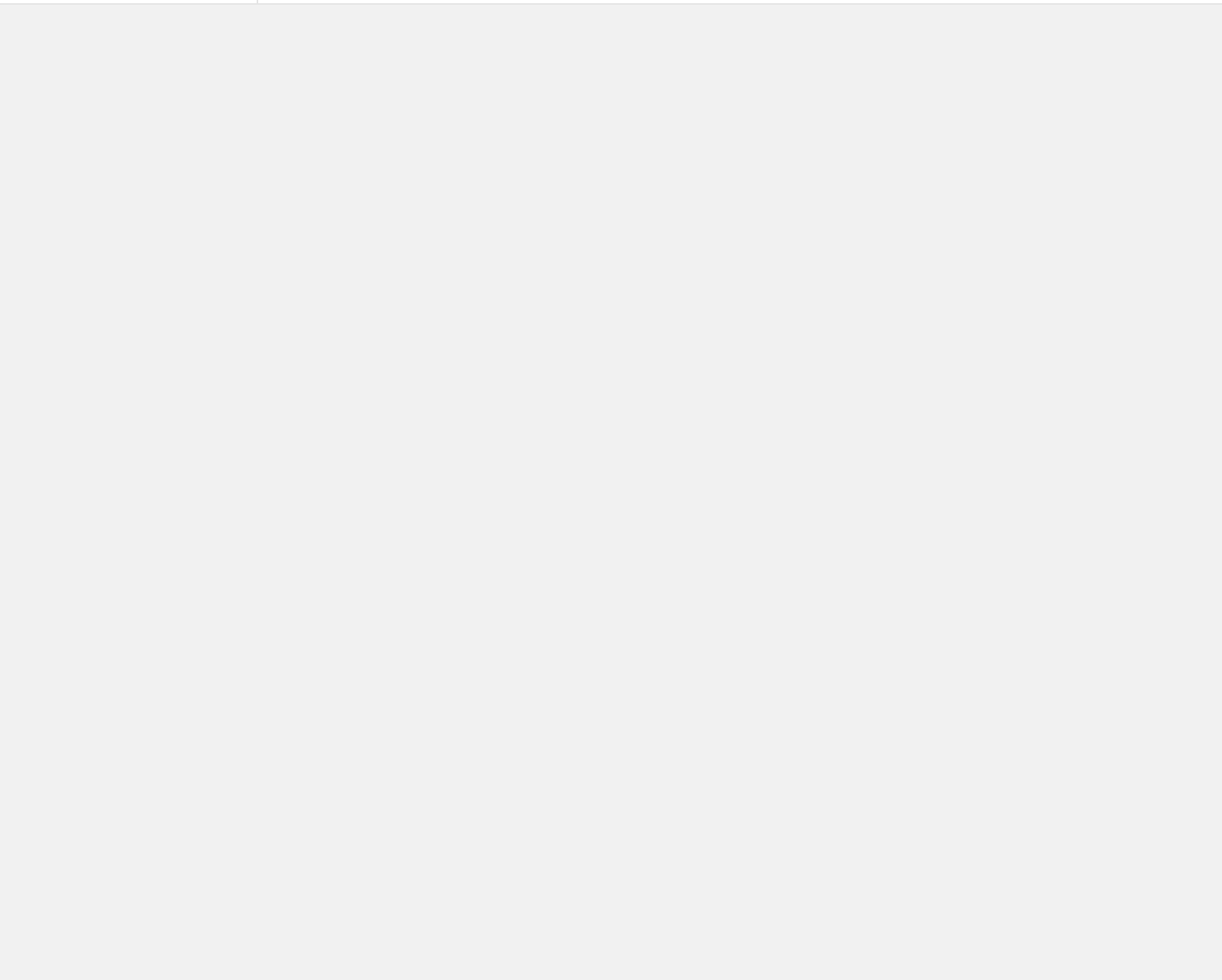
Readers Recommend

- **10 Historic Philadelphia Attractions You Should Check Out**
- **The Best Ways to Get From New York City to Philadelphia**
- **Top 10 Philadelphia Area Gardens and Arboretums**
- **Love Philly Cheesesteak? Try this Recipe**
- **Free Philadelphia Museums**

[Ads](#) [Christmas Lights](#) [Holiday Lights](#) [Christmas Displays](#) [Holiday Lighting](#) [Display Lighting](#) [Christmas Lighting](#) [Light Show](#)



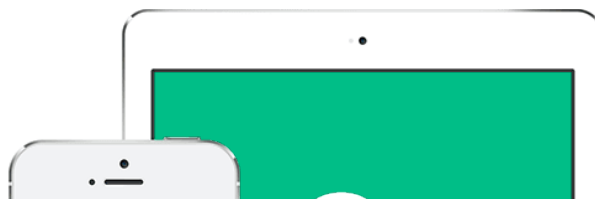
[About.com](#) > [About Travel](#) > [Philadelphia](#) > [Events & Things to Do](#) > [Christmas](#) > 6 of Philadelphia's Best Holiday Light Displays



About Travel | Follow us:



We deliver. Get the best of About Travel in your inbox.



[Our Story](#)
[News](#)
[Site Map](#)
[All Topics](#)
[Reprints](#)

[Careers at About](#)
[User Agreement](#)
[Ethics Policy](#)
[Patent Info](#)
[Privacy Policy](#)

Your email address

SIGN UP

You can opt-out at any time. Please refer to our [privacy policy](#) for contact information.



about.com

[Help](#)

[Write for About](#)

[Your Ad Choices & Cookie Policy](#)

© 2015 About.com — All rights reserved.