

Seaside

- Pictures with Santa Seaside Outlets December 13 & 14, Noon-4 p.m. Holiday pictures with Santa Claus

Cannon Beach

- A Carol for Tiny Tim Coaster Theatre Shows through December 21 A Carol for Tiny Tim is a warm and wonderful play takes place 15 years after Scrooge's miraculous transformation as he continues to honor Christmas in his heart. Tickets starting at \$30.
- 'Name That Tune' Window Display Contest Cannon Beach December 1-20 Obtain a playing card from the Cannon Beach Chamber. Visit businesses around town to determine which holiday tune matches their window display. Submit your completed card to the Chamber for a chance to win a gift basket of local products.

- Cannon Beach In Lights Cannon Beach December 1-31 Wander downtown Cannon Beach and take in the magic of Cannon Beach in lights! Vote for your favorite at cannonbeach.org.

- Tolovana Arts Colony Holiday Bazaar Cannon Beach local shops December 6-7, December 13-14 Shop locally-made arts, crafts, and gifts.

- Operation Candy Cane Downtown Cannon Beach Nightly at 6 p.m., December 11, 12 and 13 Santa will be traveling the streets of Cannon Beach on a decorated fire engine with local firefighters handing out candy canes to those who come out with cans of food or items for the warming center and local food bank.
- A Frosted Holiday Celebration at the Cannon Beach History Center & Museum The Cannon Beach History Center & Museum December 20, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

- This festive event is free and open to all ages, offering a day filled with warmth, creativity, and holiday cheer! Join in a festive coloring contest and face painting for the kids. Decorate cookies, enjoy the hot cocoa bar and special surprises throughout the day. Sponsored by Cannon Beach Chocolate Café.

- Caroling downtown Cannon Beach Meet at the Cannon Beach Chamber December 20, 4:30 p.m. After caroling, warm beverages will be offered in the Chamber Community Hall.

Manzanita

- Holiday Cookie Decorating Manzanita Visitor Center December 20
- Holiday Scavenger Hunt Manzanita Visitor Center December 27
- Holiday Cookie Decorating Manzanita Visitor Center December 20
- Holiday Scavenger Hunt Manzanita Visitor Center December 27
- Wrapping paper patterns community art night Hoffman Center for the Arts December 12, 5-8 p.m. Print your own custom kraft wrapping paper with holiday-themed hand carved stamps. \$15 per person.

Nehalem

- Riverbend Players presents: "The Holiday Channel Christmas Movie Wonderthon" NCRD December 5-21 A hilarious spoof of the classic holiday TV movie formula (think Hallmark and Lifetime)

Wheeler

- Old Wheeler Hotel Presents: A Festive Weekend Celebration December 20-21 Browse an indoor artisans fair featuring local vendors with handcrafted gifts and unique finds Featuring Santa Claus is Coming to Town on December 21, 4 p.m. Santa and Mrs. Claus will engage with children and families, a perfect picture taking opportunity. Complimentary hot chocolate and cookies. The weekend's events will be held at the Old Wheeler Hotel.

Rockaway Beach

- Rockaway Beach Shop Small Sweepstakes www.RockawayBeach.net/shop-small November 1-December 30 This holiday season when you shop at participating Rockaway Beach, Garibaldi, and Wheeler businesses keep your receipts and submit them via email (info@RockawayBeach.net) or drop them off at the Visitor Center Caboose for a chance to win a \$50 gift certificate. For full sweepstakes rules and details visit the website above.

Garibaldi

- Candy Cane Express Train November 28 - December 23 Oregon Coast Scenic Railroad Beautifully decorated both inside and out, this steam-powered train ride is complete with complementary hot cocoa and cookies. Write letters to Santa while awaiting a visit from the man in the red suit himself! This round-trip excursion departs Garibaldi and runs to Rockaway Beach for a one hour round trip ride.

Tillamook

- Shop Small Sweepstakes Tillamook Chamber of Commerce, Various locations in Tillamook Through December 31, the Chamber hosts the Shop Small Sweepstakes, coordinating weekly giveaways and a grand prize drawing to encourage shoppers to come downtown.
- 5th Annual Santa Land Pacific Restaurant, 205 Main Ave., Tillamook December 13, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. FREE event to all sponsored by Tillamook Revitalization Association. Photos with Santa, Cookie Decorating, Wreath Building, and Holiday Music - Fun for the whole family!
- A Tillamook Christmas Tillamook United Methodist Church December 13, 2 p.m. Presented by the Bay Ocean Community Chorus. Free concert.
- Winter Carnival Tillamook High School December 13, 3-6 p.m. Fundraiser for TSD9 K-6 schools. Games, activities, prizes, and food.
- Holiday Concert Tillamook High School Auditorium December 18, 7 p.m.
- Festival of Trees Tillamook County Pioneer Museum December 17, 2-4 p.m., 5-7 p.m. Christmas tea and Gala event. Annual museum fundraiser.



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A to Z

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Mobile Clinic Countywide Tillamook 503-842-3938

Main Street Clinic 800 Main Ave., Suite A Tillamook 503-842-3938

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is for **Keep** presents safe.

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oregoncpg.org/learning-center

TILLAMOOK FAMILY COUNSELING CENTER

L

is for **Little** talks add up.

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www.co.tillamook.or.us/solid-waste

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Non-Profit
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Tillamook County Solid Waste
Throughout this challenging year, the Tillamook County Solid Waste Department and Don G. Averill Recycling have continued to provide recycling and disposal services at all three Tillamook County transfer stations: Manzanita, Tillamook & Pacific City. You can rest assured that your recycling is truly recycled, and that the waste you dispose of is disposed of safely and properly.

For more information about recycling or hazardous waste disposal:
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All are welcome

First Christian Church of Tillamook
2203 4th Street, Tillamook, OR 97141
503-842-6213
office@fcctillamook.org
Christmas Eve Services: Dec. 24 at 5 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. All are welcome

Redeemer Lutheran Church
302 Grove St., Tillamook, OR 97141
Midweeks: Soup Supper at 5:30 p.m.
Service at 6:30 p.m.
Theme: Every Heart Prepare
MIDWEEK OF ADVENT 1, DEC. 3 EVERGREENS
We decorate in preparation for Christmas. Our decoration preparation includes the use of evergreens—from Christmas trees to pine garland. The evergreen decorations also help us prepare for the advent (or coming) of Jesus during Advent—a season of preparation. We will consider how evergreens point us to the coming of Christ and the eternal life that He brings.

MIDWEEK OF ADVENT 2, DEC. 10 LIGHTS
We decorate in preparation for Christmas. Our decoration preparation includes the use of lights—from candles to twinkling LEDs. These luminous decorations also help us prepare for the advent (or coming) of Jesus during Advent, a season of preparation. We will consider how lights point us to the coming of Christ and the glory He brings.

MIDWEEK OF ADVENT 3, DEC. 19 CRÛCHE
We decorate in preparation for Christmas. Our decoration preparation includes the use of the crèche—the miniature model of the nativity scene. The crèche is a distinctively Christian decoration in that it depicts the characters involved in the nativity of Christ: Mary, Joseph, the shepherds, the Wise Men, the angels, the stable animals, and—most important of all—the infant Jesus. As we view this manger scene, we recall the timeless story of God coming to earth as a baby to redeem us from our sins.

CHRISTMAS EVE DEC. 24 WRAPPED PRESENTS 6 p.m.
We decorate for Christmas. Our decorations include wrapped presents—gifts in colorful boxes and bags that are placed under the Christmas tree. But these gifts all pale in comparison to the gift that started it all at Christmas—the gift of God's Son, whose birth brings us regeneration, renewal, and eternal life. On Christmas Eve, we consider how the gifts under the tree point us to God's indescribable gift in Jesus Christ.

CHRISTMAS DAY DEC. 25 WORD MADE FLESH 9 a.m.
Join us every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. for Bible Class and 10:30 a.m. for Worship

St. Alban's Episcopal Parish
2102 6th Street, Tillamook, OR 97141
Advent prayer services:
Every Wednesday at 12:15 p.m.
(coffee served from 11 a.m.)
Christmas Eve service with Holy Communion: Dec. 24 at Noon

St. Mary by the Sea Catholic Church
275 S Pacific St, Rockaway Beach, OR 97136
503-355-2661 stmarys1927@gmail.com
Christmas Eve Service: Dec. 24 at 5 p.m.
Christmas Day Services:
Dec. 25 at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.
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Tillamook Church of the Nazarene
2611 3rd Street, Tillamook, OR 97141
503-842-2549
Email: office@Tillamooknaz.com
Christmas Play: Dec. 14 at 11 a.m.
Christmas Service: Dec. 21 at 11 a.m.
Christmas Eve Service: Dec. 24 at 4 p.m.

How some popular holiday traditions got their start

Will you be baking gingerbread or hanging stockings by the fire-place this holiday season? Perhaps you'll be lighting the menorah or playing a game of dreidel? The holidays are steeped in tradition, some of which are older than celebrants may realize.

Individuals gather during the holidays and participate in various traditions that have withstood the test of time. Most people engage in these traditions or recognize symbols automatically, but it can be interesting to learn how these traditions came to be.

Christmas caroling

The British traditions of was-sailing and mumming and the Slavic tradition of koliada were some of the precursors to more modern caroling. People would go door-to-door and recite poetry or sing with the hope of bringing about good fortune or influencing a future harvest, according to Rutgers University. Carolers spread hope and good tidings through song during a time of year when sunlight was limited.

Christmas trees

Pagans once displayed ever-green branches as a reminder that spring would come again, while Romans placed them around temples to honor Saturn, the god of agriculture. Eventually the evergreen was used in conjunction with Christian Christmas celebrations. In the sixteenth century, German Christians put trees inside their homes as symbols of everlasting life.

Santa Claus

Children who celebrate Christmas eagerly await the arrival of a jolly sort who goes by the name of Santa Claus. His origin story

stretches back to the third century, when Saint Nicholas became the patron saint of children. Saint Nicholas was a monk in what is modern-day Turkey. It is said that he traveled helping the poor and the sick. History.com says he is believed to have saved three impoverished sisters from slavery by providing them with a dowry so they could be married, and he also provided gifts to children.

Menorah

The menorah is a multi-branched candelabra used in Jewish religious rituals. The menorah is first mentioned in the book of Exodus when the design of the lamp was revealed to Moses by God on Mount Sinai. Many menorahs are seven-branched, but during Chanukah, an eight-branched menorah is used. The Chanukah menorah is modeled after the Tabernacle menorah that corresponds to the eight-day festival. It was used to celebrate the rededication of the Second Temple. The available oil supply was supposed to light the menorah for just one day, but the candles actually burned for eight.

Mistletoe

Kissing under the mistletoe is a holiday season tradition that can lead to some red faces when couples are caught beneath the plant. Norse mythology paved the way for kissing under the mistletoe. Legend has it the gods used mistletoe to resurrect Odin's son, Baldur, from the dead. Baldur's mother, Frigg, the goddess of love, made the plant a symbol



of love and vowed to kiss anyone who passed under it. Mistletoe blooms under cold conditions, which is how it became associated with the holiday season.

Yule log

Yule logs were once part of winter solstice celebrations to bring good luck and fortune, but America is where a yule log really caught on as a holiday tradition. In 1966, the WPIX television station in New York City aired a

continuous loop of a fire-place burning for three hours with holiday songs playing. It became an annual tradition, says History.com. Some people even serve a cake that looks like a yule log. The Bûche de Noël is a traditional Christmas cake that is especially popular in France.

Holiday traditions continue in full force. Traditions are an endearing component of celebrations and help to unite people from all backgrounds during this special time of year.

Christmas Eve fun for families

The day and evening before Christmas is a time of much anticipation for young children, particularly those awaiting the arrival of Santa Claus. What children do not realize is their parents have been working hard behind the scenes for many weeks to help maximize the holiday magic, and Christmas Eve often is the final push to get everything done before the big day (and man in red) arrives.

Keeping children happy and entertained on Christmas Eve can free up time for adults to check off their to-do lists and savor some of the holiday spirit themselves. Here are some traditions to explore on Christmas Eve that are entertaining for kids and adults.

- **Bake some cookies.** Santa is going to want a fresh batch of cookies to refuel for a long night of delivering presents. Therefore, having children prepare and bake some cookies can be a Christmas Eve tradition that keeps little ones occupied. When cooled, and after sampling one or two themselves, kids can feel pride placing a dish of cookies out for the jolly old elf.

- **Decorate gingerbread houses.** Christmas Eve is a great night to decorate gingerbread houses. Families who do not freshly bake the panels for the gingerbread houses can rely on pre-made kits available at various stores. It's a smart



idea to have some extra icing available, especially if kids are anxious to "glue" on extra candy embellishments.

- **Attend evening services.** Most churches hold Christmas Eve services, with some

offering a Midnight Mass for parishioners. Spending time at these services enables families to slow down and celebrate their faith.

- **Do a Christmas pajama reveal.** It's traditional in some

families to buy matching PJs to wear to bed on Christmas Eve and then lounge around in them on Christmas morning. Whoever is in charge of wrapping gifts can set apart the Christmas PJs by wrapping them in a different patterned paper. Then everyone opens the pajamas at the same time for the big reveal.

- **Leave out reindeer food.**

Kids can have a fun time putting together a batch of special reindeer food. After all, Santa isn't the only one doing the heavy lifting delivering gifts; his reindeer probably get hungry, too. Reindeer food can be made using a few different ingredients, namely oatmeal, shredded carrots and glitter. Children can decide where to toss this reindeer food, with some opting to make a path along the front lawn leading toward the house.

- **Watch a holiday classic.**

Choose a Christmas movie and gather the family around to watch it. Some options include "National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation," "Miracle on 34th Street," "Elf" or "A Christmas Story." Set up a popcorn bar nearby where everyone can customize their popcorn with different add-ins, like chocolate candies, cheese or seasonings.

Christmas Eve traditions can be fun for kids and families as they anticipate all the festivities to come on Christmas morning.

Great Christmas stories for children

December is filled with opportunities to make magical memories, particularly for families with young children. Christmas commands a lot of thought and attention, and parents know such efforts are worth it to see smiles on children's faces. Stories help set the holiday scene and enable children to hold tight to all of the magic. Whether they are read together as a family or children read them on their own, these literary works can enhance special holiday moments.

- "A Christmas Carol," by Charles Dickens: No Christmas season would be complete without reading (or watching) "A Christmas Carol." When three ghosts visit Ebenezer Scrooge, he learns an important lesson about charity, friends and family.

- "The Berenstain Bears Meet Santa Bear: A Christmas Book for Kids" by Stan and Jan Berenstain: Kids of all generations have grown up reading Berenstain Bears books. This volume has Mama and Papa showing Sister and Brother that the true meaning of the holiday is about giving.

- "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" by Dr. Seuss: Famed children's writer Dr. Seuss was a master of imbuing life lessons in his stories and this book is no different. Isolated and angry, the Grinch learns to appreciate his neighbors in Whoville and comes to realize that Christmas is about being with loved ones and not material gifts.

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Merry Christmas

and a Happy New Year



HOLIDAY

MAZE

Help Santa find his way to the chimney.

START

FINISH

SPELL IT OUT!

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TIC-TAC-TOE

CONNECT THE DOTS

Decorative cookies Santa Claus can't resist

Kids know that cookies are a vital component of the holiday season. Come bedtime on Christmas Eve, youngsters want to make sure Santa Claus gets all the nourishment he needs to continue delivering presents to kids all over the globe. That sustenance is often provided in cookie form. With that in mind, families who want to be certain Santa won't leave their homes hungry this Christmas can whip up a batch of these Peanut Butter Reindeer Cookies.

Peanut Butter Reindeer Cookies

Makes 48 cookies

- 1/2 cup unsalted butter, softened
- 3/4 cup peanut butter
- 1/3 cup granulated sugar
- 1/3 cup packed light brown sugar
- 1 large egg
- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- 1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour

- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 48 large red M&M candies
- 96 mini semisweet chocolate chips
- Pretzels, broken into 96 1-inch pieces

1. Preheat oven to 350 F. Line 2 baking sheets with parchment paper.
2. In a large bowl, beat together butter, peanut butter, sugar, and brown sugar on medium speed until light and fluffy, about 2 minutes. Add egg and vanilla extract and mix until combined.
3. In a small bowl, whisk together flour, baking soda, and salt. Add the dry ingredients to the wet ingredients and stir until just combined. Roll the dough into 1-inch balls, and place at least 1 inch apart on cookie sheet. Bake only 10 to 12 cookies at a time. Refrigerate the bowl of dough in between batches. Bake for 7 to 9 minutes, until the cookies are just set.
4. Immediately place one



M&M in the center of each cookie for a nose (press down a bit if your cookies aren't flat enough), 2 mini chocolate chips for the eyes, and 2 pretzel pieces at the top for antlers.

Carefully transfer the cookies to a wire rack to cool completely. *These cookies are flavorful and the finished product is adorable.*

Craft an edible holiday classic from the comforts of home

Symbolism features prominently throughout the holiday season. When walking around in December, or even earlier, individuals can't help but notice lighting displays, decked out Christmas trees in town centers and other symbols that are synonymous with the holiday season. Gingerbread houses may or may not be on public display, but these impressive constructions are yet another notable sign that the holiday season has arrived. As families prepare to celebrate the holiday season, they can work together to create this impressive, and edible, "Gingerbread House" courtesy of Lines+Angles.

Gingerbread House

Makes 8 servings or 1 house

- FOR THE HOUSE:**
- 3 1/4 cups all-purpose flour, plus extra as needed
 - 3 tablespoons cornstarch
 - 1 tablespoon ground ginger
 - 1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
 - 3/4 teaspoon salt
 - 1 cup unsalted butter, at room temperature
 - 3/4 cup molasses, warmed
 - 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

- FOR THE FROSTING:**
- 2 cups confectioners' sugar, plus extra as needed
 - 1 1/2 tablespoons meringue powder
 - 1 to 2 tablespoons warm water

- TO DECORATE:**
- Assorted colorful candies, sugared chocolate candies, round peppermint candies, candy canes, etc.



- a separate mixing bowl until pale and creamy, about 2 to 3 minutes.
3. Beat in the flour mixture in 4 additions, mixing well between additions until you have a rough dough; add more flour as needed to form a stiff dough.
 4. Turn out and knead briefly. Shape into a round, wrap in parchment paper, and chill for 2 hours.
 5. After chilling, preheat the oven to 325 F. Grease and line 2 large baking sheets with parchment paper.
 6. Remove the dough from the refrigerator. Roll out to about 0.333" thickness on a lightly floured surface.
 7. Cut out two rectangles approximately 4.5" x 4" for the

- roof. Cut out 2 pointed rectangles approximately 5" at their tallest points and 3.5" wide at the base; these will be the front and back of the house as per the image. Make sure that one side has a round window cut out.
8. Using some of the remaining dough, cut out the 2 rectangles to be the sides of the house, approximately 3" x 4" in diameter. Use the remaining dough to cut out 4 even rectangles, approximately 2" x 1.5", to shape the chimney.
 9. Arrange the pieces across the baking sheets. Bake for about 25 minutes until browned and dry to the touch. Remove to cooling racks to cool.
 10. **For the frosting:** Combine the confectioners' sugar, me-

- ringue powder and 2 tablespoons warm water in a large mixing bowl.
11. Beat with an electric mixer until the frosting is thick and glossy, about 4 to 5 minutes; beat in more confectioners' sugar if too thin and more water if too thick.
 12. Spoon into a piping bag fitted with a thin, round nozzle. Chill for 15 minutes.
 13. To decorate: Using the frosting as 'glue,' assemble the chimney using the 4 even rectangles of gingerbread. Let dry and set.
 14. Start to assemble the rest of the house by gluing the pieces together as per the image, attaching the front and back of the house to the sides before attaching the roof in place. Let set dry and set at each building interval.
 15. Once the sections are dry, pipe more frosting onto the edges of the roof and down their sides, shaped as icicles.
 16. When the chimney is set, attach it to the top, cutting the pieces to fit if necessary, and decorating the outside with frosting.
 17. **To decorate:** Attach the assorted candies to the house, decorating the roof with a tiled pattern using the frosting.
 18. Let the house dry and set until ready to serve.

Preparation time: 2 hours
Cooling time: 2 hours, 15 minutes
Total time: 4 hours, 15 minutes
Difficulty: Difficult

Tips:

Some of the gingerbread pieces will bake quicker than others depending on their size; keep an eye on them and remove from the oven when ready.

Meringue powder is available online or from specialty cookware stores.



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