

UNTIL NEXT year,
BEST WISHES TO ALL OUR CLIENTS AND FRIENDS,
Nancy and Tara

Christmas in Iceland - Celebrating light in the darkness

The Christmas celebrations or Yuletide are the biggest holidays in Iceland. Many traditions may be familiar, but some perhaps a bit peculiar, like that children put shoes in their bedroom window for 13 days in the hope of getting presents from mischievous yule-lads. So how do Icelanders celebrate the Yuletide and how can travelers participate in the festivities?

Icelandic holiday traditions - a mixed bag of cultures

Yule traditions in Iceland are probably as old as the country's settlement in medieval times and are a mixed bag of religion and folklore. The month-long festivities shorten the long dark winter where the sun only crawls above the horizon for four hours during the winter solstice. For a whole month, Christmas-related festivities involving food and drinks, cultural and religious events, parties and family dinners, decorations and shopping, keep many people busy. Yet, at the same time, quiet evenings with candlelight, books, hot chocolate, and cookies are equally appreciated.

Winter wellness—embrace the elements

Iceland's dramatic winter landscape invites you to experience wellness in its purest form—rejuvenation by connecting with the natural world. Whether you're soaking in geothermal hot springs, braving a North Atlantic cold plunge, or unwinding in a sauna after a snowy stroll, Iceland offers the perfect balance of rejuvenation and challenge. Winter is ideal for stepping outside your comfort zone and discovering the restorative power of the land of fire and ice.



NEW GROUP

31 DAY PANAMA CANAL, INCA & SOUTH AMERICA DISCOVERY ABOARD HOLLAND AMERICA'S OOSTERDAM

MARCH 8, 2026—APRIL 8, 2026

HOLLAND AMERICA LINE'S FIRST VISTA-CLASS CRUISE SHIP, OOSTERDAM RECENTLY EMERGED FROM DRY DOCK WITH EXCITING UPDATES—INCLUDING COMPLETELY REFRESHED SUITES AND NEW LOUNGE, DINING AND ENTERTAINMENT VENUES, SUCH AS MUSIC WALK™, WITH LINCOLN CENTER STAGE, B.B. KING'S BLUES CLUB AND BILLBOARD ONBOARD. GUESTS CAN CHOOSE FROM AMONG DELECTABLE SPECIALTY RESTAURANTS, HONE CULINARY SKILLS WITH AMERICA'S TEST KITCHEN AND THRILL TO BBC EARTH EXPERIENCES.

EMBARK IN COSMOPOLITAN BUENOS AIRES WHERE PRE-CRUISE PACKAGES WILL BE AVAILABLE EARLY 2025. VISIT THE PENGUINS IN THE PATAGONIA AS YOU GET READY TO SAIL CAPE HORN AND THE STRAITS OF MAGELLAN. WE THEN SAIL FROM USHUAIA AND CRUISE UP THE DRAMATIC COAST OF CHILE WITH STOPS IN PUERTO MONTT AND PUNTA ARENAS. SAIL THROUGH GLACIER ALLEY ENROUTE TO A FULL TRANSIT OF THE PANAMA CANAL

INSIDE CABINS START AT \$4,999.00 PER PERSON DOUBLE. AVAILABLE ADDITIONS INCLUDE HOLLAND AMERICA'S "HAVE IT ALL" PACKAGE WHICH INCLUDES BEVERAGE PACKAGE, THREE SPECIALTY DINING DINNERS, \$300 SHORE EXCURSION CREDIT PER PERSON, WI-FI AND \$250.00 PER PERSON ON BOARD CREDIT. THIS PACKAGE IS AVAILABLE FOR \$55.00 PER PERSON/PER DAY. PREPAID GRATUITIES ARE AVAILABLE AT \$17./DAY. OTHER CATEGORIES ARE AVAILABLE. CALL FOR OTHER RATES AND MORE INFORMATION.

NOVEMBER 25, 2025-ICONIC CHRISTMAS MARKETS ABOARD AMA REINA (NUREMBURG TO BUDAPEST)

TRAVEL BACK THROUGH CENTURIES AS YOU WALK ALONG COBBLESTONE STREETS THROUGH GRAND CITIES AND HISTORIC TOWNS BEDECKED WITH TWINKLING CHRISTMAS TREES AND LINED WITH WOODEN HUTS GLEAMING WITH HANDCRAFTED TREASURES. NUREMBERG'S FESTIVE CHRISTKINDLEMARKT, THE LARGEST AND OLDEST CHRISTMAS MARKET IN GERMANY, REGENSBURG'S ARTISAN CHRISTMAS MARKET, ONE OF BAVARIA'S MOST BEAUTIFUL AND ROMANTIC, VIENNA WITH ITS IMPRESSIVE CHRISTMAS MARKET AND BUDAPEST WHERE MOST PRODUCTS ARE HANDMADE. REVEL IN A FEAST FOR THE SENSES: SPARKLING LIGHTS, FESTIVE SOUNDS OF CHILDREN DRESSED AS ANGELS SINGING CAROLS AND THE ENTICING SMELLS OF HOT-MULLED WINE, ROASTED CHESTNUTS, SAUSAGES, AND SWEET TREATS OF EVERY KIND. RATES START AT \$3,699.00 PER PERSON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY.

OLD WORLD SICILY AND MALTA, NOVEMBER 5-16, 2025, WITH COLLETTE VACATIONS. THIS IS A SMALL GROUP DEPARTURE FOR HOME TOWN TRAVEL WITH A MAXIMUM OF 24 PASSENGERS ON THIS ADVENTURE. THESE LEGENDARY ISLES ARE NESTLED AMONGST THE DEEP BLUE WATER OF THE MEDITERRANEAN. DISCOVER HOW ANCIENT TRADITIONS BLEND INTO MODERN SOCIETY AS YOU TRAVEL ALONG TIMELESS ITALIAN MALTESE AND SICILIAN TOWNS. THIS ELEVEN-NIGHT TOUR BEGINS WITH A FOUR-NIGHT STAY IN MALTA WITH A FERRY TO SICILY WHERE YOU WILL STAY THREE NIGHTS IN RAGUSA AND THREE NIGHTS IN TAORMINA. THIS PACKAGE INCLUDES ROUND TRIP TRANSPORTATION TO NEWARK AIRPORT FROM OUR OFFICE, ROUND TRIP AIR FROM NEWARK AIRPORT WITH AN OVERNIGHT FLIGHT TO MALTA, 10 BREAKFASTS, 1 LUNCH AND 4 DINNERS, PROFESSIONAL ESCORT THROUGHOUT THE TRIP AND ALL ACCOMMODATIONS AND ENTRANCE FEES. THE RATE PER PERSON BASED ON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY IS \$5,399.00. CANCEL FOR ANY REASON INSURANCE IS OPTIONAL AND AT A RATE OF \$549.00. PLEASE CALL TARA FOR MORE INFORMATION.

The Ten 'Most Christmassy' Towns in the U.S.

A HUNDRED MILES NORTH OF DETROIT LIES FRANKENMUTH, MICHIGAN, A LITERAL STEP BACK IN TIME.

FROM THE MOMENT YOU PULL OFF THE EXIT ON I-75, YOU ARE TRANSPORTED TO A EUROPEAN VILLAGE – MICHIGAN'S SELF-PROCLAIMED LITTLE BAVARIA – COMPLETE WITH WINDOW FLOWER BOXES, LEDERHOSEN, AND WHAT IS ARGUABLY THE "MOST CHRISTMASSY" PLACE IN AMERICA. THIS IS JUST ONE DESTINATION IN THE U.S. THAT EMBODIES THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS, AND IT SPURRED US HERE AT TMR TO SEARCH OUT SIMILAR PLACES AND TOWNS. HERE ARE 10 OF THEM, IN NO PARTICULAR ORDER OF HOLIDAY GREATNESS.

1. FRANKENMUTH, MICHIGAN (BRONNER'S)

BRONNER'S IS HOME TO THE WORLD'S LARGEST CHRISTMAS STORE. THIS IS NO SEASONAL POP-UP. WITH MORE THAN 50,000 DIFFERENT ITEMS – INCLUDING CHRISTMAS TREES, LIGHTS, DECORATIONS, TRIMMINGS AND MORE – BRONNER'S SPREADS ACROSS 27 ACRES, THE SIZE OF NEARLY TWO FOOTBALL FIELDS, AND IS OPEN 361 DAYS A YEAR.

2. SANTA CLAUS, INDIANA

BILLED AS "AMERICA'S CHRISTMAS HOMETOWN," SANTA CLAUS, INDIANA, IS A REAL PLACE THAT JUST HAPPENS TO LIVE AND BREATHE CHRISTMAS EVERY DAY OF THE YEAR. YOU CAN STAY AT SANTA'S LODGE, BROWSE THE MORE THAN 8,000 CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS AT THE SANTA CLAUS CHRISTMAS STORE, GO TO FROSTY'S FUN CENTER WITH THE KIDS, AND AT NIGHT TAKE A 1.2-MILE DRIVE THROUGH ONE OF THE BEST LIGHT DISPLAYS IN THE COUNTRY.

3. RHINEBECK, NEW YORK

RHINEBECK, NORTH OF NEW YORK CITY, FEATURES THE OLDEST INN IN AMERICA, THE BECKMAN ARMS, WHICH DATES BACK TO THE 1700S. THE TOWN IS ALSO JUST A FEW MILES NORTH OF HYDE PARK AND THE FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT PRESIDENTIAL HOME AND LIBRARY.

4. WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA (CHRISTMAS TOWN, BUSCH GARDENS)

THE SPECIAL SEASONAL ATTRACTION OF CHRISTMAS TOWN IN BUSCH GARDENS IS THE MOST FUN IN WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA, WHERE THE CITY ITSELF PLAYS HOST TO SEVERAL CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS FROM YESTERYEAR, INCLUDING CAROLING THROUGH THE TOWN BY TORCHLIGHT. (THERE IS ALSO A CHRISTMAS TOWN, BUSCH GARDENS, IN TAMPA, FLORIDA.)

5. LEAVENWORTH, WASHINGTON

IT'S CHRISTMAS EVERY DAY IN DECEMBER IN THIS SMALL MOUNTAIN TOWN. EACH YEAR, LEAVENWORTH TRANSFORMS INTO CHRISTMASTOWN, AND RESIDENTS AND VISITORS DELIGHT IN THE MORE THAN HALF A MILLION LIGHTS, HOLIDAY MUSIC, ROASTED CHESTNUTS FRESH OUT OF THE FIRE, SLEIGH RIDES, AND MORE. FAMILIES CAN BUILD GINGERBREAD HOUSES, MEET SANTAS FROM AROUND THE WORLD, WRITE LETTERS TO SANTA, AND TAKE A TOUR OF THE LOCAL REINDEER FARM.

6. BERNSVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA (KOZIAR'S CHRISTMAS VILLAGE)

ONE YEAR, WILLIAM KOZIAR BEGAN DECORATING HIS FARM FOR CHRISTMAS WITH AN EXTRA SPLASH OF LIGHTS ON HIS HOME AND BARN. THAT WAS IN 1948. ALMOST SEVEN DECADES LATER, AFTER YEARLY ADDITIONS TO THE DISPLAY AND AN OUTCRY FROM HIS NEIGHBORS TO SEE ALL THE LIGHTS, THE FARM BECAME KOZIAR'S CHRISTMAS VILLAGE.

7. DURANGO, COLORADO

THERE ARE MANY THINGS THAT MAKE DURANGO A COOL PLACE TO BE FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON, INCLUDING ITS SHOPPING AND WINTER ACTIVITIES SUCH AS SKIING, SNOWBOARDING, OR GOING FOR A HORSE-DRAWN SLEIGH RIDE. BUT THE CHRISTMAS HIGHLIGHT IN DURANGO IS THE POLAR EXPRESS TRAIN, WHERE KIDS IN PAJAMAS LINE UP BY THE HUNDREDS EACH NIGHT TO TAKE A REAL-LIFE STEAM ENGINE TRAIN TO VISIT "THE NORTH POLE," DRINKING HOT COCOA ON THE JOURNEY, SINGING CHRISTMAS CAROLS AND VISITING WITH SANTA ON THE RETURN TRIP.

8. LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

ICE SKATING IN LAS VEGAS? IN THE MIDDLE OF THE DESERT? OF COURSE. THIS IS VEGAS, WHERE ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN.

THAT'S NOT ALL YOU'LL FIND IN LAS VEGAS DURING THE FESTIVE HOLIDAY SEASON. CRAVING CHRISTMAS LIGHTS? VISITORS ARE SPOILED FOR CHOICE WITH GLITTERING LIGHTS AT THE LAS VEGAS MOTOR SPEEDWAY, WHERE FAMILIES CAN DRIVE THROUGH 2.5 MILES OF LIGHTS, INCLUDING 500 ANIMATED DISPLAYS. OR THEY CAN CHOOSE THE ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF LANTERNS AT COWABUNGA BAY IN NEARBY HENDERSON, WHERE VISITORS CAN ALSO HAVE THEIR PHOTO TAKEN WITH SANTA OR INDULGE IN A PEPPERMINT BROWNIE TRUFFLE OR GINGERBREAD FUNNEL CAKE.

9. NEW YORK, NEW YORK

IT'S NO COINCIDENCE NEW YORK'S BUSY SEASON COINCIDES WITH THE HOLIDAY PERIOD STARTING AROUND THANKSGIVING AND LASTING THROUGH CHRISTMAS DAY INTO THE NEW YEAR. THE CITY HAS THE MOST ICONIC HOLIDAY-THEMED STAGE PRODUCTION IN AMERICA, THE RADIO CITY CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR, ALONG WITH THE U.S.'S MOST WELL-KNOWN CHRISTMAS TREE.

NEW YORK CITY ALSO HAS SOME LESSER-KNOWN CHRISTMAS FEATURES THAT TRAVELERS CAN TAKE ADVANTAGE OF, INCLUDING THE ORIGAMI HOLIDAY TREE AT THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY, THE MTA'S HOLIDAY NOSTALGIA RIDES, THE HOLIDAY TRAIN SHOW AT THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN, AND GRAND CENTRAL TERMINAL'S HOLIDAY FAIR AND LIGHT SHOW.

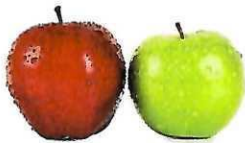
10. RED WING, MN

IF YOU HAD A DAY, JUST ONE DAY, TO GET YOURSELF IN THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT, RED WING, MINNESOTA, WOULD BE ONE OF THE GREAT PLACES TO GO FOR THEIR ANNUAL ONE-DAY HOLIDAY STROLL, HELD EACH YEAR RIGHT AROUND THANKSGIVING. BUT YOU BETTER BRING YOUR MOST COMFORTABLE SHOES.

THE STROLL IS NO LITTLE WALK. IT IS A DAY-LONG EXTRAVAGANZA THAT OFFERS UP AN ICE-SCULPTING DISPLAY, COOKIE-DECORATING CLASSES, HORSE-DRAWN WAGON RIDES, A WINDOW DISPLAY CONTEST, A TREE-LIGHTING CEREMONY, A PARADE AND FIREWORKS TO CLOSE THE NIGHT. THE FESTIVAL OF WREATHS ALLOWS PEOPLE TO BID ON SOME OF THE MOST ELABORATE HOLIDAY WREATHS EVER MADE.

Apple Pie Bombs

Ka-boom! There's an explosion of flavor your tastebuds are about to experience all thanks to Apple Pie Bombs. Each mini pie is filled with jammy, tender apples but also melty, rich caramel for a blast of fall favorites and dessert delight! Of course, a drizzle of even more creamy caramel sauce will light the fuse for these bombs! Apple Pie Bombs are simple, speedy, and fun... A great way to celebrate the joys of apple season. They're dynamite!



Ingredients

12 frozen white dinner rolls or 12 pieces refrigerated biscuit dough, uncooked, 2 medium apples, peeled, cored, and diced

2 tablespoons granulated sugar

1 tablespoon ground cinnamon

30 vanilla caramels, unwrapped and divided

flour, as needed, for dusting

2 tablespoons unsalted butter, melted

1/4 cup brown sugar

2 tablespoons heavy cream

Directions

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F.

Place the dinner rolls on a microwave-safe plate and microwave on defrost until the dough is no longer frozen but not cooked, about 2 minutes.

Grease or butter a 9x6-inch casserole dish.

Place the apples, the sugar, and the cinnamon in a medium-sized bowl, tossing to combine.

Cut 18 of the caramels into quarters.

Lightly flour a work surface.

Toss one piece of the dough in the flour and flatten and stretch it in a manner similar to a mini-pizza, stretching it about 3-inches across.

Repeat with all of the dough pieces.

Reserve 1/4 cup of the apple mixture.

Add 1 tablespoon of the remaining apple mixture and 6 pieces of the cut caramel to each dough piece and pull the edges of the dough together to form a ball.

Place the dough balls in the prepared dish.

Brush the dough balls with the melted butter and sprinkle them with the brown sugar and the reserved apple mixture.

Bake the dough balls until the tops are golden brown and the pies are no longer doughy, about 30-35 minutes.

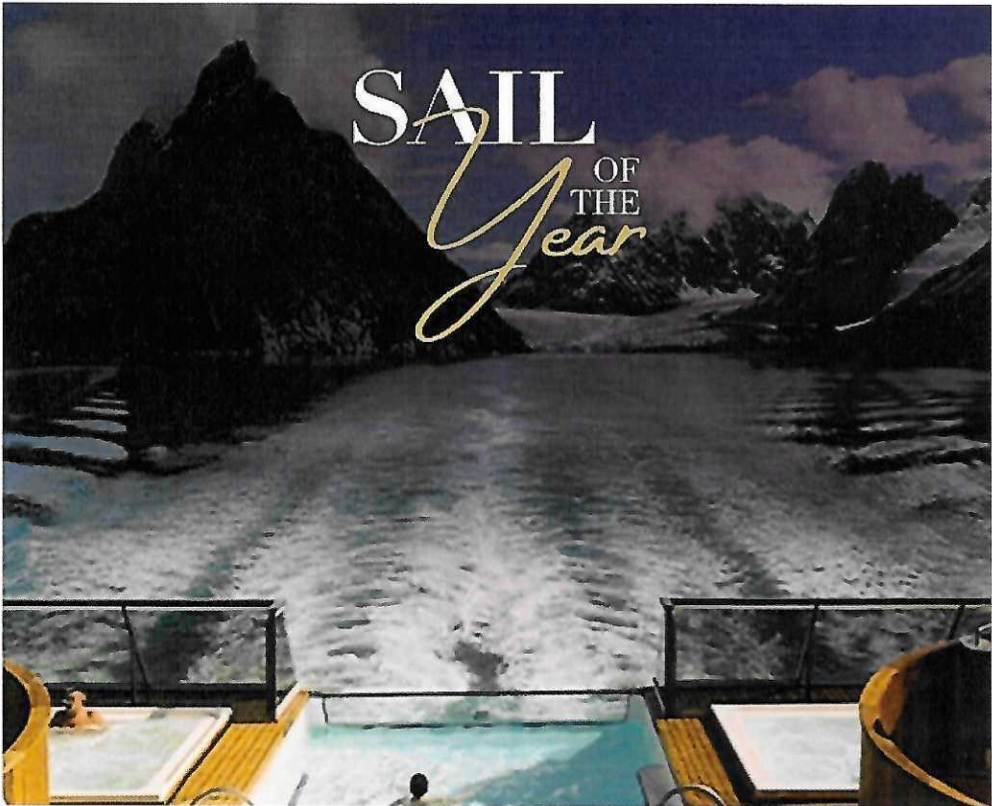
Place the remaining caramels and the heavy cream in a microwave-safe bowl and microwave until melted, stirring every 30 seconds.

Allow the caramel sauce to cool slightly, then drizzle it over the pie balls.

Serve.



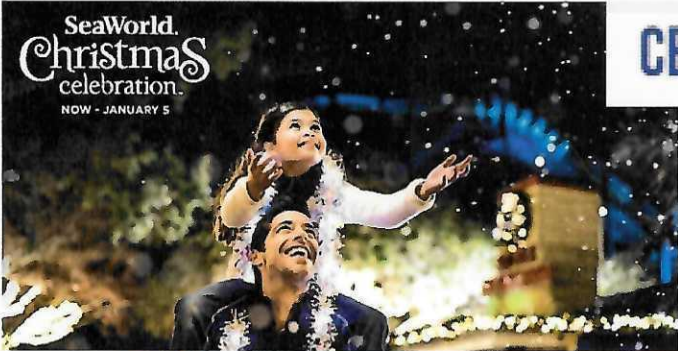
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This exceptional Sail of the Year offer is only available until February 18, 2025, so book today.



CELEBRATE WITH SEASONAL SAVINGS!

Don't miss our Holiday Sale with savings up to 50% on some of our most popular tickets, Fun Card and Pass options this season! Plus enjoy the wonder of Christmas Celebration now, from award-winning entertainment like the show stopping Winter Wonderland on Ice to meet-and-greets with Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer, Santa (now here daily), and more.

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