

press kit



VISIT
NEWPORT
BEACH
CALIFORNIA

holidays in newport beach

In Newport Beach, festive fresh air and ocean breezes mingle with holiday cheer to create unrivaled memories for visitors and locals alike. With coastal traditions that date back decades and waterfront locales for viewing colorful fireworks and light displays come nightfall, there's no better place for a holiday getaway.



HOLIDAY LIGHTS

Winter celebrations kick off in Newport Beach with the arrival of holiday trees that sparkle and twinkle all season long. At Fashion Island, visitors can marvel at a stunning 90-foot white fir tree adorned with thousands of lights and ornaments. Down on the beach, Crystal Cove transforms into a holiday bazaar on the sand, with jewelry and handcrafts, seaglass-wrapping and a visit from Santa before the tree-lighting ceremony commences after sunset. Newport Dunes' annual Lighting of the Bay creates its own holiday showcase right on the water, with the festive floating lights glowing from sundown to 11:30 p.m. through New Year's Day. The destination is the ultimate holiday headquarters, with high-energy performances, sips and sweets, and dazzling displays from Mariner's Mile down to Newport Coast.

NEWPORT BEACH CHRISTMAS BOAT PARADE

Declared one of the top 10 holiday happenings in the nation by the New York Times, the annual Newport Beach Christmas Boat Parade lights up the harbor for five nights every December. With fireworks in the sky and festive boats illuminating the calm waters, Newport Beach becomes a winter wonderland that has enchanted the community for more than a century. Departing from Bay Island after sunset, the blazing parade winds its way through the harbor past landmarks like Ring of Lights, an iconic cluster of multi-million dollar waterfront homes that spread holiday cheer with over-the-top decorations. Viewing options abound — set sail on a chartered boat, book a table at a waterfront restaurant or cozy up along the shore to see up to 100 boats, from kayaks to superyachts. Kicking off the festivities each night is a new grand marshal, with past guests including Orange County Olympians, local heroes and celebrities including Albert Pujols, Leslie Mann, Mark McGrath and more.

CORONA DEL MAR CHRISTMAS WALK

To celebrate by the sea is a magical experience, and Newport Beach's crown jewel amplifies the seasonal cheer in December with a day of music, merriment and fun for all ages. For more than four decades, the Corona del Mar Christmas Walk has taken over village streets to offer live entertainment, beer and wine gardens, visits with Santa and merchant booths featuring charming gift items, arts and crafts, jewelry and more from local businesses.

FOURTH OF JULY

Newport Beach shows its patriotic colors all year long with watercolor sunsets, sparkling blue waters and pristine white sand beaches. But on the Fourth of July, fireworks set coastal skies aglow during the annual Newport Dunes Independence Day on the Back Bay. Festivities run all day long, with games, watersports and live entertainment culminating in one of Southern California's largest firework spectacles. The flag also flies across the sun-soaked waters with the American Legion's Old Glory Boat Parade, a tradition more than 50 years in the making that sends patriotically decorated vessels filled with active duty servicemembers and veterans sailing through the harbor.

MORE STORY STARTERS

- **Traditions.** Coastal traditions, decades in the making, define the holiday landscape in Newport Beach. The Newport Beach Christmas Boat Parade has lit up the harbor for more than a century, making it the longest-running holiday boat parade in the nation. Originating in the 1950s, the Old Glory Boat Parade is one of the oldest patriotic boat parades in the state. Explore the history and tradition of these on-the-water events, each steeped in Newport's nautical founding.
- **Celebrity Connection.** From sports all-stars and television celebrities to local heroes, the Grand Marshals of the Newport Beach Boat Parade represent the best of their fields. Dive into this historic and beloved tradition with a look at honorees past and present, including Mickey Mouse, Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim owner Arte Moreno, the U.S. Women's National Soccer Team, Corona del Mar High School alums Leslie Mann and Mark McGrath, contestants from Season 8 of The Voice and the Newport Beach police fire and lifeguard departments, hometown heroes who dedicate their lives to keeping the city safe.