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**NEW HAMPSHIRE INVITES VISITORS TO LIVE FREE AND CELEBRATE
WITH A HOST OF HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS**

Tweet it: @VisitNH to 'Live Free and Celebrate' this Holiday Season

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE –December 16, 2013 – Visitors to [New Hampshire](#) can “Live Free and Celebrate” this season with a wide range of holiday activities offered across the state. Whether you are gliding down the slopes, surveying the scenic splendor or saving big with tax-free shopping, the Granite State provides the perfect setting for a holiday getaway. Samples of some top statewide seasonal happenings are listed below:

December/Christmas:

- **Santa’s Holiday Express on Conway Scenic RR – North Conway, NH**
Saturday, December 21 – Monday, December 23
Details: Guests are invited to enjoy an old-fashion railroading experience in vintage passenger cars while sharing hot chocolate and cookies with Santa and his elves on a holiday train excursion through the scenic countryside.
Contact: For more information and prices, call 603-356-5251 or visit <http://conwayscenic.com/>
- **Traditionally Yours by the Jackson Area Chamber of Commerce – Jackson, NH**
Friday, December 20 – Sunday, December 22
Details: Visitors can enjoy craft fairs, sleigh rides, wine tastings, inn tours, raffles, cookie decorating, Jingle Bell Chocolate Tours and more during these fun-filled holiday weekends in Jackson.
Contact: For more information, visit <http://www.jacksonnh.com/event/88/Traditionally-Yours>
- **Christmas on the Farm – Inn at East Hill Farm: Troy, NH**
Saturday, December 21
Details: The Inn at East Hill Farm provides fun activities for the whole family, including hay jumping in the hayloft, horse drawn sleigh rides, pony rides inside the barn, sledding, ice skating, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. On December 21, visitors

can enjoy a full day of holiday events on the farm including crafts, a hot chocolate tasting with Unbridled Chocolates of Marlborough, NH and photos with Santa.

Contact: For more information, call 1-800-242-6495 or visit www.east-hill-farm.com

- **Holiday Shopping Special – Stonehurst Manor: North Conway, NH**

Now through Sunday, December 22

Details: Visitors can take advantage of a special \$68 per person, per night room rate that includes dinner and a full breakfast, as well as a free VIP coupon book for Settler's Green with up to an additional 25 percent savings at over half of the stores.

Contact: For more information, call 800-525-9100 or visit www.StonehurstManor.com

- **Christmastime at Santa's Village – Jefferson, NH**

Weekends through Sunday, December 22

Details: The Christmas season is the most special time in Santa's Village, which is celebrating its 60th season this year. Shops are open for visitors to buy those last minute gifts, 14 of the parks rides will be up and running and of course Santa will waiting to greet the children as they come to spend time in the Village.

Contact: For more information and admission prices call 603-358-4445 or visit <http://www.santasvillage.com/public/christmastime/index.cfm>

- **Christmas 5-Day Ski & Stay Week – Royalty Inn: Gorham, NH**

Arrival either Thursday, December 26 or Friday, December 27

Details: Visitors can spend their holiday on the slopes this season with this package from the Royalty Inn. Guests can enjoy five nights lodging, five days of lift interchangeable lift tickets at Wildcat Ski Area and Attitash and unlimited use of the Royalty Athletic Club's indoor pool, sauna, Jacuzzi, racquetball courts, weight training and cardio training rooms.

Contact: For rates and booking information call 603-466-3312 or visit, <http://www.royaltyinn.com/>

- **Vintage Christmas – Portsmouth, NH**

Now through Tuesday, December 31

Details: Now in its ninth year, this citywide holiday in the "Christmas capital of North America," features a renowned Candlelight Stroll as well as live holiday shows, opera broadcasts and films in The Music Hall's landmark Historic Theater and the intimate Music Hall Loft on Congress Street. Visitors can enjoy a free trolley ride through red-bricked Market Square, stroll through the snowflakes to local shops and boutiques, and step back in time with a visit to the festively decorated [Strawbery Banke Museum](http://www.strawberybanke.com).

Contact: For more information, visit vintagechristmasnh.org

January/New Year:

- **New Year's Eve at Purity Spring Resort – East Madison, NH**

Tuesday, December 31

Details: Visitors can ring in the New Year with night ski tickets from 4:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. and the chance to join a torchlight ski parade. Other activities for the night include outdoor music, a Bonfire at the base of King Pine, balloons, face-painting and magic by Bobo the Clown, ice skating in the covered "Tohko Dome and a Family Challenge Fun Race. Families can enjoy an amazing fireworks display followed by a party in the Trail's End Tavern until 12:30 a.m., complete with appetizers, pizza, a DJ, dancing and games.

Contact: For rates and booking information call 800.367.3754 or visit <http://www.purityspring.com/firstnight.html>

- **Gunstock Rocks New Year's Eve – Gilford, NH**

Tuesday, December 31

Details: The entire mountain will be open on New Year's Eve for guests. After 4:00 p.m. visitors with night lift tickets are able to ski or board until 11:30 p.m., enjoy horse drawn carriage rides, take two runs on the Thrill Hill tubing hill, go on a snow shoe tour as well as get free tips from Learning Center pros. Entertainment for the night includes roaming jugglers, face painting, S'mores, live music from the 'Nobody's Fault Band,' an outdoor DJ, a Torch Light parade and a fireworks display at midnight.

Contact: For more information and pricing call 603-293-4341 or visit <http://www.gunstock.com/events/events/109/>

- **Cranmore's Cranapalooza Celebration– North Conway, NH**

Tuesday, December 31

Details: This festival, held on Saturday afternoons and select holidays, provides guests with family entertainment in the C-More's Theater at Artist Falls Lodge, s'mores at an outdoor fire pit, a parade, live music, face painting and a fireworks display at 6:30 p.m.

Contact: For more information, call 603-356-8561 or visit <http://www.cranmore.com/>

ABOUT THE DIVISION OF TRAVEL AND TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

The Division of Travel and Tourism Development, as part of the New Hampshire Department of Resources and Economic Development, works with the state's seven travel regions to increase visitation, travel and visitor expenditures in order to expand business activity and employment throughout the state. The division is responsible for domestic and international advertising and public relations, literature publication and distribution, www.visitnh.gov administration, grant administration and research to monitor and measure the impact of travel and tourism to the state. For more information about New Hampshire tourism, call 603-271-2665 or visit www.visitnh.gov.

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