



How to Do Family Christmas in Las Vegas

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Though robbed of the appropriate “city that never sleeps” title, the non-stop party that is Las Vegas earned its reputation as a bachelor and bachelorette mecca long ago. Often compared to Disney World for adults, Sin City has also seen many a wedding (planned and otherwise), lavish honeymoon retreat, and debaucherous company “conference.” But Christmas?

Vegas might not be the first place that comes to mind for a traditional yuletide getaway—though perhaps it should be. In a city where each hotel, club, bar, and restaurant seems to be competing for the best view and the most breathtaking design all year, holiday decor makes the city shimmer two-fold. Think life-sized snow globes, jumbo gingerbread-scapes and light shows that put every Griswald-aspiring neighbor to shame. Not to mention plenty of holiday-themed shows, appearances by Santa, and feasts for every taste.

Whether you’ve been naughty or nice, these 11 picks will have you considering an annual getaway to this diamond in the desert.

Experience a Nutcracker Tea at the Mandarin Oriental

Sip on tea and nibble scones, pastries and finger sandwiches while admiring a breathtaking view of the Strip from the 23rd floor of the Mandarin Oriental. To celebrate the season, they offer a Nutcracker Tea in their luxe Tea Lounge, with a portion of proceeds benefitting the Nevada Ballet Theatre. Choose from a menu of loose teas, from pu-erh to darjeeling, plus nutty, spicy holiday special blends—and tea cocktails, of course. Because...Vegas.

De-stress at the spa

If you’re human, the stress of the holiday is bound to get to you eventually. But less so in Vegas, where a day of pampering is within reach up and down the Strip. Zone out on hot stone ganbanyoku beds at the Aria, soak in Roman baths at Caesar’s Palace, sweat it out in a hammam at the [Mandarin Oriental](#) or indulge in a tropical body ritual at the Encore. The choice is yours and you can’t make a bad one here.

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