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THE LAND OF SEASONAL CELEBRATIONS

Destination Cleveland encourages locals to celebrate diversity and support local makers as the year comes to a close

CLEVELAND (Dec. 6, 2024) – 'Tis the season of endless holiday fun in The Land. Whether celebrating Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, Christmas or just enjoying the winter vibes, there's something for everyone to enjoy as the final days of 2024 fly by faster than Santa and his reindeer.

CULTURE AND CELEBRATION IN THE LAND

In a city as diverse as Cleveland, there's always something to celebrate. Whether it's lighting the menorah for Hanukkah or honoring the days of Kwanzaa with the community, locals and visitors won't want to miss out on all the seasonal celebrations ahead.

Friends of the Maltz Museum Chanukah Candle Lighting

There will be fun for all ages as the first night of Chanukah is celebrated at the [Maltz Museum](#) with the lighting of the menorah. The festivities will include traditional songs and storytelling for adults and children, as well as crafts and goodie bags for kids to enjoy. Museum admission will be free all day with a canned food donation, with all contributions going to Kosher Food Bank and the Greater Cleveland Food Bank.

- Dec. 25 at 3:00 p.m.; details and registration [online](#)
- Maltz Museum: 2929 Richmond Road, Beachwood

Downtown Menorah Lighting

Clevelanders of all faiths are invited to join the festivities for the lighting of the [Public Square](#) menorah. The event on the second night of Hanukkah will include a menorah lighting, entertainment and festive fun activities. Attendees can also enjoy a variety of [WinterLand](#) offerings like ice skating, a walk through the holiday lights or a wintry photo op in the Square.

- Dec. 26, 6-7 p.m.
- Public Square: 50 Public Square, Cleveland

The Light of Kinara

Clevelanders can celebrate Kwanzaa with [Djapo Cultural Arts Institute](#), a local performing arts company committed to preserving African diasporic works. The group will present "The Light of Kinara" at [Cleveland Public Theatre](#) for three nights. The production honors and celebrates African heritage and community through spoken word, music and dance. A variety of ticketing options are available, including Cleveland Public Theatre's "Choose What You Pay" admission.

- Dec. 19 – 22; schedule and tickets [online](#)
- Cleveland Public Theatre: 6416 Detroit Ave., Cleveland

Karamu House's 2024 Kwanzaa Celebration

Black, red and green will adorn the evening at [Karamu House's](#) 2024 Kwanzaa Celebration. The celebration, at the oldest producing Black theater in the nation, will offer a marketplace featuring local vendors, art workshops throughout the building and film screenings in the Jelliffe Theatre. The event

also gives locals a firsthand look at some of the renovations that have been completed over the last few years at the Fairfax neighborhood venue.

- Dec. 30 3-7 p.m.; registration & details [online](#)
- Karamu House Theatre: 2355 E. 89 St., Cleveland

Kwanzaa Celebration with Cuyahoga County Public Library

[The Cleveland Association of Black Storytellers](#) will celebrate the fifth night of Kwanzaa at the [Cuyahoga County Public Library's Maple Heights branch](#). The fifth principle of the holiday, "Nia," means purpose and encourages reflection on personal goals, as well as goals that benefit the Black community.

- Dec. 30, 6:30 – 8 p.m.; registration & details [online](#)
- Cuyahoga County Public Library: 5225 Library Ln., Maple Heights

THE LAND THAT KEEPS ON GIVING

In a city of boundless creativity, it's easy to find the gift that's just right. Many events this season will feature Cleveland's expansive community of creators.

Holiday Market at the Screw Factory

Clevelanders can wrap up their holiday shopping while celebrating The Land's many makers, thanks to the [Screw Factory's](#) 7th Annual Holiday Market. Shoppers can immerse themselves in the creativity of the Artist Loft's resident artists as well as other talented visiting creators. From ceramics and sculptures to upcycled vintage items and paper designs, locals are sure to find something for everyone on their list – or even for themselves.

- Dec. 13-15; hours & details [online](#)
- The Screw Factory: 13000 Athens Ave., Lakewood

78th Street Studios

The perfect gift awaits amongst local and handmade art from over 125 artists and makers at the Cleveland Bazaar 20th Anniversary Event. The biggest show of Cleveland Bazaar's season will be hosted at [78th Street Studios](#) in the Detroit Shoreway neighborhood. Attendees can shop around and refuel with local food and drink. For those looking to sip and shop while beating the crowds, a ticketed early bird shopping event will be held on Friday night.

- Dec. 14-15; hours & details [online](#)
- 78th Street Studios: 1305 W. 80th Street, Cleveland

Ohio City Holiday Hop

[Ohio City Inc.'s](#) Holiday Hop makes it easier than ever for locals to check gifts off their list, thanks to a fully festive and completely free shuttle. With various stops throughout the neighborhood, locals can hop on and off to shop in local businesses and refresh themselves at a variety of local breweries and restaurants. Follow the Ohio City social channels to stay updated on weekly happenings throughout the season.

- Nov. 23 – Dec. 21, Saturdays from 12-8 p.m.; shuttle map [online](#)
- Instagram: [@ohiocityinc](#) & Facebook: [Ohio City Incorporated](#)

Home for the Holidays Pop Up Boutique

Season nine of [Home for the Holidays](#) returns in Lakewood this season with over 40 small businesses represented. The pop-up boutique, which changes locations each year, includes thoughtfully curated collections from a variety of artists and makers as well as small-batch food goodies. Whether it's a piece of Cleveland-themed artwork for the biggest fan of The Land, a custom coffee mug for the always-

caffeinated or a hand-crafted snack for those with a sweet tooth, the pop-up shop makes it easy for Clevelanders to buy local this holiday season.

- *Through Dec. 23; hours & details [online](#)*
- *Home for the Holidays: 17106 Detroit Ave., Lakewood*

THE LAND OF NAUGHTY BREWS AND NICE BITES

This food-centric city takes the holidays seriously with festive fun, musical celebrations and celebrity brunches to fill residents – and their bellies – with joy.

Festive drinks

Locals and visitors can get into the “spirits” of the season and taste all the jolly flavors at themed bars across The Land. Begin the journey at [Southern Tier Brewing Co.](#) for their [2nd Annual Christmas Bar](#), featuring a fully decorated space, festive music, custom cocktails and light bites. Next, Clevelanders can follow the chill of the Cuyahoga River to [XMAS Bar](#) in the Flats East Bank. The seasonal pop-up in the Hi5 space offers a specialty menu, décor galore and plenty of holiday cheer. Over in the Ohio City neighborhood, [Nano Brew](#) is ready with a new Christmas bar serving up burgers, beer and a tasteful holiday atmosphere. The final stop awaits at the always iconic [Great Lakes Secret Cellar Christmas Bar](#), a transformed secret holiday hideaway with fresh Christmas Ale on tap and an exclusive menu.

Breakfast with Santa at Merwin’s Wharf

Families looking for a little extra holiday cheer won’t want to miss Breakfast with Santa at [Cleveland Metroparks Merwin Wharf](#). Tickets include a family-style breakfast with a personal visit with the big, jolly, red-suited man. Guests can enjoy a view of the water while staying warm thanks to heated igloos on the patio, which are also perfect for a holiday date night or festive celebration with friends.

- *Dec. 7-22; hours & reservations [online](#)*
- *Merwin’s Warf: 1785 Merwin Ave., Cleveland*

Brunch at Music Box Supper Club

The celebrations get started early at [Music Box Supper Club’s](#) holiday brunches with a show. Music lovers can have a very “Blue Christmas” at the Elvis brunch in the Concert Hall. Or join Cleveland native, Rachel Brown, for Rachel Brown’s Holiday Brunch and enjoy the ambiance of classic carols in the Supper Club. Not enough? Locals and their visitors can put on a pair of dancing shoes and join Santa and Krampus for the Chardon Polka Band’s annual “polka buffet” performances.

- *View the concert schedule [online](#)*
- *Music Box Supper Club: 1148 Main Ave., Cleveland*

PLEASE NOTE: The Cleveland Visitors Center will operate under special hours from Dec. 23-Jan 1:

- Dec. 23, 24, 30 and 31: Virtual assistance only, noon-4 p.m.
- Dec. 25 and Jan 1: Closed
- Dec. 26-30: noon-4 p.m.
- Winter hours (Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.) begin Dec. 1, through March 31.

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ABOUT DESTINATION CLEVELAND: Destination Cleveland is Cleveland’s destination marketing and management organization. The private, non-profit organization’s mission is to stimulate economic growth by attracting people and connecting them to experiences that illustrate Cleveland’s diversity, creativity and contagious passion. In 2023, visitation increased for the third straight year to 18.34 million visits. For more information, visit www.thisiscleveland.com.