

A Channel Islands Christmas

From tractor parades to Boxing Day dips, Guernsey and the surrounding isles offer Christmas with a twist



A Christmas in Guernsey is like no other, as quirky traditions are paired with an unbeatable festive atmosphere throughout the island's quaint streets. From tractor runs and festive railway journeys to traditional Christmas fayres, Guernsey and its surrounding islands provide a distinctive experience and the ideal staycation destination for the holiday season.

Events & Activities

A 'Christmas of Curiosities' at Candie Gardens

Held every Sunday in the run up to Christmas, Guernsey Museum's 'Christmas of Curiosities' includes a Santa's Grotto, market stalls selling handmade gifts and decorations, festive arts and crafts workshops, themed exploration trails and showings of family friendly Christmas films in the Frossard Theatre. More information [here](#).

Christmas Tractor Parade

An event not to be missed, 2021's successful Christmas Tractor Run returns for its second year. Visitors can look on as the cavalcade of twinkling decorated tractors roam the island's streets on 17th December. More information [here](#).

The St Peter Port Polar Express

This December, Guernsey's 'Petit Train' will be transformed into the Polar Express. Parents and children are invited to climb aboard at Albert Pier in their comfiest festive pyjamas, and journey into the heart of St Peter Port to take in the sparkling lights and festive decor. Families will dash through the snow and arrive at a festive grotto to create their own Christmas tree decorations to take home. The train departs on multiple dates throughout December. More information [here](#).

Après Ski at OGH's Alpine Lodge

From 18th November to 7th January, the Old Government Hotel & Spa's outdoor terraces will be transformed into an après ski wonderland. Serving festive beverage favourites such as mulled wine and hot chocolate alongside warming dishes, the Alpine Lodge will be a warm retreat throughout the colder months. Sundays are for families, and include a hot chocolate station on arrival, sweet and savoury grazing dishes, a visit from Father Christmas, and festive arts and crafts. More information [here](#).

Father Christmas on the Alderney Railway

Whilst Alderney does not have typical Christmas markets, it is home to an array of other festive activities to get visitors in the spirit of the season. On 18th December, the Channel Islands' only working railway becomes the 'Santa Special', where Santa and his elves will be handing out gifts, mince pies and hot chocolate to little ones. More information [here](#).

Tuk Tuk Christmas Light Tours

On selected evenings from 28th November until 21st December, 25-minute Tuk Tuk tours will be on offer to guide visitors around the beautifully lit streets of Guernsey's St Peter's Port. Visitors will be taken along Albert Pier and through the meandering roads of the high street. More information [here](#).

Wellness

Christmas Day Polar Bear Swim

On the morning of Christmas Day, the Guernsey Swimming Club will hold the annual Polar Bear Swim at the iconic [La Vallette Bathing Pools](#). Participants can enjoy the morning sun alongside warming snacks and drinks and will leave with a signed certificate from Guernsey Swimming Club. More information [here](#).

Boxing Day Cobo Bay Dip

On Boxing Day, the residents of Guernsey will take to the waters of Cobo Bay for an icy dip. Held on one of the most expansive bays of the West coast, hundreds of participants line up on the shores to run into the sea. Mulled wine and mince pies lie in wait for those who brave the swim. More information [here](#).

Food & Drink

Domes at the Duke

Returning on 5th November, the hotly anticipated Domes at the Duke welcomes visitors once again. The festive wonderland of domes at The Duke of Richmond Hotel, complete with wintery decorations and faux fur blankets, allows guests to indulge in a Northern Lights Champagne Afternoon Tea or full Domes at the Duke Experience, complete with curated menu and festive beverages. Domes can also be booked for private hire. More information [here](#).

Cheeky Christmas Cocktails at White House Hotel, Herm

Every Wednesday between the 2nd November and 21st December, visitors can enjoy Christmas cocktails at The White House Hotel on Herm. Bought as a package, tickets include a return ferry crossing from Guernsey, three Christmas cocktails per person, and a charcuterie, cheese or vegan platter. More information [here](#).

Accommodation

The island's plentiful accommodation choices ensure there are options for everyone throughout the holiday season, with a number of hotels offering festive packages.

Two-night Christmas packages at [The Old Government House Hotel](#) include Christmas Eve Dinner, a five-course Christmas Day lunch, Christmas stocking on Christmas eve, a festive turndown, evening buffet on Christmas Day and daily breakfast at Brasserie Restaurant, with optional transport to the Cobo Boxing Day Dip. Packages begin from £285 per person. More information [here](#).

Two-night Christmas packages at the seaside [Cobo Bay Hotel](#) include a 5-course Christmas lunch with glass of bubbles, Christmas evening sandwiches, lunch or dinner on Boxing Day and daily breakfast. Packages begin from £199.50 per person. More information [here](#).

How to get there

Aurigny operate year-round direct flights to Guernsey from London, East Midlands, Manchester, Birmingham, Bristol, Exeter, Southampton and Dublin. Condor Ferries operate slow and fast ferries from Poole and Portsmouth to Guernsey year-round.

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For further general information on Guernsey, visit www.visitguernsey.com

The ISLANDS of
GUERNSEY

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