A HOLIDAY GUIDE FROM THE ROOTED REALTOR®

A Rooted Christmas

in Volusia County

2026 FAMILY-FRIENDLY HOLIDAY GUIDE

Parades • Santa visits • Christmas lights • Markets

Free family fun • Crafts • Special seasonal experiences

Local events and ideas with clickable event links

STAY ROOTED. THINK GLOBAL. GROW TOGETHER.

Compiled November 25, 2026 • Check event links for changes before heading out.

Welcome to a Rooted Christmas

If you know me, you know I'm the crazy Christmas lady. I put this guide together so you can spend less time looking for plans and more time making memories across Volusia County. Inside you'll find Santa stops, parades, lights, markets and hands-on holiday fun around Daytona Beach, Ormond Beach, New Smyrna Beach, DeLand, DeBary, Deltona and smaller towns across the county.

The event links take you to schedules and registration where available. Check the latest hours, prices, parking and photo details before leaving home.

A few favorites to put on your calendar

NOV 27 Daytona and New Smyrna Beach

Meet Santa downtown and catch the first nights of riverfront lights.

DEC 5 Four hometown parades

Choose Holly Hill, Ponce Inlet, New Smyrna Beach or DeLand.

DEC 12 Parades on land and on the water

Catch a hometown parade or watch the boats travel between Edgewater and New Smyrna Beach.

Merry Christmas, Wendy

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Holiday calendar | Nov 27 through Dec 4

NOV 27 Canal Street Christmas Kickoff

Christmas Park, New Smyrna Beach • 5–7:30 PM

Santa arrives for the downtown kickoff. Tree lighting at 6 PM.

Event details / registration

NOV 28 Joy to the Arts Santa Visit

New Smyrna Beach

Meet Santa at this arts-focused holiday celebration.

Event details / registration

NOV 28 Riverfront Holiday Market

Riverfront Esplanade, Daytona Beach • 10 AM–3 PM • Free admission

Shop artisans and food vendors while kids enjoy seasonal activities.

Event details / registration

DEC 1 Lake Helen Christmas Tree Lighting

Lake Helen • 6 PM

Meet Santa and Mrs. Claus, listen to student carolers and stay for a holiday movie.

Event details / registration

DEC 4 Light Up DeLand

Historic Downtown DeLand • 5 PM

Children's crafts, skating, Santa photos and a skydiving Santa for the tree lighting.

Event details / registration

DEC 4 Light Up Flagler

Flagler Avenue, New Smyrna Beach

Visit Santa and Mrs. Claus, see the lights and take a family photo by the sleigh.

Event details / registration

Holiday calendar | Dec 4 and Dec 5

DEC 4 Light Up Orange City

City Hall • 5–8:30 PM • Free

Tree lighting at 5:30 PM, plus Santa, skating, kids' crafts and a movie.

Event details / registration

DEC 4 Ponce Inlet Tree Lighting

Pollard Park • 6 PM

Santa, children's crafts and refreshments at the town tree lighting.

Event details / registration

DEC 4 Christmas Gala Family Night

The Casements, Ormond Beach • 5–9 PM

Train rides, Santa, entertainment and a tree lighting. Check current admission details.

Event details / registration

DEC 5 Holly Hill Christmas Parade

Ridgewood Avenue • 10 AM–noon • Free

A morning parade with the theme Holly Jolly Hollydays.

Event details / registration

DEC 5 Ponce Inlet Town Christmas Parade

Ponce Inlet • Check town for the route and start time

A hometown parade with floats and community groups.

Event details / registration

DEC 5 New Smyrna Beach Christmas Parade

New Smyrna Beach • 3 PM

The parade travels from the beachside toward Canal Street and ends at Orange Street.

Event details / registration

Holiday calendar | Dec 5 through Dec 11

DEC 5 DeLand Christmas Parade

Downtown DeLand, Woodland Boulevard • 6 PM

A longstanding parade organized by local Rotary clubs in partnership with the city.

Event details / registration

DEC 5 Tree Lighting and Chili Cook-Off

Gateway Park, DeBary • 2–6:30 PM

Crafts, games, Santa and mini-train rides. The tourism bureau lists chili sampling at $2.

Event details / registration

DEC 5 Christmas in the Park

City Center, Port Orange • 5–7:30 PM

Santa, crafts, hayrides, Christmas music and the tree lighting.

Event details / registration

DEC 5–6 The Nutcracker

Peabody Auditorium, Daytona Beach • Ticketed

The Volusia Civic Ballet presents its holiday production.

Event details / registration

DEC 6 Port Orange Holiday Parade

Dunlawton Avenue • Check city for start time

The annual parade features a Hollywood Holidays theme.

Event details / registration

DEC 11 Outdoor Holiday Movie

Rockefeller Gardens, Ormond Beach • 5:30–7:30 PM

Bring the family for an outdoor screening of The Santa Clause 2.

Event details / registration

DEC 11 Children’s Christmas Party

Jackie Robinson Ballpark, Daytona Beach • 6–8 PM • Ages 3–12

The city lists face painting, music, games and hot chocolate.

Event details / registration

Holiday calendar | Dec 12 parade day

DEC 12 EdgeFest Christmas Parade

Edgewater • 10 AM

Floats, bands, candy and a Santa finale.

Event details / registration

DEC 12 Christmas Celebration

Pierson • 3–8 PM

The town has announced the celebration. Check the town site for activity and venue details.

Event details / registration

DEC 12 Christmas Movie Magic Parade

Orange City • 5 PM

Floats travel south on Volusia Avenue from French Avenue to Ohio Avenue.

Event details / registration

DEC 12 Dashing Through the Decades Parade

Beach Street, Daytona Beach • 6 PM

A nighttime parade celebrating Daytona Beach's 150th anniversary.

Event details / registration

DEC 12 Sounds of the Season Holiday Parade

Deltona Plaza, 1200 Deltona Blvd. • 6 PM

Deltona's city parade starts in the evening at Deltona Plaza.

Event details / registration

DEC 12 Home for the Holidays Parade

Ormond Beach • Tree lighting 6 PM • Parade 6:30 PM

Start at the City Hall tree lighting and stay for the nighttime parade.

Event details / registration

Holiday calendar | Waterfront and winter break

DEC 12 Southeast Volusia Holiday Boat Parade

Edgewater and New Smyrna Beach • 6 PM

Boats travel north from near Menard-May Park past Riverside Park toward the North Causeway.

Event details / registration

DEC 12–13 Tour of Historic Homes

DeLand's Old Northwest Residential Historic District

Tour eight homes and discover local architecture and history.

Event details / registration

DEC 13 DeBary and Lake Helen Christmas Parades

DeBary • 3 PM / Lake Helen • 4 PM

DeBary's route is along U.S. 17/92. Lake Helen's tourism listing points visitors to Blake Park.

Event details / registration

DEC 16 & 18 Pet Parade and Grinch Movie

Riverfront Esplanade, Daytona Beach

The costumed pet parade is Dec. 16, 6–7:30 PM. The free Grinch movie starts at 7 PM Dec. 18.

Event details / registration

DEC 19 Halifax River Christmas Boat Parade

Daytona Beach • 6 PM

Lighted boats travel south from near Granada Bridge toward Halifax Harbor Marina.

Event details / registration

THRU DEC 13 A Christmas Story The Musical

Athens Theatre, DeLand • Ticketed

A stage adaptation of the holiday movie. Check the theater calendar for performance times.

Event details / registration

Meet Santa | Photos and special visits

NOV 27, DEC 4 & 11 Holiday Bazaar and Santa Sightings

Riverfront Esplanade, Daytona Beach • 6–9 PM • Free visit

Bring a camera for Santa and the snow-globe photo spot, then browse local vendors.

Event details / registration

SELECT DATES Santa's Village

Daytona Flea & Farmers Market • 11 AM–2 PM • Free photos

Bring your camera Nov. 28–29, Dec. 5–6, Dec. 11–13 or Dec. 18–23.

Event details / registration

SELECT DATES Santa's Workshop at Volusia Mall

Daytona Beach • Check daily times and photo pricing

Book a Santa visit or check the seasonal schedule before heading over.

Event details / registration

DEC 5 Santa's Breakfast at DeBary Hall

DeBary • 9–10:30 AM • $15 adults, $10 ages 2–12

Breakfast, stories, photo opportunities and a craft. Tickets must be purchased by Nov. 28. Call 386-668-3840.

Event details / registration

DEC 5 Breakfast with Santa at Azure

The Shores Resort, Daytona Beach Shores • 7–11 AM

Check the venue for seat availability and the current price.

Event details / registration

DATES TBA Santa Visits Orange City

City neighborhoods • Routes to be announced

The fire department plans to escort Santa through neighborhoods. Check for the city's Santa Tracker updates.

Event details / registration

Holiday lights | Make an evening of it

THRU JAN 2 Magic of Lights

Daytona International Speedway • 6–10 PM • Ticketed by vehicle

Drive through illuminated holiday scenes. Check prices for your chosen date.

Event details / registration

THRU JAN 4 A December to Remember

Riverfront Esplanade, Daytona Beach • 6–9 PM

Stroll through the waterfront lights and check the calendar for special event nights.

Event details / registration

THRU JAN 17 Stetson Mansion Christmas Spectacular

DeLand • Ticketed

Explore ten themed holiday rooms on a guided or self-guided tour.

Event details / registration

SELECT DATES Butler Express

Equestrian Center, Lake Helen • Select dates Dec. 4–23

Ride through town to see Christmas lights and sing along to seasonal music.

Event details / registration

DEC 6–20 Winter Walk of Lights

Gateway Park, DeBary • Free

Stroll the park to see light displays and seasonal decorations.

Event details / registration

DEC 11–12 Holiday Candlelight Tours

DeBary Hall Historic Site • Check individual tour times

See the mansion's seasonal trees and decorations by candlelight.

Event details / registration

From my home to yours...

Make the memories.
The season goes by quickly.

Whether you love glittering Christmas lights, a small-town parade, a photo with Santa, or simply seeing the excitement on a little one's face, I hope this guide helps you find something wonderful close to home.

Wendy Wagner | Broker / Owner

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