

Home for the Holidays

Experience the magic of Georgetown's "Home for the Holidays" tour, a festive winter itinerary spanning three days. Enjoy Christmas concerts, downtown shopping, and craft workshops, followed by gourmet tastings and candlelit tours at Ward Hall, Kentucky's Grandest Greek Revival Mansion.

Conclude your tour with seasonal fun at ChristmasTime at the Ark Encounter.

DAY 1

One of Kentucky's most Christmassy towns, Georgetown pulls out the stops for its annual <u>Home for the Holidays</u> celebration. Christmas concerts, photo ops with beloved Christmas characters and more are all part of Georgetown's beloved holiday tradition. Plan to visit during the Hanging of the Green at Georgetown College, a special chapel service to mark the start of the Advent season and held the very end of November, or for the Christmas Tree Lighting and Parade plus holiday activities and open houses the beginning of December.

CHECK IT TWICE Begin or finish seasonal shopping in downtown Georgetown, picturesque with its Victorian streetscape and pristine historic buildings where <u>six blocks of locally owned shops and boutiques</u> welcome shoppers with their decorated storefronts and wonderful, curated collections of gift items—offering everything from handcrafted jewelry and whimsical keepsakes to home décor and accessories to upscale apparel and unexpected vintage finds.

LUNCH at <u>Local Feed</u>, a scratch southern style restaurant highlighting local ingredients through old world techniques. Enjoy a unique dining experience in a former 1890s icehouse just steps from Royal Spring Park where Elijah Craig made a discovery that impacted the world: the bourbon distillation process.

ON YOUR OWN DINING in Historic Downtown Georgetown, home to a variety of locally owned restaurants and sweet shops, perfect for appealing to everyone's appetite. Groups are encouraged to drop off at the Georgetown/Scott County Museum and allow some extra time to explore Main Street's many shops.

NIGHT OF LIGHTS The annual <u>Southern Lights Holiday Festival</u>, named one of Kentucky's Top 10 Winter/Holiday Festivals and Events by Kentucky Travel and Tourism, takes place at the Kentucky Horse Park. Travel along three miles of holiday displays then take part in park activities featuring local crafts, model trains and more.

DAY 2

YOUR CHOICE CHRISTMAS CRAFTING Gather at <u>Colorspell Creative Studio</u> for a customized workshop—an Art Bar set up with a variety of materials and seasonally inspired offerings, Guided Canvas painting or candle-making. If you have a taste for the gourmet, choose a tutored tasting of handcrafted chocolates at <u>Chocomania</u> or enjoy a curated tasting of boutique wines at <u>The Wine Project</u>.

MRS. CLAUS MEETUP Stop by the Georgetown and Scott County Museum, which is located in the historic 1915 post office building, to learn about the museum's Letter to Santa program (for the community's kids—big and small), and to see the original post boxes where Santa leaves his letters for those who've written to him. Mrs. Claus is known to drop by on occasion.

Tour the Dewitt Collection, a model train with stagecoach-style passenger cars, constructed of cast aluminum, brass, hammered steel sheets and wood and completed over four decades. Made by Douglas Cox, it was based on design plans for the operating replica of the *DeWitt Clinton* locomotive built for the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition that were published in *Popular Mechanics* magazine in 1932. The replica resides at the Henry Ford Museum.

DINNER at Cherry Blossom Clubhouse for a taste of Kentucky: The Georgetown Hot Brown, Kentucky bourbon-glazed salmon, fresh Kentucky catfish dinner.

CANDLES AND CAROLS See decorated trees amidst the glow of candlelight during Ward Hall's Candlelight Tours. Set in Kentucky's grandest home, the trees illustrate the history of the evergreen, from its earliest days to the present. The home is decorated from basement to attic, including lit candles, fragrant live greenery and fresh fruit and stockings hung by the home's 13 chimneys. Volunteers guide the tours in period dress and Christmas carols are played on the 1881 rosewood square grand piano.

DAY 3

CANDY CURATION Choose among an array of handmade gourmet and designer chocolates at <u>Chocomania</u> to customize a gift box for the chocoholic on your Christmas list.

SUPERSIZED SEASONAL FUN Christmas Time at the Ark Encounter wows with its life-size ark and beautiful gardens illuminated in rainbow-colored lights, festive food and drinks, traditional Christmas carols, a fair trade market and gift shop and more.