

Day trips fill holiday season

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Piedmont festivities

A few steps down from the mountains and foothills brings you to the Triad, accessible from nearly every direction in North Carolina. Here, you can explore Christmases past and present. In Winston-Salem, tour 18th and 19th Century homes and public buildings in Old Salem, a Moravian, colonial-era "living history," outdoor museum. Nearby wine vineyards in the Yadkin Valley offer winery tours and tastings. In Winston-Salem, the "City of the Arts," local performers bring Christmas to life and students at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts light up your holiday spirit with the classic "The Nutcracker."

Festival of Lights Through Jan. 1 Tanglewood Park 4061 Clemmons Rd. Clemmons, NC 27012 336-703-6400

Tanglewood's Festival of Lights continues to be one of the largest and most spectacular light shows in the southeast. From storybook scenes to Holiday themes, over 100 displays and over a million lights fill Tanglewood Park with the splendor and joy of the holiday season. Open 6-11 p.m.

Langston Hughes' "Black Nativity"

Dec. 7-8, 14-15 610 Coliseum Dr. Winston-Salem, NC 27106 nbtf.org 336-723-2266

One of America's most popular holiday gospel musicals, this annual production by the North Carolina Black Repertory Company is a foot-stomping, hand-clapping theatrical performance, filled with brilliant costumes and Afro-centric dance.

"The Nutcracker"

Dec. 8-9, Dec. 13-16 Stevens Center 405 W. Fourth St. Winston-Salem, NC 27101 uncsa.edu 336-721-1945

The Sugar Plum Fairy casts her spell on Winston-Salem when "The Nutcracker" returns to downtown Winston-Salem, Ethan Stiefel, artistic director for the New Zealand Royal Ballet, brings his brilliant interpretation of a classic back to the Stevens Center this festive season. Experience Tchaikovsky's lush score, vivid sets and costumes and the extraordinary performances that have made UNCSA's "Nutcracker" a holiday tradition!

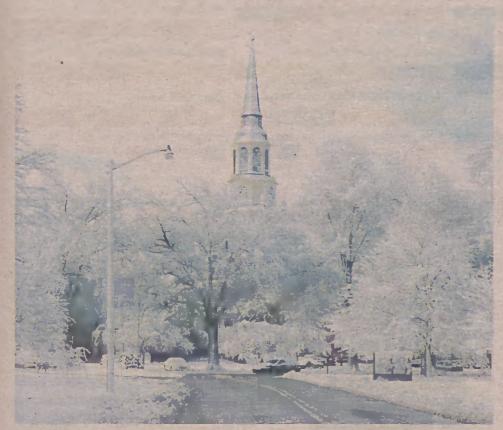
Christmas by Candlelight Dec. 13, Dec. 19-21 Old Salem Museum and Gardens 900 Old Salem Rd. Winston-Salem, NC 27101 oldsalem.org 800-441-5305

A guided, candlelight tour through historic Old Salem, where the customs and traditions of a 19th-century Salem Christmas is brought to life. Includes music, food and drink.

Holiday Open House

RayLen Vineyards and Winery 3577 US Hwy 158 Mocksville, NC 27028 raylenvineyards.com 336-998-3100

RayLen throws open its doors in true southern holiday hospitality, featuring wine and a cappella holiday caroling from Victorian Voices. Complimentary tasting of featured wines.



A snow-covered Wake Forest University campus, with the iconic Wait Chapel standing above the whitened canopy of trees.

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