

**NATIONAL
HOLIDAY GUIDE:
RECIPES, GIFTS
AND EVENTS**



**2022 BEIJING
WINTER
OLYMPICS
SNEAK PEAK**



**cloud
nine**

WINTER 2021

*The Official In-Flight Magazine
of Southern Airways and
Mokulele Airlines*

2022 WINTER OLYMPICS

BEIJING, CHINA

**9 ATHLETES
TO WATCH**

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MOKULELE



CEO Stan Little: Mele Kalikimaka, indeed!



Stan Little: Southern Airways/Mokulele Chairman and CEO

Mele Kalikimaka is the thing to say on a bright Hawaiian Christmas Day.... Most of us know those words that Bing Crosby first sang 70 years ago. It's truly hard to believe that another year has come and gone, but this time, America seems finally to be reopening for good. It's great to see tourists, locals, parents, kids, and everyday citizens Christmas shopping along Main Street America again—especially in Hawai'i, where our flights were cut more severely than anywhere in the Southern/Mokulele system. Mele Kalikimaka, indeed!

Our airline endured the pandemic, thanks to the continuing support of both our passengers and our team members. We remain proud that not one single employee at Southern or Mokulele was laid off or even asked to take early retirement—I don't know of a single other major airline who can say that!

OUR AIRLINE ENDURED THE PANDEMIC, THANKS TO THE CONTINUING SUPPORT OF BOTH OUR PASSENGERS AND OUR TEAM MEMBERS. WE REMAIN PROUD THAT NOT ONE SINGLE EMPLOYEE AT SOUTHERN OR MOKULELE WAS LAID OFF OR EVEN ASKED TO TAKE EARLY RETIREMENT— I DON'T KNOW OF A SINGLE OTHER MAJOR AIRLINE WHO CAN SAY THAT!

If you're traveling with us on Christmas Day or New Year's Day, I hope you'll take a moment to offer a kind word to our staff who are working these days to get all our passengers to family, friends, and loved ones for perhaps the first time in months. I'm personally thankful for all the folks, in our company and elsewhere, who are making this Christmas one of the best one in years. We're working on the holidays so that you can travel.

Thank you for flying Southern and Mokulele—and thank you to my colleagues for working so hard to serve our passengers. We have been taught from our youth that "it is better to give than to receive." I am grateful to all the Southern/Mokulele family members who display a servant's heart this Christmas season.

Onward and upward,

Stan Little
Chairman and CEO



Read more
about your
favorite
destinations



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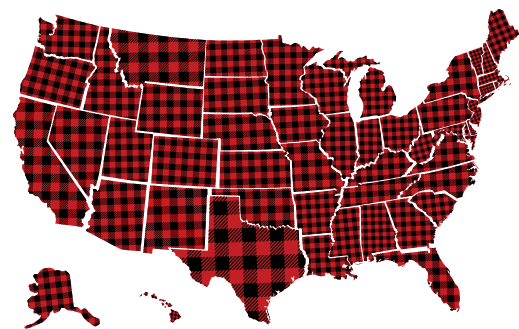
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Christmas

across the regions

Even though the United States is, well, united, you will still find various cultures throughout all the regions each with its own personality and flare. Christmas is the perfect time to appreciate all the unique traditions our country has to offer.

■ HAWAII

Recipe | Try out LoveFoodies Crock Pot Luau Ham recipe this Christmas! With flavors of pineapple, apple cider vinegar and brown sugar you will find yourself serving a delicious, flavor-balanced main dish.

Gift | Want an authentic Hawaiian gift sitting under your tree this Christmas? How about ordering a Lei straight from Hawaii? The Hawaiian Lei Company prepares leis with fresh flowers on the same day they are shipped out.

Christmas Celebration | Honolulu City Lights is one of the biggest Christmas attractions in all of Hawaii held at Honolulu Hale. It includes various displays (such as a huge Shaka Santa and Tutu Mele, or Mr. and Mrs. Clause), with light parades, shopping and food vendors set up on certain nights.

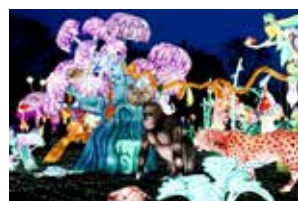


■ MID-ATLANTIC

Recipe | Check out Saveur's Pittsburgh-Style Nut Roll recipe for a taste of the Mid-Atlantic this holiday season. This buttery pastry roll is a decadent treat made up of dough, sweet walnuts and sugar paste. Eat it by itself or warm it up and place it alongside vanilla ice cream.

Gift | Taylor Chip Cookies has over 32,000 followers on social media for a reason. Based out of Lancaster, PA, they ship their fresh baked cookies all over the nation. Try out some fan-favorite flavors such as P.B. Fudge, Spicy Salted Cocoa and classic Chocolate Chip.

Christmas Celebration | Roer's Zoofari's Lumino City Festival in Fairfax, just 35 minutes from the Dulles International Airport, is a unique and luminous way to celebrate Christmas. A truly immersive experience that surrounds you with light and wonder.



■ CALIFORNIA

Recipe | For a light, refreshing Christmas starter try the LA Times' Red and golden beets with oranges, endive and walnuts recipe. Filled with invigorating citrus and balanced with earthy beets and crunchy walnuts.

Gift | Goodies is Los Angeles's premier store for beautiful, simplistic kitchenware. Whether you're looking for a sugar pot, Teak cutting boards or everyday dishes you won't spend more than \$25 per piece. That is Goodie's promise to you: everything is always \$25 or less and that's a promise we can stand behind.

Christmas Celebration | Lightscape at the LA Arboretum is an internationally acclaimed must-see light experience in LA. Wander through an amazing display of lights as you admire the light, art and music of an experience that originated in London.



Lawrence K. Ho / LA Times

The SoWa Winter Festival and Holiday Market in Boston.



Read more about your favorite destinations



■ THE ROCKIES

Recipe | What a Girl Eats offers a recipe that Nebraskans love to indulge in for Christmas Day Dinner: Prime Rib. Nebraska is known for having some of the best beef in all of the United States, so it makes sense their Christmas dinner star would be a cut of beef.

Gift | Colorado Tough is a lifestyle brand based in, you guess it, Colorado! Colorado offers a large array of outdoor recreation and therefore a lot of weather and terrain. Everything made by Colorado Tough has this lifestyle in mind. From clothing to water bottles, you will find a brand passionate about its message, purpose and products.



Christmas Celebration | Denver's Christkindl Market ensures you don't have to travel all the way to Germany to experience the magic of a traditional European Christmas market. This outdoor event brings the German holiday experience to Denver's very own Civic Center Park. Stroll through a European Village that is decked out for Christmas while delighting in crafted artisan gifts, mulled spiced wine and a whole lot of traditional European foods and chocolates.



■ NEW ENGLAND

Recipe | The Daily Meal's Cranberry Pie recipe screams "Christmas in New England"! A flaky pie crust filled with fresh cranberries, red currant jelly and a hint of orange is sure to enchant everyone gathered around the Christmas dinner table.

Gift | Gift and Box Nantucket provides custom gift boxes filled with handcrafted, small business items you can find only in the Nantucket area. Pick out an already filled box or curate your own to experience Nantucket in your home.

Christmas Celebration | The SoWa Winter Festival and Holiday Market is typically the biggest holiday market in all of Boston. Discover plenty of food and drinks, live ice sculpting, holiday DIY workshops and over 130 vendors to shop.



■ THE SOUTH

Recipe | Corn Pudding is a Southern staple and a classic holiday side dish. Simple ingredients and easy to make, anyone in the kitchen on Christmas will be thankful for this quick and uncomplicated side dish.

Gift | Memphis Flavor provides an array of gifts to buy for any foodie on your holiday list. Hot sauce, seasonings, BBQ sauces galore and even gift boxed—what more could Memphis deliver?

Christmas Celebration | When in West Palm Beach for Christmas, the Palm Beach Holiday Boat Parade is a must-go! Boats decked out with beautiful Christmas lights, a toy drive for both Toys for Tots and Little Smiles to benefit the community and plenty of shopping and food for everyone!



Article by Portia Jones
Travel journalist and host
of the Travel Goals Podcast

top airport hacks

YOU CAN USE TO
TRAVEL LIKE A PRO



The true test of any traveler is the ability to survive the human-holding pen that is the airport. Pricy food, long queues and delayed flights can make your airport experience a tad miserable and overshadow your holiday excitement. Thankfully, there are several ways you can hack your way to a better travel experience before you even set foot on the plane and minimize those inevitable airport stresses. From lounges, parking and comfy clothes here are my top airport hacks that will allow you to travel like a pro.

TREAT YOURSELF TO THE LOUNGE LIFE

● Airport lounges aren't just for the traveling elite, they can be surprisingly affordable if booked in advance. Lounges offer a little slice of serenity in a busy and crowded airport.

You can wait for your flight in a relaxing atmosphere while enjoying free Wi-Fi, drinks, snacks and newspapers. Some of the swankier lounges even offer showers, spa services and a la carte dining.

The lounge life doesn't have to cost a small fortune, you can snap up great deals if you book ahead or buy a yearly membership. Also, be sure to check your credit card rewards, as some credit cards include complimentary access to lounges.



BRING YOUR OWN FOOD

● Food in the airport is nearly always outrageously expensive, so why not beat the system by packing a selection of snacks to eat before you board?

Pack an eco-friendly lunch box full of delicious snacks and treats and you'll be amazed at how much money you can save. Remember to pack dry snacks such as chips, nuts, cereal bars and chocolate, so that they make it through security.

A word of caution though, from experience, it can sometimes be tricky to find appropriate seating for snacking. Many food outlets understandably won't let you use their tables for your own snacks. This, unfortunately, means you might find yourself having a picnic in your lap in departures.

WEAR COMFY CLOTHES

● If you aren't attempting to snag a flight upgrade by dressing smart, ditch the airport fashionista look and opt for comfy clothes instead. Layers are your friend in an airport with overly aggressive air conditioning. You can add or remove, tops, jumpers, cardigans and coats while also saving on luggage space.

Don't be afraid to pack a onesie in your hand luggage for when you need that extra bit of warmth. I've seen many shameless travelers wandering around with



bleary eyes in their pj's at 4 a.m. in the airport, so it's clearly an accepted practice.

BE ECO-FRIENDLY... BRING A REUSABLE WATER BOTTLE

● Save money and reduce your plastic waste by traveling with a reusable water bottle on your next trip. Many airports now have refill stations in departures, so you can save money on pricey bottled water. You'll also be doing your part to reduce single-use plastics. Reward your eco-efforts immediately with a large slice of cake, you've earned it.



PACK WISELY

● Are you off on a short break? Try and take just a cabin bag if you can, you'll be able to whiz through the airport and avoid the long lines at the check-in desk. The key to great travel packing is to look stylish while not overpacking and saving space in your luggage. Make sure to also pick a lightweight case on wheels for optimal airport navigation. You'll also be able to breeze around your new destination with ease.



Bringing a laptop? Make sure it's in an easy-to-access place so you don't have to rummage around your case in the security queue to retrieve it.

BOOK YOUR AIRPORT PARKING IN ADVANCE

● Driving to the airport? Keep your car secure and safe while you are on your travels by booking airport parking. There is a large range of airport parking options and you should take the time to research the best one for you. A little forward planning can also save you time, money and stress. Choose from official airport car parks, meet and greet, park and ride and hotel parking.

The key to all of these options is to book well in advance. If you turn up to park on the day of your flight, you are



going to get charged an eye-watering amount. Instead, book ahead of time and you could save up to 70% on airport parking. I would recommend checking out parking deals on price comparison sites to see what works best for you.

Another top tip is to take a picture of your parking spot and any identifying signage before rushing off to the terminal. This will save you so much time when you return and are able to locate your vehicle with ease.



BRING PORTABLE CHARGERS

● If you are an avid Instagrammer like me, having a portable charger for your devices can be a lifesaver when you are low on juice and there are no available power outlets at the airport. Keep all your devices charged when you are on the go by investing in a semi-decent portable charger. You can compare models and prices on tech sites to see which is the best option for you.



CARRY YOUR OWN WET WIPES

● Wet wipes are a multi-purpose godsend in an airport, especially right now. They can be used to freshen up, remove makeup and wipe down spaces in public areas. You can even buy travel-sized packs and save space in your hand luggage.

Have a pack of anti-bacterial wipes at close access and you can give water fountains, food trays and restroom handles a little wipe down before you use them and have extra peace of mind.



GET YOUR TRAVEL DOCUMENTS IN ORDER

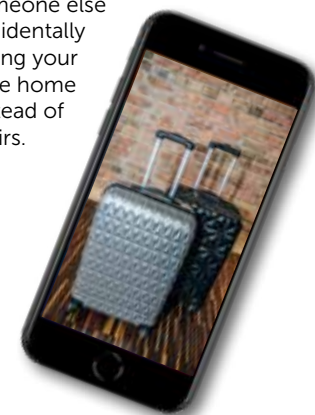
● Always have your passport and boarding card in a safe and easy-to-access place in your hand luggage. This will save you from emptying out your bag on the floor or having a complete meltdown that you have left them at the airport bar.

Also, be sure to carry printed copies of any car rental confirmation, hotel reservations, resort transfer details in case your phone dies, or if you are asked to show these details to airport staff. If you have any visas or documentation for your trip, I recommend you organize it into an easily accessible travel wallet and keep it somewhere safe!

TAKE A PHOTO OF YOUR SUITCASE

● One of the simplest and most effective airport hacks is simply taking a snap of your suitcase.

Having a photo of your luggage on your phone will come in handy in the dreaded case of lost luggage. A further tip is to try and have a case that stands out or has easily identifiable features. This will reduce the chances of someone else accidentally taking your case home instead of theirs.



Mid-Atlantic

EXPLORING DC THIS WINTER FOR FREE

Whether a holiday display, free activity or a market, DC offers plenty of ventures that will cost you absolutely nothing. Check out some of our favorite freebies to experience in the DC area.

■ The U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree

Every year, a tree from a National Forest in the United States decorates the West Lawn of the Capitol. This year the tree will come from Northern California's Six Rivers National Forest.

■ Visit the National Christmas Tree

The National Christmas Tree is a large evergreen located in the northeast quadrant of The Ellipse park near the White House. A tree is decorated every year since 1923 and put on display for all to enjoy. It is traditionally lit by the President of the United States. The tree is adorned with handcrafted ornaments from 56 U.S. states and territories. The site is free to visit from 10:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. every day during the holiday season.



■ Lay a Wreath at Arlington National Cemetery

Arlington National Cemetery is the largest military cemetery in the United States. More than 400,000 military veterans and their immediate family members rest here. Each year the cemetery partakes in National Wreaths Across America Day where wreaths are laid across every headstone (this year it will be December 18, 2021). If you can attend in person, you are able to volunteer to assist placing wreaths on the graves of our soldiers.

■ Zoolights Express

ZooLights Express is the Smithsonian's National Zoo's beloved holiday installation and they are now bringing the festive lights to the DC community! This year, there will be a 24-foot Zoolights Express truck merrily decorated with holiday light displays and it's very own "Panda Claws". It runs November 27-December 19 and visit one Washington DC ward each Friday and Saturday night from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. For a full schedule click here.



ZooLights Express' Panda Claws.



All aboard at Union Station.



■ The Downtown Holiday Market

The Downtown Holiday Market will make it's 17th appearance this year beginning on November 19 and running through December 23. It is open from 12:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. daily in Downtown DC. Stroll through dozens of vendors to shop, enjoy the tastes of DC through food vendors, live music and the overall holiday atmosphere.

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destinations



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A HAWAIIAN CHRISTMAS

Prior to celebrating Christmas, the people of Hawai'i had their own celebration known as Makahiki. Makahiki historically lasted from the months of October to February. It was a time when all wars among the Hawaiian people were strictly forbidden and it ushered in an essence of "peace and goodwill towards men". Makahiki was a time to recover and strengthen emotionally, mentally and physically. Makahiki is still celebrated today with games, food and festivities as well as provisions to various charities being a central piece.

PRIOR TO CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS, THE PEOPLE OF HAWAII HAD THEIR OWN CELEBRATION KNOWN AS MAKAHIKI.



Depiction of the celebration of Makahiki.

The first documented Christmas in Hawai'i was in 1786 when George Dixon, Captain of the Queen Charlotte merchant ship, celebrated with a large Christmas dinner for him and his crew. Moving forward, Christmas celebrations in Hawai'i varied due to the ever-expanding lineage of missionaries and evangelists who would come to the islands bringing with them their own versions of holiday traditions. On December 25, 1856, King Kamehameha IV declared Christmas a national holiday.

Today, Hawaiians celebrate Christmas in many different ways. We spoke with some locals to discover a few of their favorite ways the islands celebrate this special holiday season.



21-foot tall Shaka Santa and Mrs. Clause greet visitors to Honolulu Hale.



Hawaiian Christmas Trees

When you're far away from the white snow and close to the white sand you have to adapt to a different style of Christmas tree. Instead of the customary decked-out evergreen conifers, you will find decorated Norfolk Pines all over the islands. These are typically decorated with beautiful, fresh flowers but you will also see them with traditional Christmas ornaments and bulbs. Decorated Palm trees are also an acceptable alternative to the mainland Evergreens.



Christmas Carols

You will hear the usual Christmas carols being sung throughout the islands of aloha; however, they carry a bit of a different tune. Typically being sung to a ukulele or guitar along with some Hawaiian words and maybe even a hula.

"Mele Kalikimaka"

Read more
about your
favorite
destinations



Hawaiian Christmas Dinner

Christmas dinner is a staple for every home this time of year, but in Hawai'i, it looks slightly different. A typical Christmas on the islands will have Kalua pig as the main dish and sides such as sticky rice, chicken long rice and squid luau. Customary desserts include Poi, a Samoan dessert made from overripe bananas and coconut milk and Halo-halo, a Filipino dessert that is served cold and made with shaved ice, evaporated milk, syrup and a variety of fruits.



Delicious Kulua pork for holiday dinner.



Samoa sweet poi dessert.

Christmas Lights at Honolulu Hale

Arguably one of the best holiday displays in Hawai'i, Honolulu City Lights at Honolulu Hale is a month-long display of Christmas lights and decorations. This annual exhibition includes a large outdoor adorned Yuletide tree, a 21-foot tall Shaka Santa and Mrs. Clause, an indoor tree display and a corridor of wreaths. The trees feature Hawaiian style and made ornaments that are available to purchase in smaller sizes for you to take home.



Vibrant Honolulu City Lights at Honolulu Hale.

The heart of Christmas remains the same regardless of if you are celebrating on the mainland or on the islands. The holiday season traditions adapt to their surroundings to produce experiences unique to each location. No matter where you are this holiday season, we wish you a Mele Kalikimaka (or as we mainlanders say "Merry Christmas")! If you need help pronouncing Mele Kalikimaka check out Bing Crosby's famous Christmas song of the same title.

2022 BEIJING OLYMPICS PREVIEW



The city of Beijing will be in the unique position of being the first location in Olympic history to host both the Summer and Winter Olympic Games. After hosting the Summer edition previously in 2008, China will welcome the athletic talent of the world once again 14 years later. A total of 109 medal events across seven Olympic winter sports will be held across three competition zones all in 16 days of action.

WHAT TO EXPECT

ALPINE SKIING

Alpine Skiing, also known as downhill skiing, is the pastime of sliding down snow-covered slopes on skis that are with fixed-heel bindings, opposed to other styles of skiing that use skis with free-heel bindings. Competitors regularly reach speeds of up to 95 mph all while navigating a winding course that holds sharp turns and jumps.

HOCKEY

With the return of professional athletes to the ice, both Canada's and the United State's women are expected to secure the gold for the 2022 Olympics. On the men's side, the battle between the two neighbors is expected to be fierce and both teams have drawn the same group. Patrick Kane will lead the way for the US and Sidney Crosby for Canada.

CURLING

Curling is one of the more unique sports at the Winter Olympics. It involves stones, brooms, a 'slider' and 'gripper' shoe. While curling may be a 'slow' sport, it's still full of skill, suspense and excitement!

FIGURE SKATING

The Japanese are expected to dominate in both the men's and women's competitions; however, the USA may have something to say about that as former bronze medalist, Nathan Chen, has recently made great strides. On the women's side, the USA's Bradie Tennell also won bronze last time and could be a dark horse this year.

The national Stadium (AKA Bird's Nest) built for 2008 Summer Olympics and Paralympics, will be used again in the 2022 Winter Olympics.

OLYMPIC NEWS

- The venues for Beijing 2022 have been divided into three zones: Beijing, Yanqing,
- There are new events for 2022 including Women's Monobob men and women), Short Track Speed Skating Mixed Relay, Ski Jumping Mixed Team, Freestyle Skiing Aerials Mixed Team and Snowboard Cross Mixed Team.
- If you're an ice hockey fan, note down February 17 and 20 as these are the dates of the gold medal matches for the women's competition and men's competition, respectively.
- Often times you will see previous Olympic winners at current Olympic competitions. Rumor has it, Lindsey Vonn will be in attendance at the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics to cheer on Team USA.

LOOKING BACK AT CELEBRATED WINTER OLYMPIANS

LINDSEY VONN | Alpine Skiing, Gold 2010

Lindsey took home gold for downhill skiing and bronze in the Super-G portion of Alpine skiing at the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games.

APOLO OHNO | Short Track Speed Skater Gold 2002 & 2006

Apolo competed in three Olympics and won eight Olympic medals in total (two gold, two silver, four bronze). He was inducted into the US Olympic Hall of Fame in 2019 and his skates are on display at the Smithsonian.

SARAH HUGHES | Singles Figure Skating Gold 2002

Sarah Elizabeth Hughes was a Team USA Olympic Figure Skater. She won gold in Salt Lake City after she launched herself from fourth place to win the gold with one of the biggest upsets in Olympic figure skating history.

TEAM USA | Hockey, Gold 1980

Known as the greatest upset in Olympic history, the "Miracle on Ice" game during the Winter Olympics in Lake Placid, New York made history that won't soon be forgotten. The game was played between the hosting United States and the Soviet Union with the Soviet Union expected to dominate. With seconds to go, the United States' Olympic Hockey Team defeated the Soviet Union with a final score of 4-3 in an unbelievable play.

9 US ATHLETES TO WATCH



● ABBY ROQUE | Hockey

One of the most decorated college hockey players in recent history, Roque will be making her Olympic debut in Beijing for the 2022 Winter Olympics. Originally from Michigan, she currently plays for team Minnesota in the PWHPA.

● MIKAELA SHIFFRIN | Alpine Skiing

Receiving her first gold medal at age 19 during the 2014 Sochi Olympics, Mikaela brings fierce competition to the Alpine Skiing sector of the 2022 Olympics. With two Olympic gold medals and four 2021 World Championship medals, she is one of the top skiers to watch in Beijing.

● NATHAN CHEN | Figure Skating

Originally from Salt Lake City, Chen entered his first skating competition in 2003 at the age of 4. A three-time world champion, a 2018 Olympic bronze medal and an additional nine medals from several other skating competitions are what Nathan Chen brings to the 2022 Olympics.

● CHLOE KIM | Snowboarding

Chloe Kim is originally from sunny Long Beach, California but has been tearing up the snowy slopes in the mountains of California since age 4. Competing since age 6, she has won six X-Games gold medals and is the first woman to receive two gold medals at the Winter Youth Olympic Games. At the 2018 Winter Olympics, she became the youngest woman to win Olympic gold when she took the gold at the women's snowboard halfpipe at just 17 years old.

● ALYSA LIU | Figure Skating

This 16-year-old prodigy was a two-time national figure skating champion by age 13. She is also the 2021 CS Lombardia Trophy holder. Her talent is so great, even Tara Lipinski has called her "the future of U.S. women's skating."

● TOBY MILLER | Snowboarding

Toby Miller is an 18-year-old snowboarder who has been mentored by the renowned Shaun White. Toby has been gaining attention in the snowboarding world for several years, receiving USASA National titles and big-time sponsorship deals at the young age of 13. The 2022 Winter Olympics will be Toby's first.

● VINCENT ZHOU | Figure Skating

Zhou began skating at age 5 and has since won over ten medals across various skating competitions. He finished 6th place at Pyeong Chang Winter Olympics and is aiming higher for the 2022 Winter Olympics.

● RED GERARD | Snowboarding

Winning the gold medal in the Pyeongchang Winter Olympics at the age of 17, Red Gerard became the youngest American man to win gold at the Winter Olympics since 1928.

● ERIN JACKSON | Speedskating

Erin Jackson was born in Ocala, Florida where she discovered figure skating at 8 years old. She has since gone on to inline skating, roller derby and speedskating. She qualified for the 2018 Winter Olympics with only four months of experience in speedskating on ice.



Read more about your favorite destinations



Bing Dwen Dwen, mascot of the 2022 Olympic Games.

WHEN & WHERE TO WATCH THE GAMES

The 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics are scheduled to start with the Opening Ceremony on February 4th and wrap up with Closing Ceremonies on February 20th. Beijing hosted the Summer Olympics in 2008 but this will be the first time that they are hosting.

Keep in mind, Beijing is 12 hours ahead of the Eastern Time Zone. That means opening ceremonies will be in the morning hours of February 4th.

NBC and its platforms own the rights to air the Olympics. This means you will find everything Olympics related on your local NBC station, the streaming service Peacock, NBC Sports and NBCOlympics.com.

SlingTV will also have its own Olympic channel as well as YouTube TV and Hulu + Live TV.

■ 2022 Winter Olympics Events

- Alpine Skiing
- Bobsleigh
- Biathlon
- Cross-country Skiing
- Curling
- Freestyle Skiing
- Figure Skating
- Ice Hockey
- Luge
- Nordic Combined
- Skeleton
- Ski Jumping
- Snowboard
- Speed Skating
- Short Track Speed Skating

The Rockies

THE BEST SKI RESORTS NEAR DENVER

There are several fabulous ski resorts within driving distance of Denver, but which are the best? Here are our top picks.



Beautiful Vail.

ALL THREE OF THESE RESORTS ARE INCLUDED IN THE EPIC SEASON PASS.

■ Vail

Top of the list is Vail. It takes about two hours and ten minutes to drive from Denver airport to Vail, but it is definitely worth the drive. Vail is a skier's paradise!

Vail covers a vast area and has a great variety of terrain. There are some lovely, easy green trails (or beginner trails) around Game Creek, lots of cruisy blues everywhere, some

POWDER DAYS IN THE BACK BOWLS OF VAIL PROVIDE THE BEST SKIING EXPERIENCE YOU COULD EVER IMAGINE.

challenging black runs for the more advanced skier and then there are the bowls! Powder days in the back bowls of Vail provide the best skiing experience you could ever imagine.

Lifts go from Vail Village and its close neighbor, Lionshead, and the slopes are easily accessed from these bases. There is ample parking in both locations, but it is expensive.

There are plenty of places to eat in the resort villages as well as on the mountain itself. The Two Elk Lodge, an enormous log cabin structure, is a destination favorite, but there are several other outlets too, especially around mid-Vail.

■ Breckenridge

Breckenridge is slightly closer to Denver than Vail and is another wonderful resort. Known affectionately as "Breck" by regular visitors, at 3,914 m Breckenridge claims to be the highest resort in North America.

Like Vail, Breck has something for everyone. The ski resort consists of 5 peaks (numbered from 6 to 10 inclusive) and each has its own character. Peak Six is often left ungroomed and there are well-spaced trees on some of the runs for an added challenge; Peak 10 has mostly Black Runs, some long, steep and groomed, others made up of thigh-burning bump fields. There are lots of easier runs and beginner slopes towards the bottom of the resort.

There is paid parking at the base of the gondola, which gives easy access to the slopes. Alternatively, there is free parking a couple of miles away on Airport Road from which shuttles ferry skiers to the gondola.

There are plenty of places to eat on the mountain. All are perfectly acceptable but the top choice is Ten Mile Station at the base of Peak 10.

Breckenridge is a real town and not as manicured as Vail, but it is characterful and well worth wandering around. Breck also hosts the annual Snow Sculpture Festival, a must-go if you are in the area.



View from North Peak Keystone, CO.



Victorian ambiance in Breckenridge.

■ Keystone

The drive to Keystone takes a little over two hours from the Denver airport. There is plenty of free parking in Keystone, but it is a fair walk through the village to reach the lifts. Fortunately, carts for pulling skis along are available and free of charge.

Keystone is another resort with its own unique character. The resort has three mountains, Dercum Mountain, North Peak and The Outback. They are all inter-connected by lifts and Keystone is one of the easiest resorts to navigate. The Outback is the most challenging area and is particularly good for glade skiing.

The village has less to offer than either Breckenridge or Vail, but there are plenty of places to eat on the mountain, The Outpost on North Peak being particularly good.

OTHER GREAT RESORTS TO CHECK OUT

There are several other resorts within driving distance of Denver. Winter Park, Copper Mountain and Arapahoe Basin are especially recommended. Although a slightly longer drive, Beaver Creek is also a fabulous resort.

Read more about your favorite destinations



A C9 EXCLUSIVE

Discovering Lindsey:



"Retiring from the sport I love definitely hasn't been easy for me, but I'm doing great now."

5 QUESTIONS ANSWERED ABOUT THE EVOLUTION OF OLYMPIC WINNER, LINDSEY VONN.

C9: After attending your first Winter Olympics in 2002, at the young age of 17, you managed a 6th place finish in combined. At the 2010 Olympics, you went on to achieve a lifelong dream and took gold. You displayed through your own achievements that hard work and perseverance will bring your dreams to fulfillment. Based on your own experience, what words of advice do you have for the young Olympians who will be competing at the 2022 Winter Olympics?

LV: The advice I have for young Olympians is to focus on why they love the sport they're competing in, and to give it their all without fear and without holding back. If you don't give it everything you have you'll regret it. I always say that I'd rather not finish a race giving it 100% than finishing a race knowing I could have given more. So, enjoy the moment and give it everything you can. If you can do that, you can't go wrong.

C9: While preparing for this interview, I saw a pattern I just couldn't ignore. You have faced so many obstacles, both in your career and personal life, and have come out blazing each time. You are truly amazing. What has motivated you to continually get up after each setback with such fierceness?

LV: My motivation has always been rooted in the passion I have for my sport. I never saw skiing as a job or work. So, when I faced injuries and obstacles, I worked as hard as I could to get back to what I loved to do. Obstacles, while difficult, also gave me a different perspective and allowed me to appreciate success on a much deeper level. I would not be the person I am today, had I not gone through all of the ups and downs.

C9: You have been admirably open about the struggles of transitioning into retirement, can you give us an update as to what you've been up to and how you are feeling since making the difficult decision to retire?

LV: Retiring from the sport I love definitely hasn't been easy for me, but I'm doing great now. I've been working on my memoir 'Rise'

over the past couple of years. The writing process has really helped me reflect and appreciate the journey my skiing career took me on. Retirement has also given me more time that I didn't have before to focus on other areas of my life including business, investing, and fashion. I am still working with Under Armour, Rolex and Land Rover and have been active in investing and advising in businesses that I feel passionate about like Hyperice and Oura Ring. I have also become a GP and LP of a few venture capital funds. Exploring my creative side, I have worked closely with Yniq to design luxury ski goggles and also my new Legacy Collection ski-wear line that just launched with Head Sportswear. Staying busy and finding new challenges is in my DNA. I'm very happy with where I am now and thankful for the opportunities I've worked hard to cultivate.

C9: Cloud9 will have an article published in this edition discussing our top 3 picks for skiing around Denver. Do you have a top 3 favorite ski areas near Denver you would like to share with us? Why are they your favorite?

LV: My top 3 favorite ski areas near Denver would be Steamboat, Telluride and Vail. One of my first family ski trips was to

Steamboat and I have special memories there. Telluride has exceptional terrain and is more of a hidden gem. Vail was my home for many, many years and I will always love it.

C9: You created the Lindsey Vonn Foundation in 2015 with the intention of helping young girls achieve their dreams, can you tell us a little more about your foundation, how we can support it and what your goals for 2022 are?

LV: I remember when I met Picabo Street, how in awe I was of her and how much she inspired me to chase after my dreams. I really hope I can be like Picabo and give young kids the inspiration to be the best they can be. That is the premise behind my foundation, but I started it because I feel that success is meaningless unless you can pass it down. I want the younger generation to embrace who they are, define their future and change the world. All of the donations go towards programs, camps, scholarships, and speaker series that allow kids to build their skills, confidence, and their support system as they work to achieve their goals. You can get more details on how to apply for scholarships as well as upcoming programs at lindseyvonnfoundation.org.



Bildbyran/Imago/Icon Sportswire

California

TOP 5 IN L.A.

Los Angeles provides an almost overwhelming list when it comes to places to see and things to experience. You have your classic attractions that have been staples for years and your newest attractions that appeal to the newest and upcoming generation. Whether a timeless classic or a vision of creativity come to fruition, here are our top 5 places to visit in Los Angeles.

■ SoFi Stadium

SoFi Stadium was opened in 2020 and is home to both the Los Angeles Rams and the Los Angeles Chargers football teams. In addition to hosting NFL games, the stadium provides an entertainment complex hosting major headliners such as The Rolling Stones and events like WrestleMania. It is located in Inglewood and can hold up to 100,000 people.



Chic Bootsy Bellows lounge in SoFi Stadium.



■ Pink's Hot Dogs

A Los Angeles staple since 1939, Pink's serves an impressive 2,000 hot dogs and 200 hamburgers every day. They have been featured in various media outlets from music videos to movies and is celebrated among Hollywood stars. What started as a simple hot dog cart on a piece of land has grown to more than 30 employees and 15 locations throughout the United States and the Philippines. Take a bite from a classic Chili Dog or a variety of other unique dogs and burgers while visiting.



The very Italian Giada De Laurentiis dog.

Read more about your favorite destinations



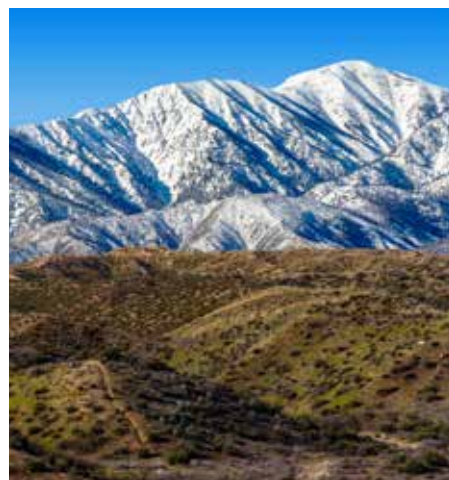
■ Whisky A Go Go Bar

Opening in 1964 on Sunset Boulevard the Whisky A Go Go is steeped in Rock and Roll history. This club has launched bands such as The Doors, Metallica and No Doubt among a plethora of others. Alice Cooper even recorded a live album there in 1969. It's still a nightlife hotspot hosting various live band. You never know who you might run into while visiting Whisky A Go Go.

Armando Puente at Fresh Farm Produce in the Original Farmer's Market.

■ The Original Farmer's Market

A foodie's paradise, this historic market first began in 1934 and is a Los Angeles landmark and tourist attraction. The market hosts more than 100 vendors that include grocers, tourist shops and plenty ready-to-eat foods. The diversity of food you will discover at The Original Farmer's Market, including American, Latino, Asian and more, reflect the diversity of the city of Los Angeles itself.



■ Angeles National Forest

Angeles National Forest is located in the San Gabriel Mountains and is about an hour and a half outside of Los Angeles. The forest covers just over 700,000 acres and provides activities to enjoy all year round. These activities include hiking, biking, swimming, camping, horseback riding, fishing and skiing. Escape the sights and sounds of the city by taking a journey to an enchanting desert forest.

VISITING IMPERIAL COUNTY

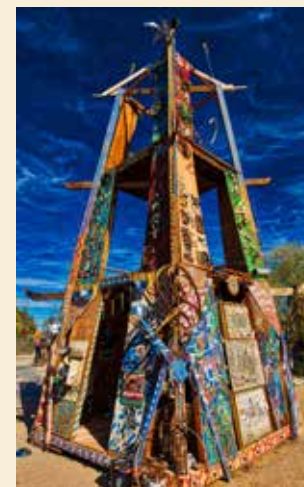


■ Salvation Mountain

Located in the California Desert area of Imperial County you will discover the hillside visionary environment known as Salvation Mountain. Created by local resident, Leonard Knight, in 1984 this iconic piece of manmade California art took years to complete. Made of adobe bricks, discarded tires, thousands of gallons of paint and various other dump-found materials, this mountain was created out of a labor of love. The mountain is adorned with handpainted murals and Bible scripture. Leonard Knight passed away in 2014 but to this day, the Salvation Mountain Inc. charity and a handful of volunteers work to maintain and preserve the mountain.

■ East Jesus

East Jesus is located in Niland and is a place for artists from all walks of life to gather. The area was once covered in trash before being overhauled into the beautiful desert oasis it is today for contemporary artists. The area is now filled with residents who adhere to their own sets of rules and conduct. Tourists congregate to Easy Jesus to experience the vast Art Garden on display. The garden is open and free to the public all year round, the only rule is to not touch or disturb the unique, sometimes bizarre, pieces of art on display.



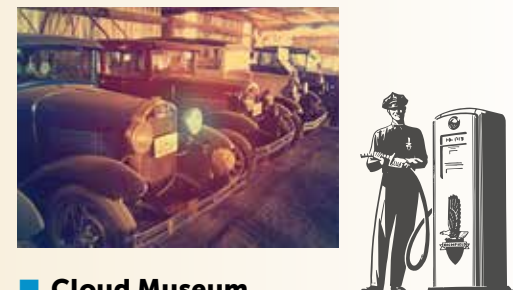
■ Imperial Sand Dunes

Tear up the sand dunes with ATV and Dirt Bike rentals out at Dumont Dunes. Dumont Dunes is an area of the Mojave Desert that contains plenty of sand dunes for the adrenaline junkie. Visit our (Imperial Dunes) article for a complete guide to the Imperial Sand Dunes, including where to rent.



■ Cloud Museum

The museum is located in the farming community of Imperial County. Drop \$5 in the box up front and walk around the grounds to uncover what could be one of the world's largest collections of Ford Model 'T's, several other brands of old vehicles, an assortment of old machines and signs. Don't forget to tour the boneyard full of old parts for sale.



■ Museum of History in Granite

The Museum of History in Granite is a museum located in Felicity, California that displays several monuments made from Missouri Red Granite. Each piece of granite is 100 feet long and was designed to be a record of humanity with the anticipation of it lasting four millennia. The collection houses over 900 large pieces of outdoor panels. The "History of Humanity" is only 31% engraved as of today and includes the history of California.



New England

WINTER IN PROVIDENCE

Whether you're looking to venture out into the Providence cold or stay cozy and warm inside, the city of Providence has so much to offer when it comes to winter fun.

DISCOVER A WINTERY WONDERLAND

■ Yawgoo Valley Ski Area

Head to Yawgoo Valley, Rhode Island's only ski resort for some skiing and snowboarding. They provide 12 trails and 36 acres of skiable terrain. Rush down the snow-covered slopes in Yawgoo Valley on a giant tube in their snow tubing park.

■ Ice Bumper Cars

Head over to BankNewport City Center to experience bumper cars on ice! Each ride lasts about 15 minutes and you can choose to go on the full ice or a smaller portion that shares the ice with ice skaters.

■ Ice Skating in Downtown Providence

Delight in the atmosphere of downtown while skating around an outdoor ice rink in Providence at the Alex & Ani City Center in Kennedy Plaza. The ice rink is open from November 14th through March 17th and is open 7 days a week. Skate rentals are available.

STAY COZY AND WARM

■ Cheer on the Providence Bruins

Home to the AHL's Providence Bruins, the Dunkin' Donuts center hosts hockey games throughout the season. Head over to the Providence Bruins Website to check for schedule and ticket availability.

■ Providence Performing Arts Center

A historic Loew's theatre that was built in 1928, the Providence Performing Arts Center hosts touring Broadway shows, plays and concerts.

■ Visit the RISD Museum

Wander around the Rhode Island School of Design Museum to discover a collection of about 100,000 art pieces from around the world on display. From Ancient art to Contemporary art, there will be something for everyone.

HOTEL STAY

The Hotel Providence is a boutique hotel with a European flair and New England charm. It is located in the heart of downtown and provides quick and easy access to iconic Providence experiences.

DINING IN PROVIDENCE

Los Andes is one of the most well-known restaurants in all of Providence. With over 2,000 reviews on Yelp and a near-perfect 5 out of 5-star rating, discover the Peruvian and Bolivian cuisine on everyone's must-have culinary list.

Sometimes a good ole' burger really hits the spot for lunch, for moments such as this **Harry's Bar & Burger** promises to deliver the best burgers and sandwiches made of the highest quality ingredients.



Read more
about your
favorite
destinations



NOW SERVING 39 CITIES WITH MORE THAN 222 DAILY DEPARTURES!

Holiday fun at the "Christmas" Railroad in Strasburg, Pa.

Mmm... enjoy locally grown Kona coffee on The Big Island.

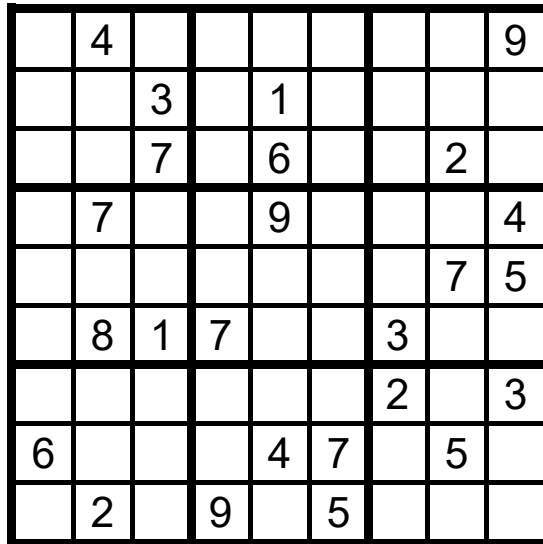
Rent a ride and explore the dunes of Imperial, Ca.



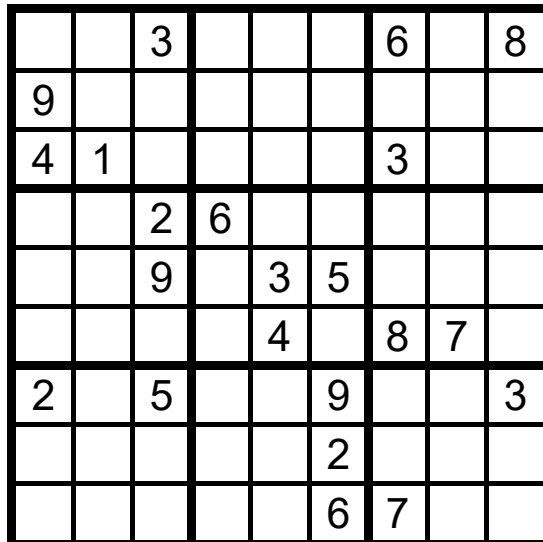
Check out all Mokulele Airlines and Southern Airways has to offer at www.flysouthern.com



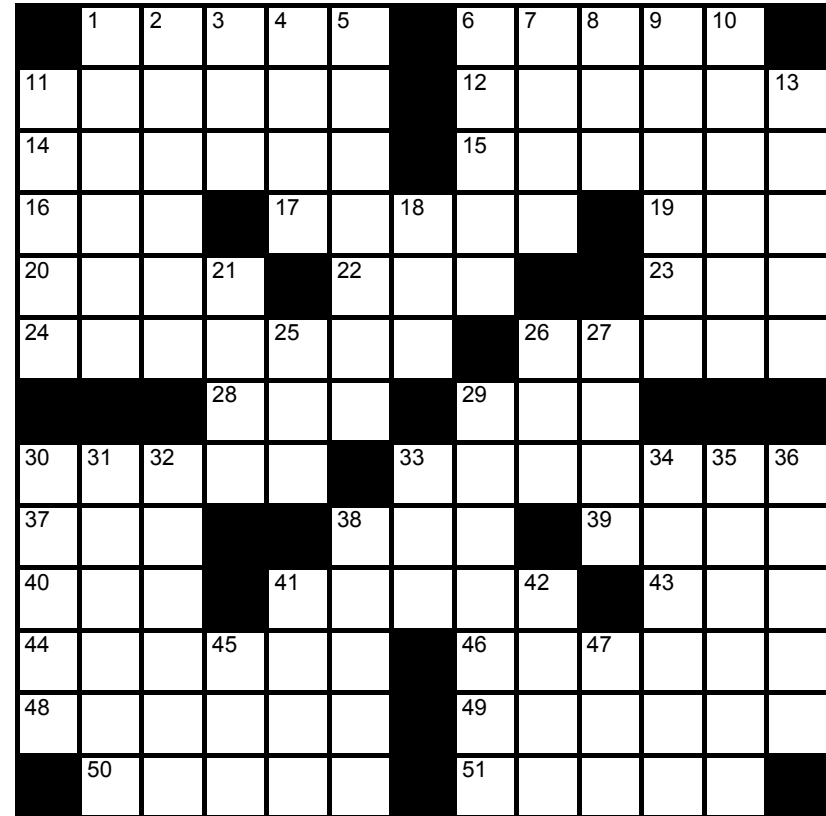
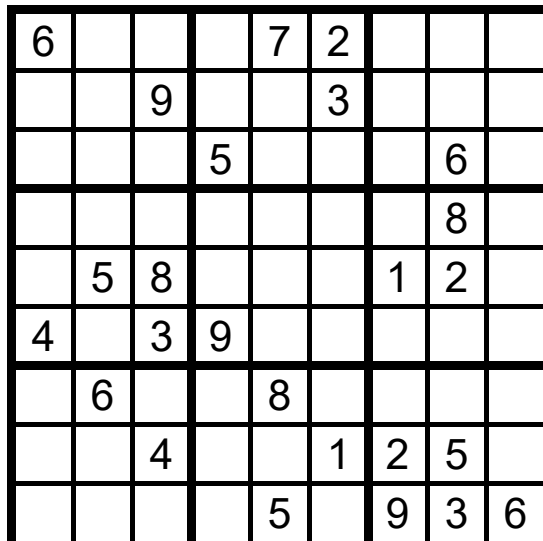
PUZZLE #1



PUZZLE #2



PUZZLE #3



ACROSS

- 1 Osaka fish dish
- 6 Was a prelude
- 11 Vocalist
- 12 Discovered by Herschel
- 14 Hershey rival
- 15 Agile
- 16 100 square meters
- 17 Locate
- 19 Plump
- 20 Quarrelsome grouch
- 22 Expression of relief
- 23 Chest bone
- 24 Devastating 2005 hurricane
- 26 British WWII general
- 28 Of no political party (Abbr.)
- 29 Old Russian space station
- 30 Usual standards
- 33 First man to sign the Declaration of Independence
- 37 Beer made with a top fermenting yeast
- 38 Small powerful harbor vessel
- 39 Author unknown
- 40 Former name of Psiloritis, Cretan mountain
- 41 right
- 43 Expected
- 44 ____ thought (somewhere else)
- 46 ____ O'Neill, playwright
- 48 Nod off
- 49 Areas of land
- 50 Go in
- 51 Jockey's attire

DOWN

- 1 Jagged mountain range
- 2 Vote out of office
- 3 Noncom
- 4 Aid
- 5 Erin
- 6 Middle meal
- 7 4th largest Great Lake
- 8 Retains a reservoir
- 9 Still in the womb
- 10 Elevated preaching platform
- 11 Nibble
- 13 Reserved
- 18 Small cell
- 21 Upper edge
- 25 Ft. divisions
- 26 Short for the least
- 27 Killer whale
- 29 They have attractive poles
- 30 Hammered fixings
- 31 Oft-repeated joke
- 32 Explanation
- 33 Attila, e.g.
- 34 Ready for action
- 35 Enumerates
- 36 Leg joints
- 38 Radio receiver
- 41 Dimensions
- 42 Cosmonaut ____ Gagarin
- 45 Little one
- 47 4 qts.

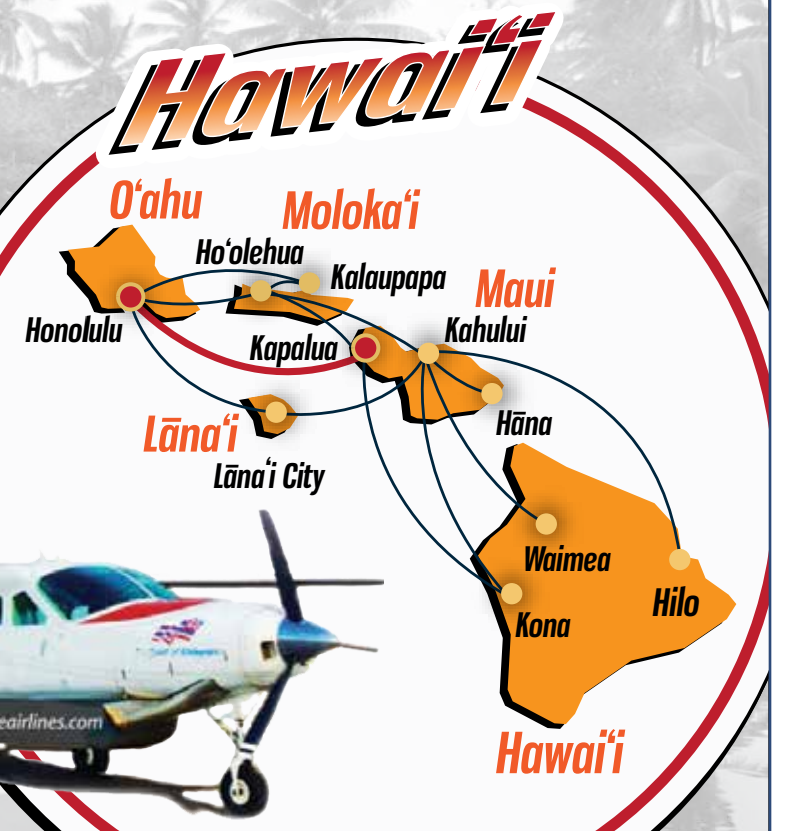


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CELEBRATING NEW YEARS IN DALLAS

Ready to ring in 2022 in the Big D this New Year's Eve? The evening promises to be one filled with celebration, so get your party hat on and your party horns ready to make some noise as the city ushers in the new year. "Dallas is a cosmopolitan and shining city, offering an array of glitz for New Year's Eve," says Zane Harrington public relations manager for VisitDallas. "Whether you're hoping for a high-end dining experience, a late-night party or fireworks with the family, Dallas is certainly the place to count down the new year."

A PEEK AT WHAT'S IN-STORE

■ The Fireworks at Reunion Tower

This midnight display is a can't-miss event! The only 360° panoramic show in the Central Time Zone and the best part is, it's free to enjoy! The insiders will tell you that the best places to see them are from the western bank of the Trinity River or from Trinity Overlook Park. Any place downtown with a view of Reunion Tower, though, is a good place to be as well. Bring a blanket or chair as you watch the night sky illuminate in celebration.



■ Party on the Plaza

New Year's Eve Party on the Plaza downtown is a free, family-friendly event that has the added benefit of offering great views of the fireworks display. The party happens from 7:00 p.m. until midnight and includes food trucks, drinks and live music from Emerald City Elevation Band and American Idol stars CASTRO.



■ Dallas Symphony Orchestra

For a more refined evening, waltz your way into 2022 with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra as they play a variety of waltzes from the master of waltzes, Johann Strauss. Afterward, ring in the New Year at the exclusive Meyerson 'Til Midnight after-party. Purchase tickets at the Dallas Symphony Website.



REST FOR THE PARTY WEARY ON NEW YEARS DAY

■ W Dallas

A Marriott luxury property that will place you right in the center of all the action with some of the best views of the fireworks. With 220 rooms available, these will be booking up fast for New Year's Eve so make sure you reserve your room as early as possible. The hotel will also host W Dallas Posh, a New Year's Eve party with three of the city's top DJs and a prepaid bar with party favors. It's quite possibly the swankiest party in town with tickets starting at \$249 per person.

■ Hilton Anatole

A budget-friendly hotel, Hilton Anatole is a good choice that also offers views of the downtown skyline and that means great views of the pyrotechnics. Rooms are large & comfy and there are dining venues that range from the casual Media Bar+ Grill to the newly opened SER Steak + Spirits, a dressier option with a curated menu and hand-crafted cocktails high up on the 27th floor offering unparalleled views of downtown.

NEW YEARS DINNER

Al Biernat's is renowned for its steak and seafood, but also for its traditional New Year's Eve celebration at midnight. Start with oysters and champagne before moving on to an unforgettable steak. Make reservations online at Open Table or at Al Biernat's Website.



Spend an enchanting evening at **The Mansion Restaurant** in the legendary Mansion on Turtle Creek and discover how this celebrated restaurant puts a spin on American cuisine with refined French influences. There will be a fixed menu on New Year's Eve. For reservations, call 214-443-4747.

Welcome the New Year at one of Dallas' best celebration culinary destinations, **Happiest Hour**. New Year's Eve showcases different experiences throughout the venue, so celebrate in a style that's all your own. Be the first to know when tickets drop by visiting the Happiest Hour Dallas website.



Altitude Bar—W Dallas.



Posh suite at W Dallas.



Casual Anatole Media Bar + Grill.



Big rooms, big views at Anatole.

CHRISTMAS AT GRACELAND

It is a well-known fact that Christmas was Elvis' favorite time of year. This is a big reason why Elvis fans flock to Graceland during the holidays but all the Christmas festivities aren't just for diehard Elvis fans, the experience is truly something everyone can enjoy.

For those unfamiliar, Graceland is located in Memphis, Tennessee. It is a mansion that sits on 13.8 acres and was once owned by Elvis Presley. It was opened as a museum to the public in 1982 and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It was declared a National Historic Landmark in 2006 and is currently the most visited privately-owned home in America, counting on average over 650,000 visitors each year.

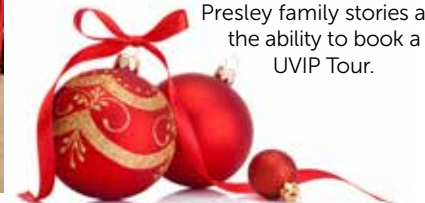


■ The Royal Rock and Roll Christmas Experience

Elvis is well considered the King of Rock and Roll to this day and the holiday festivities that surround his home every Christmas is nothing short of being fit for a King. It has been voted the #1 Best History Holiday Home Tour by USA Today and with good reason.

Visitors can experience special Holiday Tours of the Graceland Mansion and the decorated grounds. The home is still decorated with Elvis' holiday decorating traditions to include hundreds of blue Christmas lights decorating the driveway, a life-size nativity scene, Elvis' very own Santa and sleigh on the front lawn and so much more. On the inside tour, you will discover Elvis' customary red velvet drapes, Christmas trees throughout

the entire home and plenty of Presley family artifacts on display. Graceland is decorated from November 18, 2021, through January 9, 2022. When you visit in December you can delight in tours that feature live tour guides sharing traditional Presley family stories and the ability to book a UVIP Tour.



VIP TOUR

■ UVIP Tour

The UVIP tour is new at Graceland this year and runs from December 1 through December 20 at 6:00 p.m., 6:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

The tour allows you to experience Graceland after hours and provides a more personalized, detailed experience. Hear stories of what it was like to spend Christmas with Elvis at the Graceland mansion and gain access the complete grounds tour to experience the lights and lawn decor that Elvis himself loved so very much.

The tour also provides full access to Elvis' custom jets, the Presley Motors Automobile Museum, Elvis: The Entertainer Career Museum, a self-guided tour of the Elvis Discovery Exhibit and Immersive and Interactive experiences.

ADDITIONAL FEATURES OF THE UVIP TOUR INCLUDE:

- Holiday photo ops both inside and outside the Graceland mansion
- Outdoor tour of the mansion ground fully decorated for the holidays
- A \$20 food voucher to use at one of Elvis Presley's Memphis restaurants
- Keepsake Backstage Pass

■ Graceland Christmas Hotel Package

You can experience all of the above wrapped up in one of Graceland's holiday packages offers. The packages include options for the tours listed above, a commemorative Christmas ornament, a set of three limited-edition collectible Graceland Christmas CD greetings and a discounted rate on a room at The Guesthouse at Graceland.



Graceland Hotel and lobby all decked out for Christmas.



Elvis-themed suite fit for "The King."

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