



Longwood Gardens[®]

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Brief: Enjoy *A Longwood Gardens Christmas* November 27, 2007-January 11, 2009.

KENNETT SQUARE, PA – A Christmas fantasy awaits guests to Longwood Gardens near Kennett Square, PA, **November 27, 2008 through January 11, 2009**. Dazzling floral displays, stunning trees, holiday music, 500,000 outdoor lights, dancing fountains and ice skating under the stars are just a few of the highlights of the popular *Longwood Gardens Christmas*. New this year admission will be by **Timed Ticket**, with tickets issued for specific dates and times. Timed Ticketing limits the number of people in the Gardens at any given time, and enables guests to enjoy minimal lines and a better viewing experience. Timed tickets are on sale now and can be purchased online at www.longwoodgardens.org, by calling 610-388-1000 ext. 100 or in person at Longwood.

A country gentlemen's retreat

This year, Longwood's Music Room will feature the refined elegance of a country gentleman's retreat dressed in sophisticated holiday style. Adorned with rich furnishings, sumptuous fabrics, and stunning accessories inspired by country manor pursuits, this holiday scene invites you to experience authentic manor life in full holiday grandeur. The elegant furnishings are provided in cooperation with Pala Brothers Furniture of Wilmington, DE, known throughout the region for their exquisite brands since 1953. Other accessories are provided by the Delaware Museum of Natural History and Simon Pearce of West Chester, PA..

Steps away in the 4.5-acre heated Conservatory, thousands of poinsettias accented with amaryllis, narcissus, begonias, cyclamen, and tulips flourish. Elegantly decorated trees shimmer

and sparkle with festive flair. Outdoors, ice skating performances grace Longwood's picturesque Chimes Tower as former and future Olympians join professional skaters in shows throughout the day and evening. (To ensure seating, special tickets are required to view the skating.) In Longwood's Exhibition Hall, dazzling icicles fashioned from lights hang from the vaulted glass ceiling, creating a frosty ambiance for the stunning poinsettia tree gracing the Exhibition Hall Stage. The Orangery boasts a festive air as waves of blooming poinsettias and glimmering white birch trees transport you to a holiday haven. The East Conservatory hosts a towering 26-foot Fraser Fir, while more horticultural finery, including swags of exotic plants, living wreaths, and decorated trees flourish throughout the Conservatory.

Longwood works its holiday magic outdoors, too. More than 500,000 outdoor lights adorn 74 trees in classical and free-style form styles to enchant both young and old. Fountains dance day and night to holiday music in the Open Air Theatre (weather permitting) beneath glimmering starry snowflakes. Natural edible ornaments adorn Wildlife Trees created especially for Longwood's feathered and furry friends. The Gardener's Tree features ornaments crafted from garden findings, including gourds, seedpods, and cones and topiary reindeer frolic in the geometric beauty of the nearby Topiary Garden.

Music is a perennial gift at Longwood Gardens. Holiday concerts in the ornate Ballroom include organ sing-alongs, and evening choral and bell choir performances by area groups. In Longwood's historic Chimes Tower, the carillon with 62 bells plays holiday music every half hour. Strolling performances on weekends fill the gardens with holiday music at every turn.

On New Year's Eve, Longwood will remain open until 10 pm with special festive activities for the entire family. Find fun around every corner with strolling performances by carolers, and a barbershop quartet, enjoy face painting, a balloon artist, a kids' craft station and more! A spectacular 5-minute fireworks display tops off the fun at 9:15 pm.

Dining delights

Enjoy sumptuous dinners, fun Breakfasts with Santa and the popular Yuletide Buffet throughout the holiday season. Families are invited to enjoy Breakfast with Santa December 13, 14, 20 & 21 at 8:00 and 9:30 am. Enjoy an array of breakfast items that are sure to please the entire family. Reservations are required and prices include Gardens admission. Ages 12 & over \$34, ages 5-11 \$20; Ages 4 and under, free. Pricing for Garden Passholders are ages 12 and older: \$22; ages 5-11: \$14.

Enjoy the holiday in style with the festive Yuletide Buffet featuring a carving station, a variety of side dishes, soups, delicious desserts and more. Reservations are required. The Buffet is open to the public December 20, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31 & January 3 & 4, 3:00–8:00 pm. Prices include Gardens admission: Ages 12 & older: \$48; ages 5-11: \$22; ages 4 and under: free. Passholder pricing is \$37 for ages 12 and older and \$20 for ages 5-11.

Groups are welcome at our Yuletide Buffet! Call 610-388-1000 ext. 512 for special dates and hours, pricing information and reservations.

Admission & ticketing

In anticipation of the popularity of *A Longwood Gardens Christmas*, **admission will be by Timed Ticket**, with tickets issued for specific dates and times. Timed Tickets limit the number of people in the Gardens at any given time, and enable guests to enjoy a better viewing experience.

A Longwood Gardens Christmas runs November 27 – January 11, 9 am to 9 pm. Timed Tickets allow entry during half-hour intervals throughout the day, from 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Longwood will remain open until 10 pm on Saturdays and December 26-January 31. Timed Tickets are on sale now online at www.longwoodgardens.org, by calling 610-388-1000 ext. 100 or in person at Longwood.

General Admission prices are \$16 for adults; \$14 for seniors (age 62+), \$6 for students (ages 5-22) free age 4 and under. Tickets to view the ice skating performances are an additional fee of \$5 (\$3 for Garden Passholders and groups). Complete information is available online at www.longwoodgardens.org.

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