

YOUR
GUIDE
TO

Shopping

Art/craft fairs

Santa & family fun

Luminaries, trolleys & decor

Holiday movies & performances

...so much more!

Visit www.CedarburgChristmas.com for a calendar of everything going on in Cedarburg this holiday season, including Festive Friday Eves, Santa & Mrs. Claus visits, performances, light displays, merchant events, Santa's Dash Away 5k and more!

Give the gift of a Cedarburg experience that lasts all year long!
Cedarburg Chamber Gift Checks are the perfect way to give local!

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Wednesday-Saturday 10am-4pm,
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Festive Friday Eves will celebrate 30 years this holiday season

CEDARBURG — Entering its 30th year, Festive Friday Eves will present a series of five free, family-oriented events during the holiday season at The Shops of Cedar Creek Settlement in Cedarburg.

These events will be held in the unique gift and specialty shops, restaurants and Cedar Creek Winery nestled within a restored 1864 Woolen Mill, all festively adorned for the holidays with natural greenery, garlands, beribboned wreaths, luminarias and thousands of tiny white lights. All events will include Mel's Charities Outdoor Cookouts — weather permitting — and plenty of wine, a gift basket drawing, as well as food and product sampling.

Below is the full schedule of events:

- **"The Settlement Christmas Showcase":** 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 22: Kick off the Christmas season in the Settlement's boutiques featuring clothing, jewelry, handmade and imported items, antiques and artisan objects. Live



News Graphic file photo by Mark Justesen
Visitors to downtown Cedarburg enjoy a holiday carriage ride.



News Graphic file photo by Mark Justesen
The Grafton High School Chamber Choir sings during a past Festive Friday Eve in the Shops of the Cedar Creek Settlement's Woolen Mill.

music will include singer/musician Brett Gaertner. Cider and cookies, Cedar Creek Winery's Christmas Blush Wine and more will be provided.

- **"Home for the Holidays":** 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 29: Enjoy Thanksgiving weekend with visiting friends and family. There will be Make It and

Take It projects, live music with The Lou Menchaca Trio plus the Cool Beans strolling quartet and cider and cookies.

- **"Santa's Workshop":** 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6: Visit Santa Claus and his Elves. David HB Drake will perform his Songs of the Season. There will be children's holiday crafts, Cedar-

burg High School carolers and cider & cookies.

- **"Countdown to Christmas":** 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 13: A night for grown-ups to shop in a festive atmosphere. There will be complimentary munchies from Settlement merchants

and live music with singer/musician Jay Isaacson.

- **"Oh, My! 5 Days 'Til Christmas":** 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 20: Delight in the "holiday rush" while shopping for unique, useful, beautiful and meaningful very last-minute gifts and

enjoying a performance from singer/musician Bobby Way.

For more information, call 262-377-8020 or visit www.cedarcreeksettlement.com. The settlement is located at N70W6340 Bridge Road, Cedarburg.



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Step into Christmas past...
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Scan for more information.




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**SATURDAY
DECEMBER
14
8:30AM**



Join us for this all-ages fun run to benefit Santa's Workshop in Cedarburg! Register by November 24 to receive a **long sleeve T-shirt and swag bag!** Come kick off the holiday season with the jolliest bunch of runners this side of the nuthouse! For more information or to register visit www.cedarburgchristmas.com.



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Many travel lists name Cedarburg the obvious choice as a Christmas destination

By Lisa Curtis
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262-305-8934

CEDARBURG — Some communities may claim to be a Christmas town, but few have consistently received the widespread accolades for its holiday experience as Cedarburg.

It has landed at the top of some lists as the best place to enjoy Christmas in Wisconsin and even the country, while other travel sites and publications have added it to their must-visit holiday destinations.

Among the shout-outs Cedarburg has received over the years:

- **Reader's Digest** chose Cedarburg when naming the best Christmas Town in Every State. "This cute town gets the twinkle-light treatment at holiday time, with specialty shops and eateries looking more inviting than ever. On Festive Friday Eves, luminarias line the streets and revelers can enjoy music, entertainment, wine and food tasting, free trolley rides and an outdoor cookout. Children of all ages can also stop by the pint-size 'gingerbread' Santa's Workshop and enjoy a drive-thru holiday light show," according to the 2024 article.
- **Midwest Living Magazine** in 2011 named Cedar-



News Graphic file photo by Mark Justesen
A child visits with Santa and Mrs. Claus in Santa's Workshop.

burg one of the Midwest's Six Best Holiday Shopping Towns.

• **Midwest Living** chose Cedarburg again in 2012 when it named it among its Best Christmas Towns. That same year, the magazine devoted five pages of its December issue to Cedarburg's Christmas activities. "A pretty creek, a downtown teeming with carefully preserved limestone buildings and some of the best shopping in the region await visitors in Cedarburg, Wisconsin," the piece said.

• **OnlyInYourState.com** printed the following headline last year: "The Most Enchanting Christmastime Main Street In The Country Is Cedarburg In Wisconsin." It cited everything from its decor to its bustling calendar of events. "Cedarburg's entire five-block downtown is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and during the holidays, it is magically transformed into something straight out of a movie or Norman Rockwell painting. It's quaint, charm-



News Graphic file photo by Mark Justesen
Luminary-lined streets are just one of the highlights of visiting Cedarburg during the holidays.

ing, and almost too good to be true," the article said. It also cited the more than 100 specialty shops, boutiques and artist studios in the community and said that, no matter where one looks, it's impossible to miss the holiday cheer.

Cedarburg Mayor Pat Thome may be one of the city's biggest fans when it comes to the holiday.

"Christmas is my favorite time of year. And Cedarburg

celebrates the season so beautifully," Thome said. "Luminaries are placed every Friday evening along Washington Avenue, live nativity scenes occur weekly and shop windows are decorated for the season. Two of my favorite people — Mr. & Mrs. Santa Claus — visit Santa's Workshop several times during the season after Santa has arrived and has been greeted by children in front of City Hall at

our tree lighting. Those, and numerous other activities, only occur because we have enthusiastic, hard working, volunteers helping to bring it all together."

And of course, how many communities have a website devoted solely to its holiday events? Cedarburg does. For more information, go to www.cedarburgchristmas.com.

2024 Rivoli Theatre Holiday Film Festival lineup announced

CEDARBURG — One of the most celebrated traditions of a Cedarburg Christmas is the Rivoli Theatre's Holiday Film Festival, showing a classic holiday movie every day from the Friday after Thanksgiving until Dec. 23.

The theater recently announced this year's lineup. All movies are \$4.

Here is the 2024 schedule:

- Friday, Nov. 29, 7 p.m., "It's a Wonderful Life"
- Saturday, Nov. 30, 3:30 p.m., "Elf" and 7 p.m., "The Grinch"

• Sunday, Dec. 1, 3:30 p.m., "Polar Express" and 7 p.m., "National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation"

• Monday, Dec. 2, 7 p.m., "The Holiday"

• Tuesday, Dec. 3, 7 p.m., "New in Tow"

• Wednesday, Dec. 4, 7 p.m., "It Happened on 5th Avenue"

• Thursday, Dec. 5, 7 p.m., "The Bishop's Wife"

• Friday, Dec. 6, 7 p.m., "The Grinch"

• Saturday, Dec. 7, 3:30 p.m., "Elf" and 7 p.m., "It's a Wonderful Life"

• Sunday, Dec. 8, 3:30 p.m., "Polar Express" and 7 p.m., "A Christmas Story"

• Monday, Dec. 9, 7 p.m., "Holiday Affair"

• Tuesday, Dec. 10, 7 p.m., "The Bells of St. Mary's"

• Wednesday, Dec. 11, 7 p.m., "Last Christmas"

• Thursday, Dec. 12, 7 p.m., "It's a Wonderful Life"

• Friday, Dec. 13, 7 p.m., "Elf"

• Saturday, Dec. 14, 3:30 p.m., "Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer" and 7 p.m., "Polar Express"

• Sunday, Dec. 15, 3:30 p.m., "The Star" and 7 p.m., "The Bishop's Wife"

• Monday, Dec. 16, 7 p.m., "The Holiday"

• Tuesday, Dec. 17, 7 p.m., "It Happened on 5th Avenue"

• Wednesday, Dec. 18, 7 p.m., "It's a Wonderful Life"

• Thursday, Dec. 19, 7 p.m., "Holiday Inn"

• Friday, Dec. 20, 7 p.m., "Elf"

• Saturday, Dec. 21, 3:30 p.m., "Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer" and 7 p.m., "A Christmas Story"

• Sunday, Dec. 22, 3:30 p.m., "The Grinch" and 7 p.m., "National Lampoon's

Christmas Vacation"

• Monday, Dec. 23, 1 p.m., "Polar Express" 3:30 p.m., "Elf" and 7 p.m., "It's a Wonderful Life"

For more information, call the Rivoli Theater at 262-377-1010 or visit www.rivoliofcedarburg.com.



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Five Festive Friday Eves - 2024

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Friday, November 22, 5-8pm... The Settlement Christmas Showcase
Friday, November 29, 5-8pm... Home for the Holidays
Friday, December 6, 5-8pm... Santa's Workshop
Friday, December 13, 5-8pm... "Countdown to Christmas"
Friday, December 20, 5-8pm... "Oh, My! 5 Days 'Til Christmas"



CEDAR CREEK SETTLEMENT
N70W6340 Bridge Road
Historic Cedarburg
Wisconsin
www.cedarcreeksettlement.com
262-377-8020

Holiday Friday Evenings, 5-8pm
Mon-Thurs, 10-5pm • Fri, 10-8pm
Sat, 10-6pm • Sun, 11-5pm

*MOST Festive Friday Eves include:
Live Music, Entertainment, Crafts, Mel's Charities Outdoor Cookout, Food Sampling, Luminarias, Unique Shops, Restaurants & Cedar Creek Winery in a Festive Holiday Atmosphere.*



Cedarburg's charm shines bright during the holiday season

Cedarburg is beautifully quaint anytime of year, but especially so during the holiday season, when the city glows with Christmas lights, shop owners artfully decorate their store windows in expressive holiday fashion, and shoppers bundle up to stroll the historic downtown retail district.

With dozens and dozens of shopping venues throughout town, Cedarburg is a great place to check meaningful and unique gifts off your Christmas list. A stroll up Washington Avenue will take you past everything from toy and clothing stores to boutique shops offering gifts that are sure to touch the heart of any recipient. Have someone on your list who is notoriously hard to please? Maybe something edible is the solution - consider chocolate, popcorn, candy, teas, coffees and even wine, beer or spirits from our local craftsmen. Give the gift of a night out with gift cards from favorite restaurants, or a Chamber Gift Check that's accepted at most retailers in town. Pair it with something uniquely personal and make it a "night out in Cedarburg" - more and more merchants are offering Cedarburg-branded items like sweatshirts, hats, coasters, coffee mugs,

puzzles and more to add that personal touch to any gift.

But there's more than just shopping to be had in Cedarburg! With dozens of entertainment venues and non-profits around town, there's almost always something happening to brighten your holiday spirit. Cedarburg can't be topped on Friday nights, starting in mid-November, with Festive Friday Eves, a long-standing tradition at the Cedar Creek Settlement offering live music, cider and cookies, food and product sampling, raffles and more. The event has inspired the whole city to participate....some stores adjust their hours to stay open later, the Cedarburg Chamber of Commerce places hundreds of luminaries along Washington Avenue and hosts a free Friday night trolley to help move people around town. Make sure to check out the Cedarburg Art Museum this holiday season for their special "'Twas the Night Before Christmas" celebration, featuring rooms of the beautiful Wittenberg-Jochem mansion dressed to the nines in holiday fashion, mimicking the famous Clement C. Moore poem, plus Santa's live reindeer in their beautifully-lit garden on Friday evenings.

The fun isn't just reserved for



Fridays though! Starting November 29 this year, the Rivoli Theater's Holiday Film Festival offers a Christmas classic every night through December 23 - and matinees on the weekends. Many bars and restaurants offer live music as we approach the holiday season, and venues like the Cedarburg Cultural Center and the Cedarburg Performing Arts Center offer top-notch talent throughout the season to lighten your mood.

Adult fun includes the Topsy Elf holiday pop-up bar at the Kuhfuss House, a historic museum in the middle of town; food

and drink specials and holiday activities or open houses at local establishments and stores.

If you're coming into town with the kids, make sure to drive through Illuminate Ozaukee at Zeunert Park in Cedarburg for a winter wonderland of holiday lights, presented by Ozaukee Non-profit Center. Downtown, kids will delight at the full-size Santa's Workshop right on Washington Avenue! Santa is there most Friday nights and Saturday mornings, but his time is limited, and the house is run by volunteers. Please be patient and understand if there are long wait times or no

spots available when you arrive. Families should also check out opportunities to enjoy Breakfast with Santa (December 7, Cedarburg Junior Women's Club) or the Polar Express Christmas Party (December 19, Ozaukee Family Services), or visit Santa at the Cedar Creek Settlement on Friday, December 6.

If hands-on activities are more your style, enjoy make-and-take crafts for kids at the annual tree lighting (December 2); book a holiday-oriented class at The Painted Creek or in art studios around town, check out "Christmas Through the Decades" at the Cedarburg History Museum, or join in Santa's Dash Away 5k, a delightful run/walk to benefit Santa's Workshop on Saturday, December 14. This year's theme is Christmas Vacation, and participants who register by November 24 receive a long sleeve T-shirt and swag bag! Come kick off the holiday season with the jolliest bunch of runners this side of the nut-house! For more information or to register visit www.CedarburgChristmas.com or follow A Cedarburg Christmas on Facebook!

Information on all these offerings, plus church services and more, can be found at www.CedarburgChristmas.com.



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Friday, December 13, 10am - 8pm
Saturday, December 14, 10am - 5pm
Sunday, December 15, 10am - 3pm

www.cedarburgartistsguild.com

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