Holiday Memories Start Under Bainbridge Island's Starry Nights

Cozy up next to a lodge fire, take an illuminated solstice walk through towering evergreens and find that perfect something for everyone along Winslow's Historic Downtown.



Bainbridge Island, Washington Nov 19, 2022 (<u>Issuewire.com</u>) - Bundle up and trade the bustle and bright city lights for the cozy warmth of a

holiday weekend under magical starry nights and towering evergreens on Bainbridge Island. The island's holiday calendar has something for everyone from tiny tots to the merry at heart and runs from the day after Thanksgiving through the New Year.

Take a turn around the winter wonderland skating rink at <u>Pleasant Beach Village</u> from Nov. 25 to Dec. 31, light up the night and rejuvenate your senses with an evening Solstice Walk at the world-renowned Bloedel Reserve Dec. 19 to Dec. 22, enjoy festive holiday performances and concerts, and enjoy hot toddies as you peruse artisan gifts along Winslow's historic main street – all with just a short ferry ride or drive from Seattle or Tacoma.

The island is a magical destination any time of year, but it really gets dressed up for the holidays and offers families extraordinary experiences around every corner," Executive Director of <u>Visit Bainbridge</u> <u>Island</u> Chris Mueller said. "It's a place to slow down, take a breath of fresh air, rejoice in gathering and make memories that last a lifetime. So be sure to book your weekend away today."

Join IslandWood and opt outside for a free, open trails day from Noon to 4 p.m. on Nov. 25 and stop by historic Bainbridge Island Farms to pick out the perfect Tannenbaum and enjoy yummy treats and hot drinks as well. The farm offers pre-cut and U-Cut options, beautiful wreaths, and more to take home to enjoy all season long.

On Nov. 26, join the <u>Bainbridge Island Downtown Association</u> and the City of Bainbridge for a day filled with tradition, kicking off with Shop Small Saturday. Stroll the historic main street chockfull of acclaimed restaurants, sweet treats, and boutique retailers, including kid-approved Calico Toys and Eagle Harbor Book Co., to find the perfect gift. At 6 p.m. join the community for the annual Tree Lighting at the city's Town Square featuring live performances by the Bainbridge High School Band, the district's 100+ student choir, Bainbridge Ballet Nutcracker, and Crescendo Singers. Enjoy S'mores with The Squad

and sip hot cider. According to tradition, Santa arrives by firetruck to light the tree.

Can't make it that weekend, every Thursday in December the Downtown Association also hosts Lights on Madrone Lane listens to free festive music or holiday movies, and a hot cider station along Madrone Lane. You can shop late as merchants will be open.

Venture to the island's west side and you'll find a wonder-filled winter playground at Pleasant Beach Village, located in the historic Lynwood Center neighborhood. The resort offers a slate of holiday activities for kids and kids-at-heart including Gingerbread House parties, free visits with Santa and Mrs. Claus, and a winter wonderland skating rink, which serves up delectable après skate fare from Joe's Restaurant, complete with seasonal hot beverages for kids – and adults and enjoy seasonal live music all season long as part of the Manor House Concert Series which features gospel, soul, jazz, and hill country rock music this season.

There's also a complimentary shuttle that will run from the ferry terminal to Pleasant Beach Village and back for families looking to spend the day dining and shopping at the village or staying at the extraordinary Inn at Pleasant Beach Village that operates from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m. Wednesdays-Sundays.

For art lovers, from Dec. 2 to Dec. 4, the island hosts the annual Bainbridge Island Winter Studio Tour. The free event runs daily from 10 am to 5 am and features 46 artists with open studios and galleries. Then head over to <u>Bainbridge Island Museum of Art</u> which is hosting a Winter Night Market a two-day event celebrating the best of the season with shopping, crafts, food, drink, and entertainment for all ages starting at 4 p.m. on Dec. 2 and Dec. 3. <u>Bainbridge Brewing</u> also celebrates its 10th anniversary that weekend, so be sure to pop into the alehouse on Dec. 2 or the Brewery and Taproom on Dec. 3 for the Year Ten Double IPA, live music, and fantastic food.

Nature lovers are invited to bundle up and celebrate the holiday season at Winter of Wonder, an all-ages outdoor experience at <u>Bloedel Reserve</u> from Dec. 1 to Jan. 8. The 150-acre public garden and forest preserve invites guests to see the garden in its seasonal splendor with illuminated trails and imaginative woodland creatures.

Kids Discovery Museum – among the region's best children's – hosts the Holidays at KiDiMu all month long. There you'll find sock skating from Nov. 25-Jan. 1, Gingerbread House decorating from Dec. 2-11, and special winter and holiday-themed museum STEM activities. They are also hosting a special experiential nature-making journal class with Bloedel Reserve for children under 12 years at the reserve from 1-3 p.m. Dec. 10. Your admission also gives you full access to the reserve. And back by popular demand, ring in the new year – a tad early – with your favorite minis by joining the KiDiMu Noon Year's Eve Party from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Dec. 31. Put on that party dress or tux and get ready to boogie with hats, noise makers, firework art activities and a special noon countdown!

Bainbridge Island Lodging Association offers a wide variety of cozy overnight accommodations where you can soak up the season island-style. Hotels and individual hosts deck out their rentals in full holiday style, many with views of sparkling city lights twinkling in the distance. Book two or more nights with any hotel or rental property through Jan. 31 and receive a copy of the island's treasured "30 Walks on Bainbridge Island" book to help you access the incredible trails system. And be sure to take advantage of The Marshall Suites sweet deal –the first 50 people to book a stay from Dec. 1 to Jan. 31 will also receive a two-piece box of coveted, island-made Bon Bon Candies fudge.

Celebrate the Holidays on Bainbridge Island this year, where holiday magic is everywhere! Go to www.visitbainbridgeisland.org/holidays for a full calendar of seasonal events and lodging options. And

don't forget to share your memories with us by using the hashtag, #bainbridgeholidays.

Visit Bainbridge Island is the official destination marketing organization (DMO) committed to promoting Bainbridge Island as a special place to visit, stay, and play. As a 501(c) 6 nonprofit organization, Visit Bainbridge Island works with

the island's arts, entertainment, restaurants, wineries and distilleries, natural outdoor attractions, and hospitality industry to enhance economic growth and sustainability through innovative tourism programs and partnerships. We encourage both

day and overnight guests to come to enjoy the natural beauty and vibrant spirit of our island community. Start planning today at www.visitbainbridgeisland.org or follow us on Instagram or Facebook @visitbainbridgeislandwa.





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