

CNY Holiday Entertaining Guide

This time of year brings people from all over to Central New York to spend time with family and friends. While hosting can be enjoyable, it can also be stressful to prepare everything and plan an itinerary. If visitors will be staying with you, check out this guide for entertaining during the holidays!

*Information is subject to change as events approach.

Did You Know?

“Jingle Bells” was originally written for Thanksgiving in 1857, but it has since become one of the most recognizable Christmas songs, played during the holiday season worldwide.



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Around Central New York

There is so much to do in our region during the holidays. Don't miss out on the exciting events happening!

Disney On Ice

Disney On Ice is bringing its hit show “Into the Magic” to Upstate Medical Arena at the Oncenter War Memorial. This marvelous ice skating show brings beloved characters to life right before your eyes. With classic songs and reimagined stories from numerous films, this show can be enjoyed by the whole family!

515 Montgomery St, Syracuse, NY 13202
Dec. 26-29; performance times vary by day



Holiday Shopping Spree

The Cayuga Lake Wine Trail's Holiday Shopping Spree is back and better than ever! Now in its 30th year, the event invites you to indulge while shopping for others. Travel the trail at your own pace, collecting souvenirs along the way and enjoying wine tastings from a variety of participating wineries.

4565 NY-414, Romulus, NY 14541
Nov. 23 & 24 and Dec. 7 & 8 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m.



Jungle Bells: Holiday Lights Display

Visit the Animal Adventure Park this year to experience the largest lights display in the area! With nearly 2 million lights, immersive exhibits, animal feeding areas, dozens of photo opportunities, concessions, and more, this local event attracts crowds of all ages eager to bask in the holiday cheer.

85 Martin Hill Rd, Harpursville, NY 13787
Nov. 8-Dec. 28, Thursdays–Sundays from 4-8 p.m.



Night Market at SKY Armory

Spend your evening eating, drinking, and shopping at this annual event hosted by SKY Armory! At Night Market, enjoy live music performed by local musicians, bistro-style food, cocktails, wine, and craft beer while browsing the booths at this eclectic pop-up market.

351 S Clinton St, Syracuse, NY 13202
Saturday, Nov. 30 from 3-9 p.m.



At Home

If you're in the mood for a cozy day indoors, these activities are perfect for you!

Cranberry Tequila Cocktail



Combine cranberry juice, lime juice, tequila, simple syrup, and a splash of seltzer water for a deliciously festive drink! This recipe is perfect for sharing with your guests this holiday season.



Gingerbread House



Create your own winter wonderland with this festive gingerbread house recipe! Design and construct your structures, then decorate them with icing to make stunning (and delicious!) centerpieces.

Holiday Garland



Looking for a lovely holiday craft to decorate your home? Create a fun and easy garland that brings out the holiday spirit! It's perfect for hanging above a mantel or adorning your tree.



Leaf Napkin Rings



Get the kids involved in the Thanksgiving festivities with this Leaf Napkin Ring DIY. Your children will create masterpieces that are sure to tie your Thanksgiving feast together!

Pasta Menorah



Get kids excited for Hanukkah by inviting them to create their very own menorah using pasta! This craft is appealing to children of all ages, is relatively easy to make, and allows for plenty of creativity.



Easy Gingerbread Cookies Makes 16-18 Cookies

These cookies, made with Jell-O butterscotch pudding mix, are easy to prepare and fun to decorate!

Ingredients

- 1 package Jell-O butterscotch pudding mix (not instant)
- 3/4 cup margarine
- 3/4 cup packed brown sugar
- 1 egg
- 2-1/4 cups flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 3 teaspoons ground ginger
- 1-1/2 teaspoons cinnamon

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350°F.
2. Cream pudding mix with margarine and brown sugar.
3. Add egg and blend well.
4. In a separate bowl, combine dry ingredients and blend into pudding mixture.
5. Chill dough until firm for about 10 minutes.
6. Roll out on floured surface to about 1/4 inch thick and cut with cookie cutters.
7. Place on greased cookie sheets and bake for 10-12 minutes.
8. Cool on a wire rack and decorate as desired.

Foodie-guide

WCNY's monthly Foodie-guide looks at the best of PBS food content, recipes, cooking videos, and more!

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