

# Christmas in Vermont

December 4th - 10th, 2022

When the trees lose their leaves and the ground is blanketed with snow, you know it's almost Christmas in Vermont. The holiday season is a special time of year in the Green Mountain State when locals and visitors come together to eat, drink and be merry. From festivals and parades to holiday-themed tours, there's always something going on around town.

## Included

- \* Roundtrip transportation to the Portland Airport
- \* Personal services from your OregonWest Tour Director
- \* Roundtrip air to Albany NY & from Burlington VT
- \* Deluxe motor coach on tour
- \* 6 Nights lodging 3 in the Von Trap Family Lodge
- \* 6 Breakfasts, 1 Lunch, 4 Dinners
- \* All attractions as described below
- \* All gratuities & lots of fun!

We have an afternoon flight from Portland to Albany New York today. We'll overnight at the Hilton Garden Inn in Troy NY tonight... so we can get a fresh start in the morning.

After breakfast we'll depart for Vermont where we'll meet our wonderful guide... first stop a tour of Bennington... this quintessential New England town is surrounded by spectacular, natural beauty. Explore the Bennington Monument, Old First Church, Robert Frost's gravesite and more. Enjoy some free time to explore on your own, before we'll take in the Bennington Museum... it tells the stories of this region through Art and History. Next, Chocolatorium... This fun-filled exhibit will expand your knowledge of chocolate. We'll make our way to our home for the next 2 nights the Kempton Taconic Hotel in the charming town of Manchester.

Today we will head to Hildene... home of Robert Lincoln... the only child of Abraham and Mary Todd Lincoln to survive to adulthood. Enjoy a tour of this ancestral home, built in 1905. It will be decorated for the holidays as it was in the early 1900's. Next, visit Hildene's goat dairy and cheesemaking facility... meet the herd of Nubian goats and see how the process works from milking to cheesemaking. And we will have a tasting while learning how to pair it with Vermont made jams and syrups. Next, it's the Sugar Shack - Rockwell Exhibit. Norman Rockwell lived in Arlington VT from 1939 - 1953 and used over 200 local people as models. This exhibit of his work is the centerpiece of this attraction where they also make and sell pure VT Maple Syrup. You will have some time to freshen up at the hotel before dinner at one of Manchester's favorites.

After breakfast we'll make your way to Stowe. First stop... the Vermont General Store. It is filled with unique quality merchandise and will be decked out for the holidays! Lunch is at the Mountaintop Inn... Set high atop a Central Vermont Mountain, on 700 acres. One of Vermont's most unique and spectacular destinations! After lunch it's time for a horse drawn sleigh ride! Sing along to the beat of the jingle bells, listen to the clomping hooves as we dash through the snow. We'll make our way to our home for the next 3 nights, the Von Trapp Family Lodge... In the early 1940s, after escaping Austria, the Von Trapp family toured the U.S. as the Trapp Family Singers before eventually settling in Stowe. It features Austrian-inspired architecture and European-style accommodations, and you will love how they celebrate the season! Tonight enjoy dinner in the Bierhall.

We'll head to Cold Hollow Cider Mill this morning... enjoy a sample of fresh apple cider while watching cider being pressed. visit the sample table for a variety of deliciousness. Next it is Vermont Teddy Bear... a fun, clever and educational tour, you will learn how Bears are put together. The tour concludes in the Bear hospital where visitors can check on the patients. Enjoy some free time at the Church Street Marketplace... This is a festive outdoor pedestrian mall of galleries, shops and cafes. Beautifully decked out for the holidays. We'll head back to the lodge... where a tour awaits... learn the story of this family's journey.

We are off to Morse Farm and Sugarworks... the farm is a throwback to a simpler, quieter time when generations worked together. Learn about sugarmaking, visit the sugarhouse and try their renowned maple creme. We will also take in the Vermont Statehouse... it is one of the oldest of our nation's state capitols. Next, it's Cabot Creamery... it is a very successful creamery that is a co-op of farmers. Their farmers are the heart and soul of Cabot. We'll head back to the lodge where you can join in a Sing Along... The Trapp family are known for their singing and the Christmas season is known for caroling. Our fair well dinner in the lavishly holiday-decorated lodge.

Today, we'll head home with great memories of this tour filled with beautiful scenery, fantastic food and a wonderful heritage!



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**Excluded:** Items of personal nature such as telephone calls, movie rentals, etc.

**The Fine Print:** A 24 person minimum is required for this tour to operate. Tour deposits and payments are subject to penalties unless the minimum is not met and the tour is canceled. Cancellation insurance is available by calling our office. OregonWest Excursions is not liable for damage, delay, or inconvenience which may occur through acts or defaults of any other company or person engaged in providing services, provisions, accommodations, transportation or facilities in connection with this tour, nor are we liable for any acts of war, whether declared or not, damage, loss, or acts of God connected with this tour.

**A \$100 deposit will hold space; balance is due by August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022**