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Free Wanderlights program returns for the Downtown holiday season

Downtown Columbus, Inc. to host new Wander Nights throughout December with free hot chocolate, holiday movies, trolley rides, and more

(Columbus, OH) – Downtown Columbus’ free holiday lights program, Wanderlights, will return in its expanded format for the second year spanning Columbus Commons, Town Street, and Bicentennial Park starting Friday, Nov. 21. In addition to more than half-a-million lights, this year’s program will feature six free Wander Nights, a connected holiday experience with holiday movie screenings, Santa visits, a shoppable market, ambient light displays, windowscapes featuring digital art, local musicians, complimentary hot chocolate, free trolley and carousel rides, and more.

FREE Wanderlights

Daily Nov. 21 – Feb. 15, 5 p.m. – 10 p.m.

Wanderlights is Columbus’ ultimate holiday destination. The connected Downtown Columbus lighting experience spans from Columbus Commons to West Town Street to Bicentennial Park, featuring over half a million glowing lights. Everyone is invited to find joy in the glow of lights that are free to experience daily.

New this year: Columbus Commons will be reimagined with aurora borealis-inspired light installations and projection mapping in partnership with ReMix, a Columbus-based digital arts collective. Stop by the windowscapes on High Street and Town Street to see local artwork.

Wanderlights is possible thanks to support from the American Electric Power Foundation.

Nationwide Children’s Hospital is the official charitable partner for Wanderlights, working together to bring joy to pediatric patients and their families, as well as healthcare heroes, this holiday season.

More information is available at www.downtowncolumbus.com/wanderlights

Wanderlights photos are available [here](#).

Wanderlights locations include:

Columbus Commons, 160 S High St.

Start your Wanderlights experience at Columbus Commons and make your way through a kaleidoscope of color to check out the 40-foot lit tree, over 150 lighted trees, over 16 decorated garden beds, and an illuminated tunnel made up of glowing archways, complete with a snow globe photo-op. Plus, find new illuminations on the Columbus Commons stage and Main Garage, as well as the Nationwide Children’s Hospital butterfly charitable light display near the carousel. See Wander Nights experiences below.

Town Street, 50 W Town St.



Town Street will be twinkling with lights and decorations. Follow the illuminated penguins and lights down the Wanderlights path from Columbus Commons to the Scioto Mile. Stop by the Lazarus Building Galleria for an elaborate holiday display, open on Fridays and Saturdays until 10 p.m. through Dec. 31. See Wander Nights experiences below.

Bicentennial Park, 233 S Civic Center Dr.

The Downtown riverfront will be decked out in an elevated glow, centered around the Scioto Mile Fountain, which will be illuminated by more than 40 sculptural lights and 75 wrapped trees, providing passersby with the ultimate winter photo backdrop. See Wander Nights experiences below.

NEW: FREE Wander Nights

At Wanderlights locations above | Fridays and Saturdays, Dec. 5, 6, 12, 13, 19, and 20 from 5 p.m. – 8 p.m.*

**Please note that Wander Nights will not occur at Bicentennial Park on Dec. 5 and 6 due to [WinterFest](#).*

Introducing Wander Nights! Take part in even more holiday cheer while exploring Wanderlights. On Fridays and Saturdays during the first three weeks of December, find free fun including hot chocolate, trolley rides and carousel rides, plus seasonal beverages and food for sale at Columbus Commons. Wander over to the Good Market near the Ohio Theatre to shop for local holiday gifts. Share your wish list with Santa in the Lazarus Building Galleria, and unwind in a cozy atmosphere at Bicentennial Park for crackling firepits, cocktails, holiday movies, games, face painting, food trucks, and more.

Hop on and off the free covered trolley at Columbus Commons and Bicentennial Park during Wander Nights to see the Nationwide Children's Hospital butterfly light show.

Find more information about Wander Nights here: www.downtowncolumbus.com/wanderlights

Wander Nights Movie Schedule:

Movies start at 6 p.m. at Bicentennial Park

- Friday, Dec. 12: Frozen
- Saturday, Dec. 13: Frozen 2
- Friday, Dec. 19: Miracle
- Saturday, Dec. 20: Cool Runnings

Parking: Recommended paid parking is available at the Columbus Commons Main Garage (55 E Rich St.) which supports free programming at Columbus Commons year-round.

About Downtown Columbus, Inc.

Downtown Columbus, Inc. is a private nonprofit organization whose mission is to lead city-changing projects and collaborations that improve the connectivity, livability, and inclusivity of the Downtown Columbus experience. Downtown Columbus, Inc. drives development and progress of the Downtown Columbus Strategic Plan, working across sectors toward the vision for Downtown Columbus to become a neighborhood of connected, people-first urban districts that can be enjoyed by all. Learn more at downtowncolumbus.com.

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