

Celebrate the Holidays in West Michigan

By West Michigan Tourist Association

Dated: Nov 04, 2008

From a Santa Train in Coopersville to Victorian Teas in Holland any of these celebrations are sure to get you in the Spirit of the Season.

Experience the most magical time of year as Frederik Meijer Gardens located in Grand Rapids (616-957-1580, www.meijergardens.org) transforms into a world of winter magic with the glow of 300,000 lights, strolling carolers, horse-drawn carriage rides, and more than 40 captivating international trees and displays. A new feature this year of the Christmas and Holiday Traditions Around the World display is a 50-piece Santon display from France, along with the return of three important festive displays honoring the Chinese New Year, the Muslim celebration of Eid ul-Fitr, and the unique illumination traditions from the Philippines known as Parols.

Brighten your holidays with a visit to Holland, Michigan, during Dutch Winterfest taking place November 22 – December 13. During this the fun-filled festival the city comes alive with dozens of events reminiscent of the joyful holidays of yesteryear. Additional information can be found at 800-506-1299 or www.holland.org

Ride with the FUN GUY during the Santa Train only at the Coopersville & Marne Railway November 29, 30 and December 6, 7, 13, 14, 20 & 21. Each of the vintage passenger cars has a special seat reserved just for the Big Guy and his friends. Elves will escort the children to sit with Santa. All kids get a present, even the shy ones! The story-telling Princess will read from the book, "The Polar Express" which was written by Grand Rapids native, Chris Van Allsburg. All of the cars are comfortably heated and each has a restroom on board.

Celebrate a decade of family fun at the Holiday Balloon Fest December 5 – 7 in Battle Creek, Michigan! There will free family activities, entertainment, and music. Frosty Flights are scheduled to take place as well as Glittering Balloon Glows! Dress warm. For additional information, 800-397-2240 or www.holidayballoonfest.com

Take a trip back in time with a visit to the event "Of Christmas Past" at Historic Charlton Park (269-945-377, www.charltonpark.org). The event is one weekend only on December 13 and 14 from Noon - 5:00 p.m. Admission is \$6 adults and \$3 for children ages 4-12. Located at 2545 S. Charlton Park Rd. in Hastings, Michigan.

On December 13 and 14 from 1 p.m. -5 p.m., savor tea and authentic Victorian delicacies as enjoyed by prominent local families a century ago, in the stately, historic Cappon House, dressed in its antique Christmas finery, ornaments and toys. A pianist in period attire will complement the festive atmosphere with tunes from the holidays that were played around 1900. Space is limited and reservations are required; call for tickets and reserve your time. Admission is \$10, \$6 children 5 and under. Cappon House Museum is located at 228 W 9th Street in Holland, Michigan. Additional information 616-394-1362 or www.hollandmuseum.org.

###

The West Michigan Tourist Association exists to market and promote travel to West Michigan and to enhance the image and economic success of its members. Representing Michigan from Northwest Indiana

to the Straits of Mackinac - We Know West Michigan!

| | |
|----------------|---|
| Category | Lifestyle, Tourism, Travel |
| Tags | west michigan, Travel, holidays, michigan |
| Email | Click to email author |
| Phone | 616-245-2217 |
| Fax | 616-954-3924 |
| Address | 741 Kenmoor Suite E |
| City/Town | Grand Rapids |
| State/Province | Michigan |
| Zip | 49546 |
| Country | United States |