CASSANDRA MAAS

AROUND TOWN · NOVEMBER 14 – DECEMBER 31, 2026

HOLIDAY EVENTS

Los Gatos, the Santa Cruz Mountains and Santa Cruz County



31	5	10	20
HOLIDAY EVENTS	AREAS	NEIGHBORHOOD EVENTS	FREE TO ATTEND

Holiday lights, markets, mixers and neighborhood gatherings, organized by area and then by date. Events tagged NEIGHBORHOOD EVENT are good places to meet neighbors and local business owners. Each listing links to its organizer's page.

Last updated Nov 13, 2026. Event details can change, so please confirm dates and times with the organizer before you go.

NEIGHBORHOOD EVENTS

1. **Santa Cruz Chamber Holiday Business After Hours**
   Wed, Dec 2 · 5–7 PM · Woodstock's Pizza, Santa Cruz
2. **Mountain Community Tree Lighting**
   Thu, Dec 3 · 5–8 PM · 23845 Summit Rd, 95033
3. **Los Gatos in Lights**
   Fri, Dec 4 · 5–7 PM · Town Plaza Park
4. **Loma Prieta Holiday Craft Faire**
   Sat–Sun, Dec 5–6 · 23800 Summit Rd, 95033
5. **Las Cumbres Holiday Bazaar**
   Sun, Nov 15 · 10 AM–3 PM · Las Cumbres Community Center, 95033

AT A GLANCE

NOVEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	**26**	**27**	**28**
29	30					

DECEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**
6	7	8	9	10	**11**	**12**
13	**14**	15	16	**17**	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

An event starts this day · details by area inside

HOW TO READ IT — DEC 4 start date · NEIGHBORHOOD EVENT meet locals · FREE · FAMILY

AREA 1 OF 5

LOS GATOS · 95030

Downtown and town proper

5 EVENTS

DEC 4 FRI

Fri, Dec 4 · 5:00–7:00 PM (tree lighting 6:00 PM)

Los Gatos in Lights: Winter Celebration

Town Plaza Park, Montebello Way, Los Gatos

The Town's tree lighting with school choirs and strings, balloon artists and a visit from Santa.

NEIGHBORHOOD EVENT · FREE · FAMILY · COMMUNITY

Free · Details: losgatosca.gov

DEC 5 SAT

Sat, Dec 5 · 11:00 AM–about 1:00 PM

70th Annual Children's Christmas/Holidays Parade

Downtown: N. Santa Cruz Ave (from Almendra) to Main St and Church St, Los Gatos

The Lions Club and LGS Recreation parade through downtown, rain or shine; streets close early.

FREE · FAMILY

Free · Details: lgsrecreation.org

DEC 6 + dates

Sun, Dec 6 – Sun, Dec 13 · Trolley: Dec 6, 12, 13 1–5 PM; Dec 10–11 4–8 PM · Santa: Dec 11 4–7, Dec 12 1–6, Dec 13 1–5 PM

Magical Memories: Holiday Trolley & Visits with Santa

Downtown Los Gatos (Town Plaza Park stop), Los Gatos

The Chamber's free cable-car-style trolley loop, Santa visits and hot chocolate sips downtown.

FREE · FAMILY

Free; no reservations · Details: losgatoschamber.com

DEC 11 FRI

Fri, Dec 11 · 5:00–8:00 PM

Festive Night at the Museum

NUMU, 106 E. Main St, Los Gatos

NUMU stays open late with holiday crafts, music and refreshments as a stop on the holiday trolley route.

NEIGHBORHOOD EVENT · FREE · ARTS & MUSIC · FAMILY

Free; $5 suggested donation for drink tickets · Details: losgatoschamber.com

DEC 12 SAT

Sat, Dec 12 · 10:00 AM–5:30 PM

Los Gatos Holiday Market

Civic Center Lawn, 110 E. Main St, Los Gatos

A European-style holiday street fair under the redwoods with local artisans and live entertainment.

FREE · FOOD & WINE

Free · Details: losgatoschamber.com

AREA 2 OF 5

LOS GATOS · 95032

Blossom Hill, Vasona, Union and Pollard

3 EVENTS

DEC 4 FRI

Fri, Dec 4 · Time not listed on invite; RSVP with RefinedMD

RefinedMD Holiday Cocktail Party

Refined Dermatology, 800 Pollard Rd, Building A, Los Gatos

Cocktails, holiday shopping with local vendors and photos with Santa at RefinedMD.

NEIGHBORHOOD EVENT

Not listed · Details: refinedmd.com

Note: Details from emailed invite (Nov 13); confirm time with RefinedMD.

DEC 5 + dates

Sat–Sun, Dec 5–6 & Dec 12–13 · 4:00–9:00 PM

Fantasy of Lights at Vasona Lake (walk-through)

Vasona Lake County Park, 333 Blossom Hill Rd (park at Netflix, 121 Albright Way, free shuttle), Los Gatos

The county's holiday light show, walk-through only this year, with Santa, food trucks, live music and drone shows.

FAMILY

$25 ages 13+, $10 ages 4–12, free 3 and under; advance tickets only · Details: santaclaracountyparks.ticketspice.com

DEC 14 + dates

Dec 14–23 & Dec 26–27 · 6:00–9:00 PM (gate closes 8:45 PM)

Holiday Night Train & Carousel

Billy Jones Wildcat Railroad, Oak Meadow Park, 233 Blossom Hill Rd, Los Gatos

Ride the decorated steam-era train through a grove of lights, then the carousel and hot chocolate.

FAMILY

Train $10, carousel $6, combo $15; under 2 free · Details: bjwrr.org

AREA 3 OF 5

LOS GATOS MOUNTAINS · 95033

Summit Road, Skyline, Loma Prieta and Las Cumbres

3 EVENTS

NOV 15 SUN

Sun, Nov 15 · 10:00 AM–3:00 PM

Las Cumbres Holiday Bazaar

Las Cumbres Community Center, 18260 Las Cumbres Rd (off Skyline Blvd), Los Gatos (95033)

Handmade gifts from mountain artisans, free local wine tasting and a home-baked café; it benefits wildfire safety and emergency services.

NEIGHBORHOOD EVENT · FREE · CHARITY · COMMUNITY

Free admission · Details: mountainnetworknews.com

DEC 3 THU

Thu, Dec 3 · 5:00–8:00 PM (lights on 6:30 PM)

Mountain Community Tree Lighting

Mountain Community Complex, 23845 Summit Rd, Los Gatos (95033)

The third annual mountain tree lighting, with five food trucks, local music, the Summit Sisters and Santa.

NEIGHBORHOOD EVENT · FREE · COMMUNITY · FAMILY

Free · Details: mountainnetworknews.com

DEC 5 + dates

Sat, Dec 5 – Sun, Dec 6 · Sat 10:00 AM–5:00 PM · Sun 10:00 AM–4:00 PM

33rd Loma Prieta Holiday Craft Faire

Loma Prieta / C.T. English Middle School Gym, 23800 Summit Rd, Los Gatos (95033)

Handcrafted gifts from California artisans plus a home-cooked kitchen; it benefits C.T. English classrooms.

NEIGHBORHOOD EVENT · FREE · CHARITY · COMMUNITY

Free admission · Details: ctehsc.org

AREA 4 OF 5

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

From Santa Cruz and Scotts Valley to Capitola, Aptos, the San Lorenzo Valley and Watsonville

18 EVENTS

SANTA CRUZ (CITY)

NOV 26 + dates

Nov 26 – Jan 3 (select dates) · 12:00–7:00 PM (Nov 26–29; Dec 5–6 & 12–13; daily Dec 19–Jan 3)

Boardwalk Winter Wonderland

Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk, 400 Beach St, Santa Cruz

A tunnel of lights, nightly light shows, Santa photos and limited rides; the opening celebration with a drone show and tree lighting is Sat, Nov 28.

FREE · FAMILY

Free admission; rides and extras ticketed · Details: beachboardwalk.com

NOV 27 + dates

Nov 27–28, Dec 5–6, Dec 12–23 · Departs 5:00 PM and 6:30 PM (60 min)

Santa Cruz Holiday Lights Train

Departs from the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk (in front of the Merry-Go-Round), Santa Cruz

Roaring Camp's light-covered vintage train rolls through Santa Cruz streets with carols, cider and Santa.

FAMILY

From $58.25 adults / $38.11 children · Details: roaringcamp.com

DEC 2 WED

Wed, Dec 2 · 5:00–7:00 PM

Santa Cruz Chamber Holiday Business After Hours & Food Drive

Woodstock's Pizza, 710 Front St, Santa Cruz

The Santa Cruz Area Chamber's annual holiday mixer, with a food drive; open to members and non-members.

NEIGHBORHOOD EVENT · CHARITY

$10 · Details: web.santacruzchamber.org

DEC 4 FRI

Fri, Dec 4 · 6:00–11:00 PM

Boardwalk Holiday Bash

The Grove: Santa Cruz Event Center, Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk, Santa Cruz

A turnkey holiday party for small businesses and groups at the Boardwalk.

Ticketed; see Boardwalk site · Details: beachboardwalk.com

DEC 5 SAT

Sat, Dec 5 · 5:30 PM

39th Annual Lighted Boat Parade

Santa Cruz Harbor, Santa Cruz

About 50 decorated power and sail boats parade through the harbor, rain or shine.

FREE · FAMILY

Free to watch · Details: santacruzharbor.org

DEC 5 SAT

Sat, Dec 5 · 12:00–6:00 PM

Frost Fest Holiday Market

MAH Atrium, 705 Front St, Santa Cruz

A pop-up market of local artisans and jewelers with complimentary festive treats.

FREE · ARTS & MUSIC

Free · Details: santacruzscene.com

DEC 13 SUN

Sun, Dec 13 · 9:00–11:30 AM

Brunch with Santa

The Grove: Santa Cruz Event Center, Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk, Santa Cruz

Gourmet brunch, story time with Santa and cookie decorating.

FAMILY

Ticketed · Details: beachboardwalk.com

DEC 17 + dates

Dec 17–28 (select days) · Most days 12:00–8:00 PM; shorter hours Dec 21, 24, 26–28; closed Dec 25

Toy Trains at the MAH

MAH Atrium, 705 Front St, Santa Cruz

The 21st year of the beloved pop-up toy train exhibit by the Golden State Toy Train Operators.

FREE FAMILY

Free in the Atrium · Details: santacruzmah.org

SCOTTS VALLEY

DEC 11 FRI

Fri, Dec 11 · 5:00–8:00 PM

Crafts & Cocoa

Scotts Valley Community Center, 360 Kings Village Rd, Scotts Valley

Holiday crafts, hot cocoa and cookie decorating from Scotts Valley Parks & Recreation; 100 tickets.

FAMILY

$10 · Details: scottsvalley.gov

CAPITOLA, SOQUEL & APTOS

NOV 28 SAT

Sat, Nov 28 · 12:00–3:00 PM

Surfing Santa

Capitola Beach & Esplanade, Capitola

Santa paddles in to Capitola Beach, then hears wish lists on the Esplanade stage; canceled in heavy rain.

FREE FAMILY

Free · Details: capitolavillage.com

DEC 5 SAT

Sat, Dec 5 · 1:00–4:00 PM

Aptos Village Holiday Market & Tree Lighting

Aptos Village Green, 448 Granite Way, Aptos

Local craft vendors, cocoa and cookies, Santa photos, music and a tree lighting.

FREE FAMILY

Free · Details: santacruzscene.com

DEC 5 SAT

Sat, Dec 5 · 11:00 AM–8:00 PM (palm tree lighting 5:30 PM; VW parade 6:00 PM)

Capitola Holiday Extravaganza & Cookie Walk

Capitola Village, Capitola

A cookie walk through village shops, Santa, caroling, a palm tree lighting and a VW Christmas parade.

NEIGHBORHOOD EVENT · FREE · FAMILY · COMMUNITY

Free · Details: capitolavillage.com

DEC 12 SAT

Sat, Dec 12 · 8:30 AM

Jolly Jog Holiday 5K

Fleet Feet Aptos, into The Forest of Nisene Marks, Aptos

A festive 5K with Santa suits and cookie decorating, plus a canned-food drive for St. Francis Soup Kitchen.

OUTDOORS · CHARITY

Sign-up via Fleet Feet Aptos · Details: fleetfeet.com

Note: Confirm start location with Fleet Feet Aptos.

SAN LORENZO VALLEY

NOV 29 SUN

Sun, Nov 29 · 4:30–6:30 PM

Ben Lomond Village Holiday Party & Food Drive

Ben Lomond County Park, 9525 Mill St, Ben Lomond

The Ben Lomond Village Alliance's tree lighting and holiday party, with a food drive.

NEIGHBORHOOD EVENT · FREE · COMMUNITY · CHARITY

Free · Details: benlomondvillage.org

DEC 5 SAT

Sat, Dec 5 · 2:00–6:00 PM

Boulder Creek Winter Festival & Tree Lighting

Forest St, downtown Boulder Creek, Boulder Creek

Santa comes to town, with music, a food court, snow play, a hay ride and the tree lighting.

FREE · FAMILY · COMMUNITY

Free; some activities ticketed · Details: bouldercreeklocal.com

DEC 13 SUN

Sun, Dec 13 · 11:00 AM–3:00 PM

Holiday Market at Felton Covered Bridge

Felton Covered Bridge Park, Felton

The SLV Chamber's market at the 1892 covered bridge, with local makers, live music and caroling.

NEIGHBORHOOD EVENT · FREE · COMMUNITY

Free · Details: slvchamber.org

WATSONVILLE & SOUTH COUNTY

DEC 6 SUN

Sun, Dec 6 · 2:00–7:00 PM (lighted parade 5:30 PM)

Noche de Brillo

Downtown Watsonville, 358 Main St, Watsonville

A free “Night of Sparkle” with a snow play area, a holiday market, Santa photos and a lighted parade.

FREE · FAMILY · COMMUNITY

Free · Details: watsonville.gov

DEC 6 SUN

Sun, Dec 6 · 6:00–7:00 PM

Watsonville Holiday Tree Lighting

Civic Plaza / Main Library, 275 Main St, Watsonville

The mayor's welcome, performances, Santa and the tree lighting.

FREE · COMMUNITY

Free · Details: watsonville.gov

AREA 5 OF 5

NEARBY · SARATOGA & CAMPBELL

Just over the town line, and well attended by Los Gatos neighbors

2 EVENTS

DEC 3 + dates

Thu, Dec 3 · Thu, Dec 10 · Fri, Dec 11 · 7:30 PM

Montalvo Holiday Concerts: Carpenters Tribute · Irish Christmas · David Benoit's Charlie Brown

Carriage House Theatre, Montalvo Arts Center, 15400 Montalvo Rd, Saratoga

Three holiday-season concerts in Montalvo's intimate Carriage House Theatre.

ARTS & MUSIC

Ticketed · Details: montalvoarts.org

DEC 4 + dates

Dec 4–20 · 7:30 PM evenings; select 2:00 PM matinees

A Christmas Carol (Silicon Valley Shakespeare)

Montalvo Arts Center, 15400 Montalvo Rd, Saratoga

A roving production through the Villa and grounds; the Fezziwig's Yuletide benefit night is Dec 12.

ARTS & MUSIC

$45–$78; Dec 12 benefit $200 · Details: svshakespeare.org



CASSIE MAAS

REALTOR® · DRE #01778312

(408) 472-7988
Cassie@AndersonChristie.com
cassiemaas.com

Anderson Christie, Inc. · 910 Soquel Ave, Santa Cruz, CA 95062

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

Event information was compiled from organizer websites and community newsletters on Nov 13, 2026 and is shared as a community service. Cassie Maas and Anderson Christie are not affiliated with these events unless noted. [Brokerage disclaimer placeholder. Confirm wording with Anderson Christie.]