
2014-2015 LNC Holidays and Early Winter Activities Guide

FYI

Lexington Newcomers Club

BLESSED IS THE
SEASON WHICH EN-
GAGES THE WHOLE
WORLD IN A CONSPIRACY
OF LOVE ♥♥♥

Arts and Activities

The holiday season is coming up, and for the 11th year, the [Mayor's Holiday Spectacular](#) is offering half-price tickets to all your favorite holiday shows including Boston Ballet's *The Nutcracker*, Holiday Pops, and more. Take advantage of [thousands of half-price tickets to holiday performances](#) and \$10 dining vouchers to participating restaurants.

If you like to skate, [Kendall Square Community Skating](#) is putting on Holiday on Ice on Dec. 13, 2014. Saturday, December 13 is the eighth annual Holiday on Ice celebration at Community Ice Skating @ Kendall in Cambridge. They will be open 11am-9pm with free admission all day while [skate rentals](#) continue to be available at regular rates. They will also have a free skating show at 2pm with former Olympians and international medalists, produced by Frozen Frog Productions.



More Holiday Resources including information on other winter/holiday related events, such as [The Christmas Festival of Lights at the La Salette Shrine](#), The Enchanted Village, [Zoo Lights](#), and the Polar Express, etc:

- <http://www.massvacation.com/explore/holidays/christmas/>
- <http://www.boston-discovery-guide.com/christmas-in-boston.html>
- <http://www.events12.com/boston/december/>

Holiday Lights, Shopping, and Celebrations

- Lexington town-wide retailers will have a [Holiday Open House](#) on Friday, December 5, 2014 from 5 – 9 pm with many stores open extra hours, offering refreshments and special discounts. Santa will also visit at Depot Square, where the Lexington Historical Society hosts [Holidays at the Depot](#).

- Also on Friday, December 5, 2014, sing along and celebrate with friends and family at [Lexington Symphony](http://lexingtonsymphony.org)'s holiday concerts, which have become a cultural cornerstone of the holiday season in Lexington and surrounding areas. The 4 pm Kids' Holiday POPS! Performance offers a program suited for families with young children, with popular carols, sing-alongs, and a visit from Santa. The 8 pm Holiday Fanfare! Concert features seasonal favorites that evoke joyous memories, and music from many parts of the world. See more at: <http://lexingtonsymphony.org/come-to-concerts/concerts>



- [The Lexington Arts and Crafts Society](http://www.lacsma.org) is holding their [Holiday Marketplace](http://www.lacsma.org/holiday-marketplace) from December 3 through the 24, 2014



- [Fort Point Holiday Stroll](http://www.fortpointma.org) is on Friday, December 5, 2014, and [Fort Point's 16th Annual Holiday Sale](http://www.fortpointma.org) takes place Friday-Sunday December 5, 6, and 7, 2014. Visitors can buy handcrafted gifts and works of art directly from their makers. Local artists will be set up over the three-day event. This year, artists will gather in the sparkling new lobby area of 315 on A, complete with a fireplace. FPAC will be hosting drop-in holiday art and craft activities on site throughout the weekend and offering complimentary refreshments. Get creative and decorate a holiday cookie

that can be nibbled or cherished with artist and chef Elissa Dunlap. Free validated parking at the Central Parking Lot on A and Binford Streets, thanks to Gillette/P&G and Central Parking.

[Holiday Sale](#) location: 315 A Street, first floor, Fort Point, Boston MA 02210

- Faneuil Hall Marketplace tree lighting continues its holiday tradition, BLINK! For six weeks, the tree blinks with more than 350,000 LED lights that dance seamlessly to music to create a nightly spectacle not to be missed. [BLINK!](#) At [Faneuil Hall Marketplace \(Quincy Market\)](#) will play every half hour, from 4:00 PM to 10:00 PM., until January 3, 2015.
- [Boston Common Holiday Tree Lighting](#) at the [Boston Common Frog Pond](#), Boston. Thursday, December 4, 2014 from 4:00 PM – 8:00 PM. This exciting event takes place near the Visitors Information Center on Tremont Street, and stars the special tree sent as a gift from Nova Scotia and 80+ other lighted trees throughout the Common and Boston Garden.
- [Beacon Hill Holiday Stroll](#) on Thursday, December 11, 2014 6 pm - 9 pm
Carolers and music, festive holiday decorations, and all the eclectic boutiques, galleries, and restaurants along Charles Street make this annual Holiday Stroll a special occasion. Info: http://www.mayorsholiday.com/event/detail/441676060/Beacon_Hill_Holiday_Stroll
- [Hanukkah: The Festival of Lights](#) at The [Museum of Fine Arts, Boston](#)
December 17, 2014 from 6 pm - 9:45 pm (Wed)
Enjoy an evening of art and activities celebrating [Hanukkah, the Festival of Lights](#). Tour the galleries to learn about the Museum's collection of Judaica, sketch in the galleries, and listen to festive music. Don't miss the Oculus Rift motion-controlled, virtual reality, art installation in the Druker Family Pavilion windows, a preview of *8 Nights, 8 Windows*, a project of New Center NOW and CJP bringing the miracle, illumination, and innovation of Hanukkah to Boston.



Shopping for Unique Gifts

For artists designed, artists made, unique items, check out the following arts shows:



- [The Lexington Arts and Crafts Society Holiday Marketplace](#)
- [Fort Point's 16th Annual Holiday Sale](#)
- [Harvard Square Holiday Fair](#)
- [Crafts Boston Holiday Show](#)
- [SoWa Holiday Market](#)
- [Salem Holiday Market](#)



The New Year

Boston will once again host [The First Night](#), on December 31, 2014 from 1:00 pm — midnight, featuring fireworks, many family friendly performances, grand parade, puppet shows, as well as musical guests Patti Larkin, Yo La Tengo, and Dom Flemons. Purchasing a First Night Button for \$ 10 gets you admissions to every show.



❄️ Happy New Year! ❄️

Did you know that January is [National Learn to Ski and Snowboard Month](#)? That means lots of discounts and special offers across the coasts for those who want to learn to ski (downhill and cross country) or snowboard. Here on the east coast, [Ski New Hampshire](#) offers a week of [free Learn to Ski programs](#) for beginners and other discounts (such as the [special passbook for 4th and 5th graders](#)). Similarly, [Ski Vermont](#) offers similar month-long and season-long [deals](#) and a free [program for 5th graders](#). For a more local (in-state) experiences there are many choices, some are nearby (Nashoba

Valley or Blue Hills) and some are further (Wachusett, Jiminy Peak, Butternut, Bousquet, etc.), check [Mass Vacation's Ski Local](http://www.massvacation.com/skilocal/) website at <http://www.massvacation.com/skilocal/>

The same deals apply to cross country skiing as well as snowshoeing, with the one closest to us at the Weston Ski Track (<http://www.skiboston.com>) offering [free lessons on January 11](#) with purchase of a trail pass.

- Want to take the kids snow tubing? The closest option is [Nashoba Valley](#); but there are other options, such as [Amesbury Sports Park](#), whose long, steep hills make long, fast runs and big thrills; or [Wachusett](#), which features Big Air Bag tubing/jumping (at the end of your run, you land in a huge air filled bag/mattress).

Skating is another option for a fun wintertime family activity. There are many fun **outdoor** public rinks to choose from, options include:

- [Frog Pond on Boston Common](#)
Boston Common's Frog Pond is located within the country's oldest public park. Need a break from showing off your skating skills? Head over to the heated umbrella, where you can grab a hot chocolate and Belgian waffle, take a seat, and watch the skaters glide by. Boston Common, Within boundaries of Charles St., Beacon St., Park St., and Tremont St. 617-635-2120. www.bostonfrogpond.com
- [Community Skating at Kendall Square](#)
Located in the heart of Kendall Square and surrounded by a courtyard, this rink offers skate rentals, [lessons](#), and a snack bar with hot drinks and snacks. [Private rink rentals](#) and [group outings](#) are also available. Skaters beware: The rink's unique shape takes a little getting used to.
Season ends: Mid-March
300 Athenaeum St., Cambridge. 617-492-0941. www.skatekendall.com
- [Boston Harbor Hotel Rink](#)
Sharpen up your ice skates and head downtown for outdoor skating with great harbor and city views. For the first time ever, the Boston Harbor Hotel Rink has opened a 2,960-square-foot ice skating rink under Rowes Wharf rotunda. The rink will hold up to 20 skaters at a time. The Boston Harbor Hotel's Rotunda Rink is part of the Winter on the Wharf initiative, which also features seasonal food and drinks, and special events.
Rentals available. Season ends: February 28
Boston Harbor Hotel, 70 Rowes Wharf, Boston. 617-439-7000. www.winteronthewharf.com

- [Charles Hotel Rink](#)

This 2,900-square foot rink is open to both hotel guests and the public. Are you a frequent skater? Take advantage of season passes. Or do you need to brush up on your skills? The rink offers skating lessons. Skate rentals and refreshments, including hot chocolate and hot apple cider, are available right at the rink. You can also book a private event, including birthday or holiday parties or corporate functions.

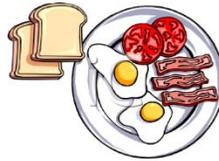
One Bennett St., Cambridge. 617-234-8008. charleshotel.com

- [Winter Skate at Patriot Place](#)

Whether you're a beginner or an expert, this 60 x 140 foot refrigerated rink is ideal for recreational skating. Skate rentals, snacks and beverages, and bathrooms are available. Take a break from your shopping at Patriot Place and hit the ice.

Patriot Place. 2 Patriot Place, Foxborough. 508-203-2100. www.patriot-place.com/winterskate

Because these are outdoor rinks, hours are often dependent on the weather, so call ahead to check if the rink is open.



On Saturday, January 24th or Sunday, January 25, 2015, consider a delicious Brunch from some of Boston's best chefs while helping those who are less fortunate during [The Greater Boston Food Bank's Super Hunger Brunch](#) fundraiser event to help end hunger in Eastern Massachusetts.

Participating restaurants include critically acclaimed options such as L'Espalier, Blue Ginger, Craigie on Main, The Fireplace, Grill 23 & Bar, Rialto, and those closer to home such as Burtons Grill in Burlington and 80 Thoreau in Concord.