



📷 Photograph: Kevin Shea Adams Photography

Celebrate at these festive Christmas and holiday events in San Francisco

It's Christmas time in the city, and you'll want to hear those jingle bells

Monday December 16 2024

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Christmas only comes once a year and before we know it, it has vanished—so it's important to get out there and experience the magic of San Francisco in December. Whether it's Hanukkah, Kwanzaa or Christmas you're celebrating, you'll find plenty to give you starry eyes and a warm feeling. From a **light show** playing on the face of the Ferry Building to ice skating at Union Square, from choirs singing their hearts out to pub crawls and extraordinary **gingerbread displays**: it's all happening now.

6. Holiday Ice Rink in Union Square

Things to do

City Life



Photograph: Courtesy Safeway Holiday Ice Rink in Union Square

You'll want to join the ice rink for its 17th magical season of outdoor skating on a **pop-up rink** in the heart of downtown. Special events (some of which have higher admission) include Drag On Ice (don some sequins and skate alongside Kings and Queens—see more details in our separate event entry below), Flashback Fridays ('80s music on second Fridays), Classical Sundays (skate to classical music), Black Friday with Wild 94.9 (Jeanine da Feen plays modern hits), Silent Skate (headphones on) and Polar Bear Skate (in your swimsuit, just like a polar bear plunge). If you can't skate and are intimidated, professional instructors will give free lessons each weekend to those who sign up in advance, limited to 50 people per day selected via lottery (open now through November 22 by registering [here](#)). Otherwise, tickets for the one-hour session, including skate rentals, are \$25 for adults, and \$19 for children aged 8 and under. Lockers available at \$7.

Dates: Nov 6–Jan 20



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