

A wonderland of fun in Guildford

Everyone is invited to enjoy Christmas festivities in Guildford town centre this year.

From 17 November to 5 January, the town centre will become a Christmas wonderland, with lots to do and see, for all ages.

The jewel in the Christmas crown, a free Festive Family Fun Day will take place on 20 November from 11am to 4pm.

Bump into some Christmas characters as you discover a day of free performances, activities and workshops. Music, dance and drama will bring Tunsgate Arch to life throughout the day. In the same location you can also experience the thrill of arctic exploration in a lifelike ice cave experience. Catch some falling flakes outside the Guildhall. Whilst there, join a Snow Queen workshop with the Guildford Shakespeare Company.

Elsewhere, join the fun of the fair! Have a go at a selection of Christmas-themed fairground side shows and ride the merry-go-round. Don't forget to grab a Christmas selfie in the giant snow globe, back by popular demand.

On select days in November and December, visitors can enjoy live music in pubs and bars. A variety of children's workshops will keep younger shoppers entertained at weekends.

A month of markets will also give shoppers the chance to buy Christmas crafts, gifts, vegan and farm produce.

And of course, our sparkling festive lighting will brighten the town centre throughout.

Throughout December, help us find our hidden nutcracker dolls. Hand in your completed sheet at the end of the trail for the chance to win special prizes.

Cllr Julia McShane, Leader of the Council, said:

"At Christmas, people come together to make cherished memories. We are proud that, this year, celebrations in our town centre will reflect this more than ever before.

"We are working with Experience Guildford and our arts and culture partners to provide free entertainment and activities for everyone. These will take place throughout the whole festive period.

"Many of us are worried about the spiralling cost of living. In response to this we have chosen to spend our Christmas budget on subsidising festive family activities. So, we can ensure that the fun remains low-cost for visitors to Guildford town centre this year."

We will make more information on what Guildford has to offer this Christmas available nearer the time. Check www.guildford.gov.uk/christmas for the full event times and listings.

