

# ARE WE THERE YET?



## Day Trips & Christmas Vacations

Can you believe it's already December? Amid all of the holiday hustle and bustle, why not carve out some time to enjoy one (or more!) of the festive light displays in the area?

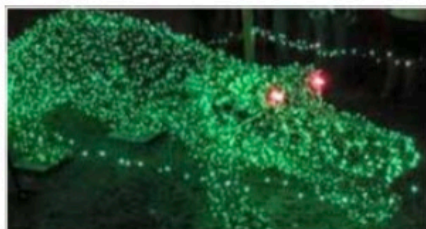
There's no need to travel far to see world-class Christmas lights and displays. So grab some mittens and your coat; here are five to get you started.

**Christmas At The Falls** located in the beautiful Nockalula Falls Park. Christmas At The Falls offers millions of lights and displays. Enjoy your evening strolling along the paved trails or taking a narrated ride on the train. Sip hot chocolate, decorate a cookie, visit Santa, even write a letter to the North Pole, dropping it in the special mailbox at the Post Office in the Pioneer Village. For more information visit [nockalulafallspark.com](http://nockalulafallspark.com) or call (256) 549-4662

**Galaxy of Lights** located in the Huntsville Botanical Garden off I-565 offers a nearly two-mile driving route. This holiday light extravaganza features larger than life displays, a twinkling icicle forest, Santa soaring over a winter wonderland, and much, much more. Visit [hsvbg.org](http://hsvbg.org) for more information, hours, and ticket prices.

**Christmas In The Park** in the Arab City Park offers more than two million lights in one of Northeast Alabama's largest displays. This one is walking only, so bundle up and stroll through the over-the-top light displays, Tinsel Trail, even visit the Arab Historic Village which has been transformed into Santa's Village. Need more info? Find them on Facebook or visit [arab-chamber.org](http://arab-chamber.org).

**Winter Wonderland** at Sportsman's Lake Park in Cullman offers a drive-through of the lights and holiday display. They are also offering a 100% chance of snow!



With a snow machine, train ride, horse and carriage rides, even a sleigh ride, there's something for everyone. Visit [cullmanchamber.org](http://cullmanchamber.org) for more information.

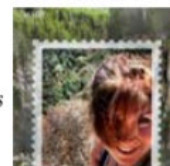
**Zoolight Safari** consists of 18 magical nights at the Birmingham Zoo. Be amazed by over one million lights, listen to holiday music and delight in festive snowfalls every night! Enjoy the Candy Cane Ride, go for a spin on the Jingle Bell Carousel, and experience the thrill of the over 100 foot Yuletide Slide, Singing Santas, and so much more. Delight in the beauty of a decorated tree reaching nearly 30 feet tall in Trails of Africa. Details at [birminhamzoo.com](http://birminhamzoo.com)

**Gilley's Lights.** No Holiday Lights Tour in North Alabama is complete without a trip to this perennial favorite in Ballplay. Featuring motorized displays, plan on seeing a dinosaur, Christmas crocodile, life-sized camel, Santa in a helicopter, even a manger scene. Don't stay in the car here, get out and take a closer look. Gilley's is free, but donations are accepted and appreciated. For more info call (256) 490-4828.

Be sure to visit websites or call venues to confirm hours of operation and ticket prices before you go.

Wishing you and yours the most joyous Christmas season! Peace and blessings in the New Year!

— Tami Brooks



Tami Brooks is the owner of Brooks Consulting Services, LLC and Social Focus Marketing Solutions. She completed a 52 week, 52 hike project in 2016 and writes the blog Tami's Trippin'. When she's not busy with work, you can find her on the trail, in the kayak, or on the deck planning her next adventure. Visit [Tami's-Trippin.com](http://Tami's-Trippin.com) to read more and be sure to sign up for post notifications and newsletter while you're there. You can also follow Tami's Trippin' on Facebook, Instagram, and Pinterest.