



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Town of Taos Kicks off Yuletide in Taos Celebrations**

*Month-long holiday celebrations set to begin in destination recognized among world's best Christmas getaways*

(Taos, N.M.) The Town of Taos' annual month-long holiday celebration, Yuletide in Taos, kicks off in December with the town's annual Yuletide Caroling and Tree Lighting at 4 p.m. on December 6<sup>th</sup> at Taos Plaza, followed by a host of other events throughout the month. Holiday light displays, live music and annual ceremonies will take place until New Year's Eve on Taos Plaza at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, December 31<sup>st</sup>.

Immediately following the town's tree lighting, Lighting Ledoux will take place on December 7<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m. Visitors can wander the historic Ledoux Street as the museums and galleries lining the street extend their hours and offer New Mexican fare. The following week, Bonfires on Bent Street will take place on December 14<sup>th</sup> at 4 p.m. and will include Aztec dancers and bonfires throughout Bent Street and the John Dunn Shops.

Las Posadas, a Mexican Christmas tradition that re-enacts Mary and Joseph's search for lodging, will start on December 16 and will run through Christmas Eve. Taos is one of the few towns in America that celebrates the religious festival. Later in December, the annual Christmas Eve Processional will take place at Taos Pueblo. The event will begin at sundown and is open to the public, however all photography and recording is strictly prohibited. Yuletide in Taos ends with New Year's Eve on Taos Plaza on December 31, which begins at 7 p.m. and will feature a pig roast, fireworks display and live music.

"Yuletide is a great time for locals and visitors to come together and experience New Mexico's finest holiday traditions along with some traditions that are uniquely Taos," said Karina Armijo, Director of Marketing and Tourism for the Town of Taos. "We offer a variety of events for everyone to enjoy and we look forward to welcoming in visitors looking for a twist on the traditional holiday getaway."

In 2017 and 2018, Taos was recognized by *U.S. News and World Report* as the third best Christmas destination in the world, ranking above major global cities like London, Zurich and Amsterdam. *U.S. News and World Report's* ranking highlighted Taos' downtown historic district and a roster of unique holiday events.

For more information on Yuletide in Taos events, visit <https://taos.org/events/festivals/yuletide-in-taos/>.

### **Yuletide in Taos 2019 Schedule:**

#### **33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Yuletide Caroling and Tree Lighting**

Date: Friday, December 6, 2019

Location: Taos Plaza

Times: 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM

#### **Lighting Ledoux**

Date: Saturday, December 7, 2019

Location: Ledoux Street, Taos

Times: 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM

#### **Bonfires on Bent Street**

Date: Saturday, December 14, 2019

Location: John Dunn Shops and Bent Street

Times: 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM

#### **Las Posadas**

Dates: December 16 – 24, 2019

Location: More information coming soon

Times: More information coming soon

#### **Christmas Eve Procession at Taos Pueblo**

Date: Tuesday, December 24, 2019

Location: Taos Pueblo

Times: The procession will begin at sundown

#### **New Year's Eve on the Plaza**

Date: Tuesday, December 31, 2019

Location: Taos Plaza

Times: Events kick off at 7:00 PM

#### **More about the Town of Taos...**

Located just 135 miles from Albuquerque's International Sunport and a short, 90-minute drive from Santa Fe, Taos is home to the country's oldest continuously-inhabited pueblo community, the state's newest national monument, and the highest peak in New Mexico. World-class skiing, hiking, camping, whitewater rafting, kayaking, fishing, and mountain biking can all be found nearby. Motorists enjoy the region's celebrated scenic drives, including the Enchanted Circle and the High Road from Santa Fe to Taos. The area also boasts ample four-wheeling and off-road trails that crisscross the backcountry. Golf Digest's four-star-rated Taos Country Club championship golf course offers players spectacular scenery and panoramic mountain views.

Other hidden Taos travel gems include cultural sites like the San Francisco de Asis Church, the downtown plaza, “El Corazon de Taos,” as well as museums and galleries, weekend music and art festivals, and even llama trekking adventures. Finally, most Taos travelers find that their getaways are not complete without indulging in the local New Mexico cuisine and its famous red and green chile options that infiltrate everything from breakfast burritos to pizza. To learn more, go to [www.taos.org](http://www.taos.org).

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