

Artesian Hotel, Casino and Spa unwraps plans for 4th annual Classic Christmas celebration

Classic Christmas festivities include carriage rides, breakfast with Santa and more

Christmastime is coming to south-central Oklahoma at The Artesian Hotel, Casino and Spa in Sulphur, Oklahoma. Beginning this month, guests to the hotel will be greeted with joyful décor and holiday cheer.

Holiday festivities begin at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 25 with the City of Sulphur's "Christmas in Sulphur" event as the Artesian and other downtown businesses turn on the lights and display their extravagant outdoor light displays. The celebration includes music, entertainment, food trucks and more, followed by a Christmas Parade of Lights and the Official Lighting Ceremony. More than 150,000 LED lights will outline the Artesian's traditional spires and turrets while more than two-dozen Christmas trees fill the inside of the hotel, including a grand 20-foot tree at the hotel's entrance.

"This time of the year is very special to us and the city of Sulphur," said Justin Williams, interim Artesian area general manager. "Many families choose to celebrate the Christmas season with us and we strive to provide a traditional holiday experience they'll remember for years to come."

Guests can make

Artesian brings holiday cheer!

WHAT: Classic Christmas celebration

WHEN: Nov. 25 - Dec. 16

WHERE: Artesian Hotel, Casino and Spa in Sulphur, Oklahoma

DETAILS: Enjoy carriage rides, gingerbread house decorating classes, breakfast with Santa and lots of holiday cheer this Christmastime.

arrangements to meet their favorite North Pole celebrity on Dec. 9 and 16 at 8 and 10:30 a.m. during Breakfast with Santa. Reservations include hot breakfast served in the ballroom and an opportunity to meet and snap a photo with Santa. A 4x6 portrait will be included, with the option to buy more prints online. In addition, live reindeer will greet guests from 8 a.m. to noon both days as they enter the hotel. Tickets are \$25 per person or \$250 per table of 10. Reservations are required.

The Artesian will also offer traditional gingerbread house decorating classes following Breakfast with Santa on Dec. 9 and 16 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$20 per gingerbread house. Reservations are required.

On Friday and Saturday of the second and third weekends in December, guests will be welcomed by carolers from 4 to 8 p.m. During those days, visitors can also meet Mrs. Claus



-Provided

Guests can meet their favorite North Pole celebrity during this year's Classic Christmas events at The Artesian Hotel in Sulphur.

as she sits by the fireplace, reading stories and singing carols for the Artesian's guests from 6 to 8 p.m.

Horse-drawn carriage ride tours will run through downtown Sulphur and its numerous light displays on Fridays and Saturdays beginning Dec. 8 running through the weekend before Christmas. Tickets are \$40 per carriage ride. As carriages vary in size, reservations are required.

Hotel guests can also treat themselves to milk and cookies from Santa from 7 to 9 p.m. daily in the second floor common area. Complimentary hot cocoa and apple cider will also be available in the lobby daily.

The Chickasaw National Recreation Area's Historic Candlelight Tour is scheduled for Dec. 1 and 2 and will take visitors on a walking tour of Flower Park, which will be decorated with more than 1,000 candlelit luminaries. Tours will begin at 6:00 p.m. and run through 10:00 p.m. both nights. Reservations are required and can be made by calling 580-622-7234. Shuttle service will be provided and departs from the Chickasaw Visitor's Center.

While visiting the Artesian, guests also have the opportunity to pose behind an oversized picture frame to commemorate their stay.

Visitors are encouraged to share and tag photos with the hashtag #TistheArtesian on social media.

"Murray County is a great place to enjoy Christmastime with your loved ones," Williams said. "We are honored that so many families choose to celebrate and share the holiday with us and we want to provide them with the ultimate Christmas experience."

Tickets for Breakfast with Santa, gingerbread house decorating classes and carriage rides are available by calling 855-455-5255. For more information or to book a room at the Artesian, visit www.artesianhotel.com.