

BRANSON, MO FEATURES A STOCKING FULL OF HOLIDAY EVENTS FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

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<u>Cost Event</u> [2]

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Visitors to Enjoy Tribute to Andy Williams as Part of the Andy Williams Christmas Show, Silver Dollar City's 4 Million Lights, Larry Gatlin, Debby Boone and much more

Branson is one of the top 10 Christmas destinations in the U.S.

Chicago, IL- As Christmas approaches, Branson becomes a winter wonderland with its seasonal shows, a special festival at Silver Dollar City and a blanket of holiday lights. Cheer and goodwill are in the air as the town gears up for its 24th annual Ozark Mountain Christmas which features a bevy of first-class holiday entertainment options.

Andy Williams' Christmas Show, November 1 to December 8, will be even bigger and more spectacular this year and includes a video performance and tribute to "Mr. Christmas" himself, Andy Williams. Andy was involved in all phases of his 21st Christmas show in Branson prior to his passing in September. The full production show has spectacular sets, dancers, a full orchestra, lots of variety acts and the delightful music and sounds of Christmas, all presented in the beautifully decorated Andy Williams Moon River Theatre.

Larry Gatlin and The Gatlin Brothers along with Debby Boone are together at The Mansion Theatre while Tony Orlando's Great American Christmas is at the Welk Resort Theatre. Christmas in Hollywood, at The King's Castle Theater, rings in the season with a musical journey through some of Hollywood's greatest movie moments. Additionally, the Starlite Theatre will present The Bellamy Brothers Tropical Christmas and Joey and Rory's Farmhouse Christmas, and Jim Stafford Theatre will present Jim Stafford's Christmas Show. Audiences will also enjoy the Hughes Brothers Christmas Show at Hughes Brothers Theatre, the Buck Trent Country Music Show at RFD-TV The Theatre, the Acrobats of China featuring the New Shanghai Circus at the New Shanghai Theatre, and dozens of other holiday shows.

Silver Dollar City's An Old Time Christmas, November 3 to December 30, has over 4 million lights (that's 350 miles of lights), over 1,000 decorated Christmas trees, and a 5-Story special effects Christmas tree. During the Christmas on Main Street light and sound show, the massive tree blazes in synchronization to the musical movements of Christmas songs – up to 100 light changes per second. The all-new musical show It's a Wonderful Life, adapted from the Frank Capra classic, debuts with a new, musical interpretation of the inspirational story that is a worldwide Christmas favorite.

The Shepherd of the Hills Trail of Lights is a drive-through animation display that winds its way through the historic 160-acre homestead. The Branson Area Festival of Lights drive-through is designed to delight children of all ages with a one-mile drive of more than 175 displays.

For the adventurous types, the Branson Zipline Canopy Tours will present the "World-Class Adventure during Ozark Mountain Christmas," which includes a guided canopy tour in the Ozark Mountains and Wolfe Creek Preserve.

The Titanic Christmas Winter Wonderland at the Titanic Museum features thousands of glittering lights, Edwardian-style decorations, costumed merry-makers and a Gift Shoppe brimming with one-of-a-kind selections. Santa and the Titanic Fantasy Princess will be available for meet-and-greets and photos.

With current direct flights on AirTran out of Chicago's Midway, and the introduction of Southwest Airlines flights beginning on March 9, 2013, travel to and from Branson is easier than ever. The stress-free new Branson Airport, which opened in 2009, is just 10 miles south of the world-famous Branson Strip. The airport and 58,000-square foot terminal have the capacity to handle more than 1 million enplanements annually. Visitors can expect hour-or-less flights and attentive service at the lodge-style airport, which immediately evokes the feeling of being on vacation. Departing planes receive the "Branson Wave" from airport staff in the friendliest sendoff in America.

During the most wonderful time of the year, visitors in the tens of thousands make annual pilgrimages to Branson, earning national recognition as one of the Top 10 Christmas destinations in America. For more information about Ozark Mountain Christmas in Branson, call 1-877-BRANSON or visit ExploreBranson.com.

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