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Pigeon Forge

WINTERFEST LIGHTS DRIVING TOUR



MAKING WINTERFEST SHINE

The lights of Winterfest bring a sparkle to Pigeon Forge from early November through the end of February. To get ready for the magical moment when the light displays are first turned on, we start working in mid-summer, checking more than 5 million light bulbs to ensure all are ready to glow for Winterfest. Once everything is ready to go, it takes approximately two months to put the displays up and about a month to take them down when Winterfest ends.

YOUR TOUR BEGINS AT THE NORTH END OF THE PARKWAY

A. Pigeons In Flight

A town named Pigeon Forge must have a Winterfest light display that includes pigeons. Our Pigeons in Flight displays span the Parkway at both the north and south ends of town.

B. Welcome to Pigeon Forge

The welcome sign is always out in Pigeon Forge, and Winterfest is no exception. This display welcomes friends, neighbors and guests to our celebration of winter in the Smokies.

C. Icicles

Bright white icicles light up the Pigeon Forge Welcome and Information Centers, City Hall and other government buildings throughout town.

D. Lights of Smoky Mountain Opry

Smoky Mountain Opry is decked out for the holiday season with giant trees, wreaths and more, all covered with sparkling lights. You might even catch Old Saint Nick making a rooftop delivery. Smoky Mountain Opry is one of a dozen theaters in Pigeon Forge, all celebrating the season with delightful Christmas productions during November and December.

E. Forging Winter

One of the largest displays you'll see on your tour, Forging Winter is a tribute to our town's founding fathers, who literally and figuratively shaped the future of Pigeon Forge. This animated display stands 21 feet tall and 110 feet long.

F. Pigeon Forge Tiger Pride

We have a lot to be proud of in Pigeon Forge, but nothing is more important than the young people who represent our future. That's why Wears Valley Road is lined with giant orange paw prints, a salute to the Tigers of Pigeon Forge schools.

G. South Mansion

This majestic display is an iconic Southern mansion, with a columned front porch, chimneys, warm lights glowing in the windows and giant magnolia trees.

H. Snowflake Lane

Regardless of what the weatherman predicts, we can guarantee that it will snow every evening in Pigeon Forge during Winterfest. That's because light poles throughout the city are draped with "falling" snowflakes, adding a touch of winter to our award-winning festival, no matter what the thermometer says.

I. Twelve Days of Christmas

(November and December)

Do you remember the words to this favorite holiday song? They'll come back to you when you see this display. The fun starts with a lone partridge near traffic light #3 and ends with a dozen drummers near traffic light #7.

I. Wandering Wildlife

(January and February)

Great Smoky Mountains National Park is filled with wildlife, so it's only fitting that they're included in the lights of Winterfest. Along your driving tour, you'll see bear, deer, fox and other critters native to the Smoky Mountains "wandering" through Pigeon Forge. The national park is a critical sanctuary for a variety of animals, including 65 species of mammals, more than 200 varieties of birds, 67 native fish species, and more than 80 types of reptiles and amphibians.

J. Lights of Island Drive

Sparkling lights, giant ornaments, and tall, tall trees are seen on Island Drive and throughout the Island in Pigeon Forge. Even the 200-foot-tall Great Smoky Mountain Wheel shows off the holiday spirit with red, green and white lights. You'll find restaurants, attractions, shopping and entertainment for the whole family on the Island in Pigeon Forge.

K. Fairytale Fantasy

Nothing stirs up precious childhood memories like the magic of a fairytale, so look for some of your favorite characters as they light up the Pigeon Forge Parkway. You'll find Mother Goose, the giant clock from Hickory Dickory Dock, the cat and fiddle of Hey Diddle Diddle fame, and Humpty Dumpty, complete with all the king's horses and all the king's men. Animation adds to the charm of these displays, so take a moment to watch the stories come to life.

L. Winterfest Express

This delightful and colorful Winterfest train is ready to leave its three-dimensional station for a scenic winter excursion through the Smoky Mountains.

M. Winter Wonderland Bridges

Travel through the bridges of Pigeon Forge, located on Jake Thomas Road and East Wears Valley Road. Twinkling icicles "drip" from the top of the bridges, which are surrounded by towering 35-foot-tall trees.

N. Eagles In Flight

Watch as a bald eagle, the symbol of America, swoops down to snatch a fish from flowing waters of the Smoky Mountains.

O. Dolly's Smoky Mountain Christmas

More than 4 million lights shine during Dollywood's Smoky Mountain Christmas, when the park is filled with holiday music, plenty of rides, a nightly Parade of Many Colors and much more to celebrate the season. The award-winning event continues through Jan. 5.

P. Old Mill Covered Bridge

Pigeon Forge welcomes you to Old Mill Square, with its own version of a covered bridge, one made of thousands of twinkling lights that lead to one of the most historic areas of Pigeon Forge. Old Mill Square is home to one of the oldest businesses in Pigeon Forge. The Mill, built in 1830, still grinds corn and wheat used in today's recipes at Old Mill Restaurant and Pottery House Café & Grille.

Q. Lights of Patriot Park

Patriot Park is home to the largest collection of Winterfest light displays, all with a distinctly Americana theme. This grouping includes the Liberty Bell, a paddlewheel-driven riverboat, the rolling waves From Sea to Shining Sea, and a multi-display salute to America's Armed Forces. The display depicting the flag being raised at Iwo Jima stands 40 feet tall.

R. Trolley Station

This colorful display is for the Pigeon Forge Fun Time Trolleys. With more than 200 official stops, our trolleys offer an easy and affordable way to get around Pigeon Forge.

S. Evergreen Bridge at Dollywood Lane

The twinkling lights on this beautiful bridge are like the rhinestones that sparkle from the stage costumes of our favorite country legend. Drive under the bridge and down Dollywood Lane as you make your way to the Christmas festivities at Dollywood.

T. Winter Wildlife

With so many species of animals native to the Great Smoky Mountains, it is no surprise that there is wildlife of all kind found throughout Pigeon Forge. These light displays will remind you of the beauty and majesty of these animals.

U. Stampede's Sixty Foot Tree

Dolly Parton's Stampede pulls out all the stops when it comes to decorating for the holidays. One of the highlights has to be this 60-foot-tall tree, adorned with colorful lights, ribbons and sparkling ornaments from the very bottom to the twinkling star on top. Dixie Stampede is one of six dinner theaters in Pigeon Forge, each serving a heartwarming holiday show and mouthwatering meal during November and December.

V. Old Mill Scene

With more than 6,000 sparkling lights, a spinning waterwheel and a flowing river, it's easy to see why this display is a long-time favorite of our Winterfest guests. The scene was designed to reflect the city's own Old Mill, one of Pigeon Forge's earliest and most iconic businesses.

W. Smoky Mountain Cabin

This unassuming cabin of lights will take you back to a more quaint time. With smoke rolling from its chimney, the cabin sits at the edge of Pigeon Forge with a beautiful view of the Smoky Mountains.











