

*Warm Rooms.
Affordable Prices.*

Independence

MISSOURI

Hotels & Motels

America's Best Value
(816) 373-2800

American Inn
(816) 373-8300

Best Western Truman Inn
(800) 937-8376

Comfort Suites
(800) 424-6423

Crossland Econo. Studios
(800) 398-7829

Fairfield Inn
(800) 228-2800

Great Western
(816) 833-0880

Higher Ground Hotel
(888) 342-1112

Hilton Garden Inn
(877) 782-9444

**Holiday Inn Express
Hotel & Suites**
(866) 631-6331

Motel 6
(816) 350-7816

Quality Inn & Suites
(800) 424-6423

Residence Inn
(800) 331-3131

Staybridge
(816) 994-2700

Super 8
(800) 800-8000

Super Budget Inn
(800) 283-4678

Bed & Breakfasts

Albonee Country Inn
(816) 220-2820

Friends B&B
(816) 461-3820

Hawthorn, A B&B
(816) 252-2607

Ophelia's
(816) 461-4525

Serendipity
(800) 203-4299

Three Trails Inn
(816) 796-7037

Woodson Guesthouse
(816) 254-0551

Camping

Campus RV Park
(888) 254-3750

Shopping

Historic Independence Square
(816) 461-0065

7 Restaurants, 16 gift and specialty shops,
5 antique stores, historic sites, sleigh rides.

www.TheIndependenceSquare.com

Independence Center

I-70 and 291 Hwy. * (816) 795-0770

More than 110 stores, play area, food court.

www.independence-center.com

*Where History &
The Holidays Come Together!*

2009



Independence Tourism

(816) 325-7111 * (800) 748-7323

www.visitindependence.com

Homestyle Holidays in the Spirit of Christmas Past

The Spirit of Christmas Past Heritage Homes Christmas Package

Bingham-Waggoner Estate, Vaile Victorian Mansion and 1859 Marshal's Home. Homes open Nov 27-Dec 30; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon-Sat, 1 p.m.-4 p.m. Sun. Tour all three homes for just \$12. A four-site ticket includes National Frontier Trails Museum for \$16. Closed Dec 23-25. (816) 325-7111.

Bingham-Waggoner Estate

313 W. Pacific * (816) 461-3491

Enjoy "A Dickens of a Christmas" inspired by the endearing classic tale, "A Christmas Carol", by Charles Dickens. Even Scrooge would not say "Bah! Humbug!" to sweet holiday treats, spiced tea and coffee served in the third floor tea room. Stop by the Carriage House Gift Shop for beautiful one-of-a-kind gifts.

www.bwestate.org



Vaile Mansion

1500 N. Liberty * (816) 325-7430

The massive Mansion doors swing open to a vision of elegance and opulence creating the perfect setting for "A Victorian Christmas Wedding." A collection of wedding dresses will enhance the glowing ambiance of the home while over 50 trees, from 12 inches to 12 feet tall, will be adorned with thousands of lights and lavish ornaments, beads and garlands

www.vailemansion.org



1859 Marshal's Home & Jail

217 N. Main * (816) 461-1897

"Looking Back at a Frontier Christmas" at the Marshal's Home, enjoy the charming warmth of the 1850s home decorated with homemade wreaths, ornaments and ribbons.

www.jchs.org



National Frontier Trails Museum

318 W. Pacific * (816) 325-7575

9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Mon-Sat, 12:30-4:30 p.m. Sun

Enjoy the sights and sounds of "A Frontier Christmas" during December. Every Saturday before Christmas, cider and cookies available, pictures with Father Christmas, and live music and special programs. Most events free with regular admission.

www.frontiertrailsmuseum.org



Chicago & Alton Depot

318 W. Pacific * (816) 325-7955

Open Nov 28 & 29; Dec 5, 6, 12, 13, 19 & 20

Closed Dec 23-25, 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Sat, 12:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m. Sun

The oldest restored two-story depot in Missouri, this historic site is decorated for the holidays with wrapped presents in the luggage room and the stationmaster's quarters on the second level. Donations welcomed.

www.chicagoalton1879depot.com



1827 Log Courthouse

107 W. Kansas Ave. * (816) 325-7431 or (816) 325-7111

10 a.m.-2 p.m. Mon-Fri, Dec 1-Dec 30

Warm your hearts with the simple pleasure of a log cabin Christmas. Enjoy special guided tours, an occasional homemade cookie and spiced cider. Free admission.

December 6, 4-7 p.m.

Twilight Tours of the Three Historic Homes
An evening of special entertainment.

Presidential Holidays

Holiday Events 2009

Harry S Truman National Historic Site Visitor Center

223 N. Main * (816) 254-9929
Center open 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. daily
Nov 16-Jan 8, 2010



President Harry Truman called Christmas the "Great Home Festival" and he called Independence home. A special holiday exhibit at the Visitors Center features Truman Christmas memorabilia. \$4 ages 16 or older.

www.nps.gov/hstr

Harry S. Truman Library & Museum

500 W. 24 Highway * (816) 268-8200 or (800) 833-1225
9 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon-Sat; 12-5 p.m. Sun

Enjoy the holidays at the festively decorated Truman Library with the "Capture the Moment: Pulitzer Prize-Winning Photographs, 1942-2004" exhibit November 21, 2009 through January 24, 2010.



President Truman is home for the holidays Nov 27 & 28 and Dec 26 from 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. and Dec 27 from 1:30-3:30 p.m.
www.trumanlibrary.org

Historic Independence Square

111 N. Main * (816) 461-0065

Enjoy Christmas shopping at antique stores, one-of-a-kind and specialty shops on Historic Independence Square and have lunch at a quaint eatery.

www.theindependencesquare.com



Nov 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Dec 6, 13 & 20 — Free Organ Recitals, Community of Christ Temple

Sunday afternoons. Free. (816) 833-1000

Nov 1-Jan 2010 — Reflections of Christ, Mormon Visitors Center

9 a.m.-9 p.m. daily. 937 W. Walnut. Spectacular traveling exhibit featuring 27 large and small photographs on the life of Jesus Christ. Also, festively decorated indoor Christmas trees and twinkling lights on outdoor trees. Free. (816) 836-3466.

Nov 6-7 — Holiday Open House, Independence Square

10 a.m.-5 p.m. Over 30 shops offer specials and treats. Free. (816) 461-0065.

Nov 7 — Mayor's Tree Lighting, Independence Square

4-7 p.m. On Main between Maple & Lexington. Santa arrives at 4 p.m. Children choirs and caroling until 6. Mayor lights tree at 6 p.m. Free. Fee for sleigh rides. (816) 461-0065.

Nov 7 — Sleigh Rides with Pioneer Trails Adventures

2-7 p.m. Take a sleigh ride around Independence Square in a Missouri mule drawn sleigh. \$2. (816) 456-4991. The rest of the holiday season, rides by reservation only.

Nov 7-Dec 24 — Visit with Santa Claus at Independence Center

(816) 795-8600 for dates and times.

Nov 14 — Children's Workshop: Corn Husk Doll Making at Trails Museum

10 a.m.- noon. Make a corn husk doll just like American Indians and pioneer children used to make. \$10 per person. Advance reservations required. (816) 325-7575.

Nov 14-Dec 23 — "Nativities from Around the World" Display, Community of Christ Temple

Unique and handcrafted nativities and crèches on display. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon-Fri; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sat; 1-4 p.m. Sun. Free. (816) 833-1000.

Nov 14-Dec 24 — Santa's Winter Wonderland at Bass Pro

9 a.m.-7 p.m. Mon-Sat; 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Sun. Interactive play area where kids write a letter to Santa, make crafts, play in arcade, watch operating trains, and visit with Santa. Also, children can have picture taken with Santa, and receive free 5x7. Free. (816) 785-4300

Nov 15-Jan 8, 2010 — "Christmas with the Trumans" exhibit at Harry S Truman Home National Historic Site Visitor Center

8:30 a.m.-5p.m. daily. 223 N. Main. Features Truman Christmas memorabilia. Free. (816) 254-9929.

Nov 20-21 — Best Little Arts & Crafts Show, Sermon Center

10 a.m.-7 p.m. Fri; 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sat. Over 120 booths featuring original crafts, candles, Christmas décor and more. Free. (816) 325-7370.

Nov 21-Jan 24, 2010 — "Capture the Moment: Pulitzer Prize- Winning Photographs, 1942-2004" Exhibit at Truman Library

(800) 833-1225 or (816) 268-8200.

Nov 27–28 — Visits with Harry Truman at Truman Library
10-2:30 p.m. Photo opportunities available. (816) 268-8200.

Nov 27–Dec 30 — “Spirit of Christmas Past” Homes Tours
10 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon-Sat; 1-4 p.m. Sun (closed Dec 23-25). Bingham, 313 W. Pacific; Marshal’s Home, 217 N. Main; and Vaile, 1500 N. Liberty. \$12/3 sites or \$5 adults, \$2 children at each site. (816) 325-7111.

Nov 28 — Handel’s Messiah, Community of Christ Auditorium
8 p.m. Enjoy the 93rd annual performance of the Independence Messiah Choir with the Kansas City Symphony. For tickets, call (816) 471-0400.

Nov 28, 29, Dec 5, 6, 12, 13, 19, 20 — Christmas at Chicago & Alton Depot
9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Sat; 12:30-4:30 p.m. Sun. Festive decorations throughout the restored historic Depot. Donations welcomed. (816) 325-7955.

Nov 30 — Night Before Christmas Carol at Midwest Genealogy Center
Performance by renowned Dickens scholar, David zum Brunner, portraying 17 Christmas characters and Charles Dickens. 10 a.m. Reservations required. 3440 S. Lee’s Summit Road. (816) 252-7228.

Dec 1–30 — 1827 Log Courthouse Christmas
10 a.m.-2 p.m. Mon-Fri. Cookies & spiced cider offered while touring. Free. (816) 325-7111.

Dec 1–Jan 15, 2010 — Holiday Customs and Traditions Exhibit at Genealogy Center
Display of holiday customs and traditions as seen thru various cultures and eras. Free. 3440 S. Lee’s Summit Road. (816) 252-7228.

Dec 3 — Young Matrons Holly & Mistletoe Tours
10 a.m.-8 p.m. Tour four homes & a church all decorated for the holidays. \$10 in advance; \$12 at the door. For tickets, call (816) 373-8558.

Dec 5 — Mayors Christmas Carnival
10 a.m.- noon. Sermon Center, Truman & Dodgion Rds. Clowns, carnival games, face painting and more fun activities. Free. (816) 325-7370.

Dec 5 — Visitor Appreciation Day at Trails Museum
10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free wagon rides with regular admission, cider and cookies; 10 a.m.-1 p.m. picture with Father Christmas; and 1:30-4 p.m., enjoy live music. (816) 325-7575.

Dec 5 — Laura Ingalls Wilder Remembers Christmases Past, NFTM
11 a.m. Nancy Eppert, as Laura, shares memories of Christmases of her childhood. \$7 adults, \$5 students 6-12. Reservations required. (816) 325-7575.

Dec 5, 12, 19, 26 — “Holly Follies” Puppet Show, Puppetry Art Institute
11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Puppeteer: Kraig Kensinger. Get in the holiday spirit with music and happy puppets. \$5 per person. (816) 833-9777.

Dec 6 — Twilight Tours of Historic Homes
4-7 p.m. Bingham-Waggoner, Marshal’s Home, and Vaile Mansion welcome visitors for an evening of special entertainment; enjoy a bell choir at Vaile; music, refreshments and your favorite Dickens characters at Bingham. \$12/3sites or \$5 adults and \$2 children 6-17 at each site. (816) 461-3491.

Dec 6 — Independence Community Christmas Concert at the Auditorium
Area grade schools, high schools, and Spirit of Independence Community Concert Band. Freewill offering. Call Liz at (816) 836-8189.

Dec 12 — Crazy Quilt Christmas Boot, NFTM
10 a.m.-1 p.m. Crafter Sharron Gregg teaches the art of crazy quilt in Christmas colors. Bring your own needles, thimble, and scissors. \$25 per person. Advance reservations required. (816) 325-7575.

Dec 12 — Celebrate the Holidays at Trails Museum
10 a.m.-4 p.m. Cider and cookies; 10 a.m.-1 p.m. picture Father Christmas; and 1:30-4 p.m., enjoy live music. (816) 325-7575.

Dec 12 — Christmas at the White House at Truman Library
11 a.m. Archivist David Clark presents the Truman family’s celebration of Christmas at the White House using photographs, letters, Christmas cards and sound recordings. In the Francis Families Theater. (816) 268-8200 or (800) 833-1225.

Dec 12 — In Search of Christmas Past, NFTM
2 p.m. Richard Edwards, Education Coordinator at the Trails Museum, gives an illustrated talk on 19th century origins of many familiar Christmas traditions. Advance reservations. (816) 325-7575.

Dec 13 — Advent Worship, Community of Christ Temple
7 p.m. Free. (816) 833-1000.

Dec 17 — “The Christmas Music of Mannheim Steamroller” at Independence Events Center
8 p.m. Tickets \$22 to \$65 (plus handling and service fees). (866) 443-8849.

Dec 18 — “A Charlie Daniels Band Christmas” at Independence Events Center
7:30 p.m. Tickets \$30 to \$50 (plus handling and service fees). (866) 443-8849.

Dec 19 — Celebrate the Holidays at Trails Museum
10 a.m.-4 p.m. Cider and cookies; 10 a.m.-1 p.m. picture with Father Christmas; and 1:30-4 p.m., enjoy live music. (816) 325-7575

Dec 19 — Lewis & Clark Celebrate Christmas, NFTM
2 p.m. John Mark Lambertson, NFTM Director, recounts the story of Christmases Lewis & Clark and the Corps of Discovery shared during their journey across the continent. Free with regular admission. Advance reservations requested. (816) 325-7575.

Dec 22–24 — Holiday Ice Skating at Independence Events Center
Enjoy community ice sheets. Time and prices TBD. 866-443-8849

Dec 26–27 — Visits with Harry Truman at Truman Library
10-2:30 p.m. Dec 26; 1-3:30 p.m. Dec 27. photo opportunities available. (816) 268-8200.

Dec 30 — Children’s Event: Pack Your Wagon at Trails Museum
10-11:30 a.m. Pack a wagon, explore the museum, enjoy refreshments and make a craft. \$5, advance reservations required. Limit 15. (816) 325-7575.