

Holiday memories: Over the river to Greenfield Village ...

Dearborn, Michigan—

Over the river and through the woods ... to Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village we go! Grandmother's house isn't the only place to find all of the traditional sights, sounds, and smells of the joyous yuletide season.

Celebrate *The Holidays*, a season of festive activities, demonstrations, and displays at the Dearborn historical complex observes holiday traditions spanning three centuries, Nov. 29 through Jan. 1 (except Christmas Day).

In Henry Ford Museum, an atmosphere of merriment will prevail. A Christmas tree, stretching to the nearly 40-foot ceiling, will be decked with assorted toys and stuffed animals and surrounded by scores of bright red

poinsettia plants.

Victorian doll houses will be nestled amid softly twinkling Christmas trees, and Santa Claus (with his load of peppermint sticks) will be waiting to hear the Christmas wishes of each girl and boy.

Young and old will watch in wonderment as the fantasy toy train -- equipped with a tiny camera that broadcasts an "engineer's-eye view" -- travels through a village of gingerbread houses and favorite holiday surprises including colorful candy and toys.

The homelands of visitors from all over the world will be identified on a world map as each visitor personalizes a link of paper and adds it to a giant paper chain in the museum concourse.

A heartwarming "Visions of



TURN OF THE CENTURY CHRISTMAS— Selected Greenfield Village buildings and their costumed staff will welcome visitors with the warmth of holiday activities from a bygone era.

Christmas" display will feature a collection of family celebration photos from various time periods. Visitors are encouraged to add to the collection by bringing their favorite holiday snapshots.

In adjacent Greenfield Village, "the horse knows the way to carry the sleigh" and visitors can take a merry ride (weather permitting) as selected

historic buildings, filled with the smell and warmth of crackling wood fires, welcome them in with the spirit of the holidays.

In the house where Henry Ford was born, visitors can see the Sunday parlor decorated for the season, with greenery lining the mantel and a Christmas tree trimmed with candles.

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... Through the woods to 1836 settlement

Noblesville, Indiana—

Crisp snow crunches while visitors walk through the candlelit path leading to a small 19th century village twinkling with candles. Lanterns light up the homes and businesses of the village residents who welcome each guest and share their stories of the holidays.

Become a guest in the 19th century during Conner Prairie by Candlelight, Dec. 6-23.

Ninety-minute tours leave for Conner Prairie's 1836 Village of Prairietown every 10 minutes from 5:50 to 8:20 p.m. each evening.

Stop and chat with village residents as they explain their holiday beliefs. Some families decorate and prepare a lavish feast for this holiday while others think celebrating Christmas is "pure foolishness." In 1836, there were no Christmas trees or Santa Claus, and very little gift giving.

Governor Noble's Eating Place will serve a special holiday buffet overflowing with sliced roast turkey, carved roast beef, cranberry sauce and much more to please the taste buds.

As a special holiday bonus, tour the Festival of Gingerbread exhibit at no extra charge. More than 100 "edible" homes will fill the Weaver Gallery for this exhibition and competition. House creators will compete for cash prizes and ribbons in categories of youth, teens, adults and professional bakers and chefs.

A unique "Money House," decorated with more than \$200 cash, will be won by one of the visitors who correctly guesses the house's value.

Tour cost is \$8 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and younger. The buffet at Governor Noble's Eating Place is \$12.09 for adults and \$6.50 for children 12 and younger, plus tax and gratuity.

Special group rates are available. Tour and buffet reservations can be made by calling 317-773-0666.

Overnight packages are offered at the Waterfront Inn, located on the Lake in nearby Cicero, Indiana, and at the Quality Inn in Castleton starting at \$100 for two adults. Call the reservations number for more information.



SIMPLE CELEBRATION— The lighting of candles signifying the birth of Christ is sufficient celebration for some Village of Prairietown residents.

Noblesville is located about 10 miles north of Indianapolis and is accessible via Interstate 65 or Interstate 69.

Conner Prairie, an Earhart museum, is accredited by the American Association of Museums and is located six miles north of Interstate 465 at 13400 Allisonville Rd.



BEFORE THE CHRISTMAS TREE— Greenery on the mantel was the closest thing early Indiana settlers had to a Christmas tree. Conner Prairie by Candlelight, Dec. 6-23, is an opportunity to tour the recreated 1836 village.