KANSAS CITY HOLIDAY GUIDE 2026

NOVEMBER + A BRANSON CHRISTMAS GETAWAY

Christmas Lights • Holiday Markets • Shows • Family Fun



SHOWS | LIGHTS | MARKETS | TREE LIGHTINGS | FAMILY FUN | BRANSON + NEARBY

Your Guide to Festive Magic This Season

ThingsToDoInKC.com

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS & MAGIC

The most dazzling holiday displays in Kansas City + nearby



Crown Center Ice Terrace ↗

Opens Fri, Nov 6 | Sun–Thu 10 AM–9 PM

Fri–Sat 10 AM–11 PM | Thanksgiving 3–10 PM

Crown Center Square | Outdoor ice skating.



Holiday Reflections at Union Station ↗

Nov 20, 2026 – Jan 4, 2027 | 10 AM–8 PM

Daily except Nov 26 (closed)

30 W. Pershing Rd. | Lights and model trains.



GloWild at Kansas City Zoo ↗

Throughout Nov | Wed–Sun 5:30–10 PM

Holidays begin Nov 4 | Check calendar

6800 Zoo Dr. | Glowing animal lanterns.



Evergy Festival of Lights ↗

Nov 19–22 & 27–29 | 5–10 PM

Powell Gardens | Kingsville, MO

Walk-through illuminated garden trails.



Christmas in the Park ↗

Nov 25 – Dec 31 | Sun–Thu 5:30–10 PM

Fri–Sat 5:30–11 PM | FREE

3901 SW Longview Rd., Lee's Summit.

ThingsToDoInKC.com

MARKETS & TREE LIGHTINGS

Holiday shopping, festive strolls, and magical seasonal traditions

Country Club Plaza Lighting Ceremony ↗

DATE Thu, Nov 26, 2026 | Ceremony time TBA

PLACE Country Club Plaza, Kansas City, MO

A beloved Thanksgiving-night lighting tradition.

Holiday Swing at Union Station ↗

DATE Sat–Sun, Nov 21–22 | 10 AM–6 PM

PLACE Union Station, 30 W. Pershing Rd., Kansas City

FREE European-style market of local artists and makers.

Merry Market at City Market ↗

DATE Sat–Sun, Nov 28–29 | 10 AM–4 PM

PLACE City Market, Kansas City, MO

FREE open-air market with local gifts and handmade goods.

Hallmark Christmas Market ↗

DATE Fri–Sun, Nov 27–29 | Fri–Sat noon–9 PM

PLACE Crown Center Square | Sunday noon–7 PM

FREE holiday market, festive food and Christmas cheer.

Mayor’s Christmas Tree Lighting ↗

DATE Fri, Nov 27, 2026 | 6 PM | FREE

PLACE Crown Center Square, Kansas City, MO

Tree lighting, music and fireworks finale.

ThingsToDoInKC.com

HOLIDAY SHOWS & LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
IN KANSAS CITY



Garth Brooks
Nov. 6 & 7, 2026 | 8:00 PM
T-Mobile Center, Kansas City, MO
A legendary country icon live in Kansas City!



Brandi Carlile
Nov. 22, 2026 | 8:00 PM
Uptown Theater, Kansas City, MO
A Grammy-winning artist known for powerful themes and an unforgettable live show.



The Nutcracker
Nov. 28–29, 2026 (continues in December)
Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, KC, MO
A beloved holiday classic with stunning dance and music.



A Christmas Carol
Nov. 21 – Dec. 24, 2026
KCRep, Spencer Theatre, Kansas City, MO
The timeless holiday story brought to life on stage.



Holiday Reflections & Mini Holiday Express
Nov. 20, 2026 – Jan. 4, 2027
Union Station, Kansas City, MO
A festive walk-through experience with dazzling decorations and a charming model train display.



Santa Visits at Destination North Pole
Nov. 27 – Dec. 24, 2026
Crown Center, Kansas City, MO
FREE visits and photos with Santa in a magical holiday setting.

Festive Performances & Family Fun in Kansas City

ThingsToDoInKC.com

BRANSON CHRISTMAS GETAWAY

A festive weekend escape from Kansas City



Branson Adoration Parade ↗

DATE Sun, Dec. 6, 2026 | 5 PM ceremony

TIME Parade approx. 5:30 PM | Downtown Branson

Lighted floats, bands and Christmas tradition.



The Polar Express Train Ride ↗

DATE Nov. 12–30 | Select November dates

TIME Departures: 4:25, 6:10 & 7:55 PM*

Festive train ride, cocoa and Santa visits.



An Old Time Christmas ↗

DATE Nov. 7, 2026 – Jan. 2, 2027

TIME Silver Dollar City | Hours vary by date

6.5 million lights, shows and a parade.

Branson Christkindlmarkt ↗

DATE Nov. 27–29 | FREE | 4562 Gretna Rd.

TIME Fri 4–8 PM | Sat 12–8 | Sun 1–6

German-style Christmas market & festive treats.



Branson Landing Tree Lighting ↗

DATE Sat, Nov. 7, 2026 | 7:30–8:30 PM

TIME Branson Landing | Town Square

Holiday tree lighting and seasonal festivities.

Perfect for a festive getaway about 3 hours from KC.

ThingsToDoInKC.com

This season,
take time for what matters most —
time together, shared traditions,
and the people you love.

ThingsToDoInKC.com