

For Immediate Release

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Make the Holiday Season Shine in the San Juan Islands

FRIDAY HARBOR, WA... If smiling is your favorite, then the approaching holiday season is a perfect time to get away from traffic-jammed parking lots and monotonous big-box stores. This year, savor the holiday spirit in the beautiful San Juan Islands with winter forest hikes, festive drinks by the fire, a great meal with stunning views, and nostalgic small-town traditions.

Shop local and support small businesses, creative makers, and island entrepreneurs this holiday season! And in the San Juan Islands, it's easy to meet the artisans who create the art, crafts, foods and more. Whether it's the <u>Solstice Mercantile</u> at the Orcas Island Winery, or the <u>Old-Fashioned Christmas Market</u> at Brickworks in Friday Harbor.

From Thanksgiving through New Year's Day, a festive lineup of <u>Holiday Events and Specials</u> offer plenty of ways to keep friends and families busy, from holiday plays and concerts to wine tastings and dinners, special restaurant and lodging packages, and more. Three tree lighting ceremonies in Eastsound Village Green, Lopez Village, and Friday Harbor will brighten up the chilly nights, with carolers, cookies, hot cider, and good cheer. Escape the mainland's rush and discover island time.

Friday Harbor/San Juan Island Events:

Island Lights Festival, December 1 Old-Fashioned Holiday Market, December 8-10 Omnium Gatherum, December 21-24 Orcas Island Events Warm Valley Winter Faire, December 1-3 Solstice Mercantile, December 2-3 Winter Artisan Market, December 8-10 Lopez Island Events Village Gathering and Holiday Lighting, November 24 Find more suggestions for a <u>Cozy Island Holiday</u> at <u>www.visitsanjuans.com</u>.

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