Staying in Liverpool Over the Christmas Vacation - December 2017

International Advice and Guidance
Joanne Bainbridge Thompson
Aims of this session

• What to expect over Christmas/winter vacation
• An idea of a traditional British Christmas
• Practical tips
• Things to see and do in the vacation period
What is Christmas like in the UK?

• Family and friends
• Relax
• Going out
• Food and drink
• Decorations
• Presents
• Time for celebration
Important dates and what happens

• Christmas Eve – 24th December
• Christmas Day – 25th December
• Boxing Day – 26th December
• New Year’s Eve – 31st December
• New Year’s Day – 1st January
Shop opening hours

- Restricted opening times over Christmas and New Year
- May be closed on Christmas day
- Times usually displayed on poster at entrance
- If order food online, Christmas delivery slots book up early
- Plan ahead - have enough food to last a few days
- Find local shop that is open in case you run out of anything
Liverpool ONE
Christmas/New Year opening times

• Monday 11 December – 9.30am-9pm
• Tuesday 12 December – 9.30am-9pm
• Wednesday 13 December – 9.30am-9pm
• Thursday 14 December – 9.30am-9pm
• Friday 15 December – 9.30am-9pm
• Saturday 16 December – 9am-8pm
• Sunday 17 December – 11am-5pm
• Monday 18 December – 9am-9pm
• Tuesday 19 December – 9am-9pm
• Wednesday 20 December – 9am-9pm
• Thursday 21 December – 9am-9pm
• Friday 22 December – 9am-9pm
• Saturday 23 December – 9am-8pm
• Sunday 24 December – 11am-5pm
• **Monday 25 December – CLOSED**
• Tuesday 26 December – 10am-6pm
• Wednesday 27 December – 9.30am-8pm
• Thursday 28 December – 9.30am-8pm
• Friday 29 December – 9.30am-8pm
• Saturday 30 December – 9am-7pm
• Sunday 31 December – 11am-5pm
• Monday 1 January – 11am-5pm
• Tuesday 2 January – 9.30am-8pm
Tesco (Brownlow Hill) opening times

**Liverpool Brownlow Hill Express**

Open until 11pm

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Opening Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Today</td>
<td>6am - 11pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tomorrow</td>
<td>6am - 11pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 8th Dec</td>
<td>6am - 11pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 9th Dec</td>
<td>6am - 11pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 10th Dec</td>
<td>6am - 11pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 11th Dec</td>
<td>6am - 11pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 12th Dec</td>
<td>6am - 11pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bank holiday opening times</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 24 Dec</td>
<td>6am - 10pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christmas Eve</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 25 Dec</td>
<td>Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christmas Day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 26 Dec</td>
<td>8am - 10pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 31 Dec</td>
<td>6am - 10pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Year’s Eve</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 1 Jan</td>
<td>8am - 10pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Year’s Day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6-10 The Foundation, Liverpool, Liverpool, L3 5UB

0345 675 7025

[Enlarge map] [Get store directions]
Buses and trains

- Reduced services
- Busy!
- www.merseyrail.org

Summary of changes over the Christmas period:

- Train services finish early on Christmas Eve
- There are no trains running on Christmas Day
- Trains will run to selected stations on Boxing Day - click here for details
- Train services finish early on New Year’s Eve
- Between Wednesday 27 - Friday 29 December and New Year’s Day a Saturday service will run, therefore additional peak trains will not run.
- From Wednesday 27 December until Sunday 7 January a rail replacement bus service will run between Maghull & Ormskirk. This is to assist with preparation for Maghull North station.
- On Wednesday 27 December additional Lime Street Upgrade work will take place. A revised timetable will be in operation between Southport & Hunts Cross, click here for more information.

Last Trains on Christmas Eve and New Years Eve

Train services will finish early on Christmas Eve and New Years Eve, the last train times for Sunday 24th and Sunday 31st December are shown in the timetables below:
Taxis and cabs

• Increased fares
  ▪ Usual hourly rate plus 50% extra = “Time and a half”
  ▪ Usual hourly rate plus 100% extra = “Double time”
  ▪ Over Christmas: 24^{th} December–27^{th} December
  ▪ Over New Year: 31^{st} December–2^{nd} January
  ▪ Customary to tip the driver 10%, especially at Christmas
In the lead up to Christmas...

- City centre busy with shoppers
- Increase of drunken people!
- Busy/disruption public transport
University opening hours

• Term ends Friday 15 December
• University closes at 5pm Friday 22 December 2016
• Re-opens on Tuesday 2 January 2017
• Exam period begins 8 January-26 January
The Library

• Closed 24 & 25 & 26 December
• http://libguides.liverpool.ac.uk/hours
Sport and Fitness Centre

• Closes at 8pm on Thursday 21 December 2017
• Reopens at 7am on Tuesday 2 January 2018
• Reduced hours until 8 January 2018
International Advice and Guidance

• Last drop-in is Friday 22\textsuperscript{nd} December 1:30-3:30pm
• Re-open Tuesday 2 January 2018
• In an emergency, call University security 0151 794 2222
If you have an accident/emergency

• Call **999** if it is a **serious emergency**
  – Serious injuries, unable to get to hospital
  – Serious crime

• Call **101** for police **non-emergencies**

• Royal Liverpool University Hospital (RLUH), London Road – “A&E” Accident and Emergency e.g. fallen and broken arm
If you are ill

• Chemist/pharmacist
  – find nearest branch https://beta.nhs.uk/find-a-pharmacy/

• GP – if you are registered with Brownlow Group Practice
  http://www.brownlowhealth.co.uk/

• If you are not registered with Brownlow Group Practice - seek
  information from your GP

• Walk-in Centres (City Centre/Old Swan/Garston, South
  Liverpool):
  http://www.liverpoolcommunityhealth.nhs.uk/health-
  services/walk-in-centres/

• Call 111 for NHS Direct - health advice and information 24
  hours a day
Keep warm

• Hat, scarf, mittens/gloves
• Lots of layers and ‘thermals’ (special warm underwear)
• Waterproof clothes and footwear
• At home:
  – Blankets
  – Thicker duvet (15 tog is highest)
  – Hot water bottle
  – Lots of hot drinks (carry flask)
• Primark, Matalan, supermarkets e.g. Asda, Tesco

£2.99
Home Bargains

Ladies’ thermal top and thermal leggings £7 each
– George (Asda)
If it snows...stay safe!

• Pavements can get icy – wear ice grips

• If you have a car:
  – avoid driving!
  – keep de-icer, ice-scraper, a blanket, a torch and a flask containing a hot drink in the car

• If you will be away from your accommodation, remember to leave the heating on low to avoid pipes freezing and bursting

• Check weather and special weather warnings: www.bbc.co.uk/weather
Places to go/events in Liverpool
http://ch.visitliverpool.com/christmas/whats-on-in-liverpool
Liverpool Christmas Markets

Location: Outside St George’s Hall, opp. Lime St.
Date: Now until Friday 22nd December is last day!
Time: 11am-9pm
40 traditional festive cabins
“Follow the trail of local landmarks transformed by dazzling lights, swirling soundscapes and interactive illustrations and see sculptural snowflakes decorated by some of the region’s most exciting visual artists. Pick up a trail map from participating retailers and solve the simple clue to win incredible prizes this Christmas.”
Liverpool Ice Festival

• Ice skating
• Ice slide - 30 metre slides 6 metres above park
• Ice bar & Après Lodge – ice sculptures, hot chocolate and mulled wine

Location: Pier Head
Date: Now until 7th January
Time: Various times, daily
Info: [http://www.icefestivalliverpool.co.uk/](http://www.icefestivalliverpool.co.uk/)
Pantomimes

- Cinderella – Liverpool Empire
- The Little Mermaid – Liverpool Everyman
- Peter Pan – Epstein Theatre
- For further details search: name of the theatre + Liverpool + pantomime
The Philharmonic Hall
http://www.liverpoolphil.com/whats-on

- The Spirit of Christmas (traditional British Christmas concert with Philharmonic Choir)
- It’s A Wonderful Life (old Christmas film)
Carol Services

- [www.liverpoolcathedral.org.uk/home/events-calendar.aspx](http://www.liverpoolcathedral.org.uk/home/events-calendar.aspx)

- [http://www.liverpoolmetrocathedral.org.uk/event-calendar/](http://www.liverpoolmetrocathedral.org.uk/event-calendar/)
Be a tourist!

• Sightseeing in Liverpool
  – Inside Metropolitan cathedral
  – Up to the top of Anglican cathedral
  – Up to the top of St. John’s tower
  – Ferry across the Mersey
  – Free museums and galleries
    http://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/

Website: www.visitliverpool.com
Email: info@visitliverpool.com
Guild of Students

Check out the Guild of Student’s website for their top tips and events:

https://www.liverpoolguild.org/main-menu/events/christmas
University Chaplains

If you follow a religion get in touch with the chaplains for the university and find out about any activities on offer:

https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/hr/diversityandequity/faithfacilities/
Things to do
Get part-time job

• Can work full-time during vacation period (unless Masters)
• See our website
• Careers website
Study!

– Study with friends
– Revise
– Get organised for the new term
– Improve your English
Have your own British ‘Christmas day’ with friends

• Christmas tree with lights and baubles
• Cook Christmas dinner
  http://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/category/christmas-dinner
• Queen’s speech – 3pm Christmas Day
• Exchange gifts
Things to do: Ideas

• Seek opportunities to practise your English
• Keep a journal and photographs/blog
• Volunteer
• Watch some Christmas films
Christmas films!
Woolton cinema www.wooltonpicturehouse.com

• It’s a Wonderful life (1946)
• Miracle on 34th Street (1947/1994)
• The Snowman (1982)
• Gremlins (1984)
• Die Hard (1988)
• Scrooged (1988)
• Home Alone (1990)
• The Muppets Christmas Carol (1993)
• The Nightmare before Christmas (1993)
• Elf (2003)
• Arthur Christmas (2011)
• Love Actually (2003)
Travel in the UK

Visit Chester, Manchester, Leeds, York, London, Wales, Edinburgh, Scotland

- Train - www.thetrainline.com
- Coach - www.nationalexpress.com/home.aspx
- Megabus - www.megabus.com
Keep in touch

• Set up WhatsApp group
• Share ideas
• Post what you are doing
• Organise your own events
• Invite others to join in
• Ask if you can join in
Tell us what you have done!

• Send us your journal/link to blog
• Photographs
• Put photos on Instagram/twitter - @livuniswag
• Give us feedback for next year’s workshop

Season’s Greetings!