

Once upon a time at Christmas, an event by the Mairie d'Orléans

29 NOVEMBER 2024

5 JANUARY 2025

CHRISTMAS MARKET Orléans



PLACE
DU MARTROI

PLACE
DE LA
RÉPUBLIQUE

PLACE
DE LOIRE



#Orléans     
www.orleans.fr



Orléans
Mairie

Once upon a time at Christmas, an event by the Mairie d'Orleans

Step into a magical Christmas fairy tale this year and travel to a fantasy land in the heart of Orleans. Magical stories await you on every street corner, so let your imagination take flight and spread the joy of Christmas. Take a walk through the pages of your favourite fairy tales at Place du Martroi. Each chalet has its own story to tell, set in a world of arts and crafts, with seasonal goodies to share and charming souvenirs to take home. Make your way to Place de la République, just a short stroll away, and follow in the footsteps of our elves, snowmen and, how could we forget, Santa Claus himself! Gourmet surprises, interactive events and unforgettable encounters await, sure to enthral visitors of all ages. Check out the wonder of the giant screen on another nearby square, Place de Loire. Our decors are inspired by classic Christmas films, so enjoy the ride into a fantasy world packed with enchanting activities to help you relive the magic of these timeless stories through our unique immersive trail.

Christmas Market opening dates

Place du Martroi:

From Friday 29 November to Sunday 29 December 2024.

Place de la République, Place de Loire and fairground rides:

From Friday 29 November 2024 to Sunday 5 January 2025.

Opening times

- Monday to Thursday and Sundays: 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- Fridays and Saturdays: 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.
- Tuesdays 24 and 31 December: 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Wednesdays 25 December and 1 January: 4 to 8 p.m.

Official opening of the Christmas Market

Saturday 30 November

The grand illuminated parade will light up the heart of the city as it journeys from Place Sainte-Croix to Place du Martroi

The parade will set off at 5:30 p.m.



Place du Martroi

UNTIL
SUNDAY
29 DEC.

Once upon a time at Christmas, **let's read a book!**

Traditional Christmas chalets

Find some unique and original gift ideas whilst enjoying a delicious wintry treat.

The Craft Chalets

Come and admire the work of new crafters at the Craft Chalets each week. Check out a range of unique and handmade items, designed with love and passion in 14 magical olde shoppes. Take this opportunity to pick up some locally crafted treasures, which make unforgettable gifts.

"Sustainable development" area: from Friday 29 November to Thursday 5 December

Step into a fairy tale where creativity meets sustainability, and discover some upcycled treasures. Discover the magic of recycling and repurposing in these chalets showcasing the social and circular economy: reclaimed materials, custom creations and upcycling are on show, all aimed at protecting the planet.

"Local artists" area: from Friday 6 December to Thursday 12 December

The Christmas Market will welcome 6 local artists for a week this year. Why not opt for an out-of-the-ordinary gift?

"Local producers" area: from Friday 13 December to Tuesday 24 December

Loiret producers await you with gourmet treats and treasures. Add the ideal final touch to your festive meals and pick up the perfect last-minute gift.

The Charity Chalet

Around twenty associations will take turns to share their community-driven initiatives with you. Generosity and kindness are the watchwords in this chalet, giving hope for all.

Let's keep this year's Christmas Market green: remember to return your eco-cups and re-usable containers!

Until 5 January 2025

Attractions on Place du Martroi

- Santa's sleigh:
€5 a ticket, €20 for 5 tickets
- The big wheel:
**Standard rate €6/
reduced rate €5 (under 10s)**
- Carousel:
€3 a ticket, €10 for 4 tickets

More information at
www.orleans.fr



Place de la République

UNTIL
5 JAN.
2025

Once upon a time at Christmas,
come and meet our festive characters!

Welcome to gourmet world, a place where emblematic Christmas characters such as Santa Claus and his elves will beckon you in to try their delicious handiwork and enjoy some festive treats.

Santa's grotto:

Where all children are invited to meet Father Christmas and tell him what's on their wish list this year.

- Friday 29 November from 4 to 7 p.m.
- Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays: from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m.

- Monday 23 December from 2 to 7 p.m.
- Tuesday 24 December from 2 to 4 p.m.

You can take your own photo or opt for a souvenir photo taken by a professional.

Price • €9

Hop on the "Sapin Merveilleux" ride and enjoy the flight around a giant Christmas tree bauble.

Price • €4

*Let's keep this year's Christmas Market **green**: remember to return your eco-cups and re-usable containers!*

FROM FRIDAY
29 NOV.
TO SUNDAY
5 JAN.

Place Sainte-Croix

Cathedral light show

Every evening from 5 p.m., the cathedral becomes the backdrop for an illuminated fairy tale.



Place de Loire

UNTIL
5 JAN.
2025

Once upon a time at Christmas, **let's go to the cinema!**

A travelling fantasy world

Embark on an immersive journey through scenes inspired by classic Christmas films, lined with magical decors and enchanting attractions and where beloved stories come to life! The magic of Christmas continues right up to Quais de Loire under a magnificent starry sky.

"Le petit train de Noël" ride

All aboard for a magical journey on the little Christmas train, ideal for your little ones. !

Price • €4



Festive treats

At Place de la Loire, stallholders will greet you with warmth and good cheer, serving chichis, waffles, mulled wine and more.

Fancy going up in the world?
If you head over to Jardin de la Charpenterie, take a look around and admire the bustle on Place de la Loire, lit up right below your eyes!

*Let's keep this year's Christmas Market **green**: remember to return your eco-cups and re-usable containers!*

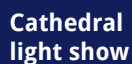
The Advent Calendar

play hide and seek with Jeannot

From Sunday 1 December to Tuesday 24 December, hunt for Jeannot, the cheekiest, most adorable elf on Santa's team! Every day, he hides in a shop window somewhere in Orleans, ready to be found at any moment. Keep an eye on his adventures, and if you happen to find him, you might win a great gift! Check out our website daily to take part.

More information at
www.orleans.fr







Christmas events



Fantastic beasts

By Elixir

You won't believe your eyes as you watch this enchanted fairy tale where mythical creatures come to life. Dancing horses and acrobatic birds will join you on a magic journey full of wonders and surprises. This one-of-a-kind performance combines drama, circus acts and dance. You'll also be captivated by the origami-inspired illuminated masks, contributing to a spectacle worthy of the most magical Christmas tales.

Saturday 30 November

from 5:30 p.m. – departing from Place Sainte-Croix, rue Jeanne d'Arc, rue Royale, and arriving at Place du Martroi.

Face painting

Kids' event

Visit the Christmas face painting workshop and decorate your face with fairy tale magic. Become a cheeky reindeer, a mischievous elf or sparkling Christmas tree to enjoy the wonder of Christmas to the full!

Wednesday 4 December

from 3 to 6 p.m. on Place de la République

Grand karaoke evening



Organised by C'est pas commun

Come along with friends or family and join in the grand karaoke evening in front of Santa's grotto. So you sing off-key? Who cares! Our two karaoke leaders are here to help you relax, sing your heart out and have fun with the mike.

Friday 6 December

from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Place de la République

The Book Men

By Keras

All aboard for a travelling show where the magic of books comes to life! Turn the pages of these enchanted tomes as they tell you stories from past and present. Have you ever been chased by a book who wanted to share its tale?

Wednesday 11 December

travelling the different streets and squares of Orleans city centre from 2:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.

International Christmas Jumper Day



Dance evening

with DJ Romain Verberque

All day long, come along with friends or workmates to show off your cutest (or ugliest) Christmas jumper!

When night falls, bring your evening to a close with a fun after-work dance party with a DJ, in front of Santa's grotto.

Friday 13 December

come and dance the evening away from 6 to 9 p.m. on Place de la République.

Christmas card workshop

By Atelier Pomme

Kids can create their own screen-printed Christmas card, to offer to someone or keep as a precious treasure.

Wednesday 18 December

from 3 to 6 p.m. on Place de la République

Gospel concert

With the Art Of Voice choir

Let the voices of this gospel choir carry you away under a starry sky, as the notes soar to illuminate your night and the melodies enchant your soul.

Friday 20 December

from 7:30 p.m.

on Place de la République

Competition: the best Santa's Ho Ho Ho!

Show us your best belly laugh and take part in Santa's Ho Ho Ho competition! No matter your age, come and join us for a merry moment filled with laughter. Got a hidden talent? Show us your best "Ho Ho Ho" and bring the family along for some fun!

Tuesday 24 December

*from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Place de la République
in front of Santa's grotto*

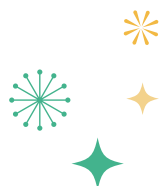
Traditional fairy tales set to music

By artists Bluemary Swing

Bluemary Swing will take you on a journey with a narrator and a musician, through a world of amazing stories. This whimsical and enchanting performance takes place in Santa's grotto, so come and hear the heart-warming tales told by these two artists.

Friday 27 and Saturday 28 and Sunday 29 December

from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Place de la République in Santa's grotto



The programme at a glance

DATES	TIMES	PERFORMANCES AND ACTIVITIES	SITES
Saturday 30 November	FROM 5:30 P.M.	Official opening of the Christmas Market Grand parade of music and light <i>Fantastic beasts</i>	THE PARADE SETS OUT FROM PLACE SAINTE-CROIX, ALONG RUE JEANNE D'ARC, RUE ROYALE, AND ARRIVES AT PLACE DU MARTROI
Wednesday 4 December	FROM 3 P.M. TO 6 P.M.	Christmas face painting	PLACE DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE
Friday 6 December	FROM 6 P.M. TO 9 P.M.	Grand karaoke evening <i>Organised by C'est pas commun</i>	PLACE DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE
Wednesday 11 December	FROM 2:30 P.M.	Travelling fairy tales <i>The Book Men</i>	TRAVELLING THE DIFFERENT STREETS AND SQUARES IN THE CITY CENTRE
Friday 13 December	FROM 6 P.M. TO 9 P.M.	International Christmas Jumper Day After-work dance party <i>with DJ Romain Verbeque</i>	PLACE DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE
Wednesday 18 December	FROM 3 P.M. TO 6 P.M.	Christmas card workshop <i>By Atelier Pomme</i>	PLACE DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE
Friday 20 December	FROM 7:30 P.M.	Gospel concert <i>With the Art Of Voice choir</i>	PLACE DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE
Tuesday 24 December	FROM 4 P.M. TO 5 P.M.	Santa's Ho Ho Ho competition	PLACE DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE, IN SANTA'S GROTTO
Friday 27, Saturday 28 and Sunday 29 December	FROM 2 P.M. TO 6 P.M.	Traditional fairy tales set to music <i>by Bluemary Swing</i>	PLACE DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE, IN SANTA'S GROTTO

Side events at the Christmas Market

Téléthon

Saturday 30 November

Place du Martroi

Support the Telethon from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.
with Orléans city council: stalls
and activities by AFM- Téléthon
and Compagnons du Devoir.

Celebration of the twinning programme with Lugoj, in Romania

Saturday 30 November

Salle Eiffel

From 2 p.m. to 3:20 p.m.

Puppet workshop

Do your kids have a creative streak?
Bring them to the puppet workshop
organised by Fine POATY. Age 3 and over.

From 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Romanian folk tales

All aboard for a fascinating journey
with Muriel Bloch, traveller and narrator.
Come along for the ride into a magical universe
with the story of "The Enchanted Pig" and other
Romanian folk tales. Open to all, age 7 and above.

From 4:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.: Round off your
afternoon in style with Romanian songs sung by
Marinéla Vantou.

Open to all.

*This day is held in partnership with the Marico
cultural space.*

Halles Châtelet

**From Sunday 1 December
to Monday 30 December**

The Halles Châtelet traders await you with events
and activities throughout the month of December.
Come and meet Father Christmas on 4 and 14
December, *from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.*, and on 20, 21,
22 & 23 December 2024, *from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.*
Not matter your age, meet Santa and have your
photo taken with him! Don't forget to come to the
cooking workshops on Saturday 7 December 2024

Christmas in Saint-Marceau

Friday 6 December

Botanical garden greenhouse
from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Come and have fun with Father Christmas
and post your wishes in his magical postbox,
specially set up so kids can share
all their Christmas dreams.

TOP CRECHE competition

**From Saturday 7 December
to Sunday 5 January**
Sainte-Croix cathedral

The 9th edition of the crèche exhibition, themed
"Nativity 2.0", reinvents the Nativity scene using
modern materials and vibrant colours.

Saint-Nicolas des Mariniers

Sunday 8 December

Quai du Châtelet, from 9:30 a.m.

Head to the Bateau Lavoir boat to celebrate
Saint Nicholas' Day. Organised by the
association Les Compagnons Chalandiers.

Christmas concert

at Orleans Cathedral

Saturday 14 December

Orleans cathedral, from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Christmas songs sung by the
Cathedral choirs (children and adults).
Free entry, no reservation required.

Christmas concert

**Saturday 21 December at 8:30 p.m.,
and Sunday 22 December at 4 p.m.**

Salle de l'Institut

The Orléans Symphonic Orchestra and the
Orléans Conservatoire Symphonic Choir invite
you to celebrate the magic of Christmas in
music.

Booking and ticket sales at the Bureau de l'Orchestre
(+33 (0)2 38 53 27 13, 6 rue Pothier, 45000 Orléans or
online at orchestre-orleans.com)

Fiesta Vélo

Throughout December

Fiesta Vélo organises night-time group bike tours through the city centre. Come along with friends, workmates or family for a great time. For more information, contact the Tourist Office.

Guided tours by the tourist office

Booking required at the Tourist Office or via the website.

> Guided tours

"Christmas in Orleans, History explained"

Saturday 30 November and 21 December

at 4 p.m. – Your guide will share some historical anecdotes related to the Nativity, with a visit of the nativity scene exhibition at Sainte-Croix cathedral. The tour ends with Christmas tea at a restaurant in the city centre!

Price: **€12.50**; duration: 90 min.

> Guided tours

"Christmas in Orleans: a tale told by 2 narrators"

Saturday 7 December

at 4 p.m. – Your guide Rod will share some historical anecdotes related to the Nativity, with a visit of the nativity scene exhibition at Sainte-Croix cathedral. Then Angélique, an outdoors guide, reveals the secrets of edible wild plants in winter. You'll end the tour ends by preparing a Christmas herbal tea!

Price: **€12.50**; duration: 2 hours

Christmas horse-drawn carriages in Orleans

Every day from

Thursday 26 to Sunday 29 December

Departures from 1:30 to 5 p.m.

in front of the Tourist Office

Admire the twinkling lights of the city as you ride in a horse-drawn carriage, for an enchanting festive experience.

Price: Adult **€8.50**,

Child (aged 3 to 10) **€6**,

Children under 3 go free; *lasts approx. 25 min.*

Loire river cruise

Every day from Sunday 22 December to Sunday 5 January

Departures from 10:45 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

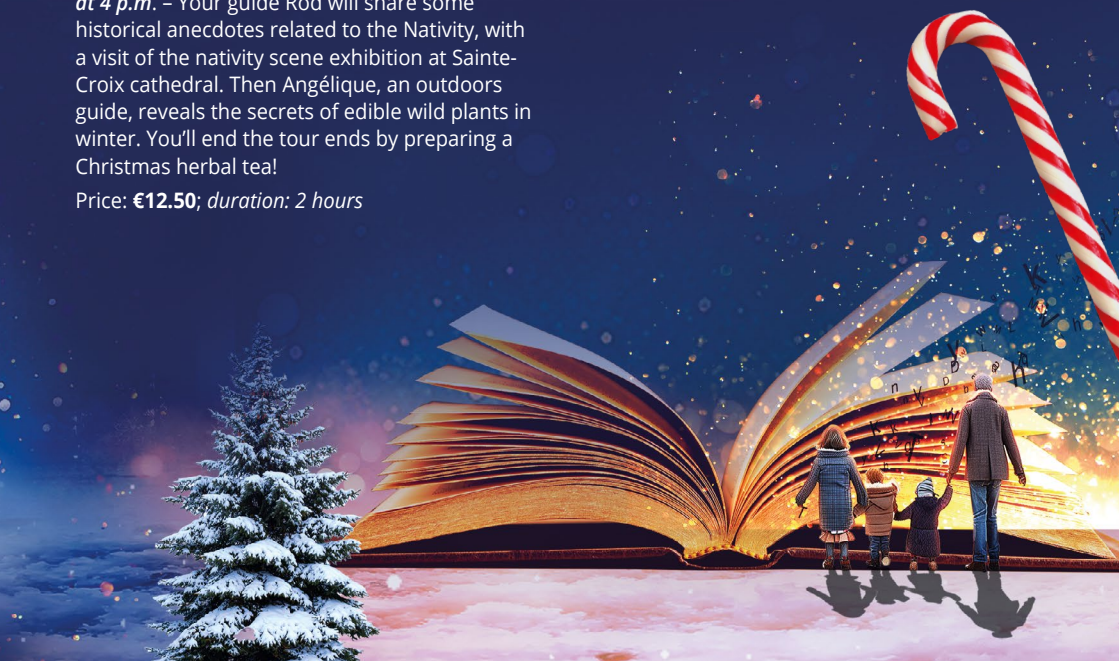
24 Quai du Fort Alleaume

Celebrate the magic of Christmas aboard EVURTIUS, an authentic flat-bottomed barge (or *toue sablière*), and unwind as you experience a unique, captivating and traditional adventure along the Orléans waterways.

Price: Adult **€9.50**,

Child (aged 3 to 10) **€6**,

Children under 3 go free; *lasts approx. 25 min.*



Shops
in **OR**léans

COMPETITION THE BEST CHRISTMAS SHOP WINDOW DISPLAY.

Vote!
for your favourite
shop window displays!

From Thursday 12 to Sunday 29 December
2024, at **www.orleans.fr**

discover the Christmas window displays of the shops of Orléans
and vote for your favourites!

When you vote in the competition, you will be entered into a prize
draw including all participants for a chance to win one of two
prizes! The winner will be drawn at the end of the competition.



**Vote for your
3 favourite
displays**



**YOUR CITY CENTRE SHOPS ARE OPEN
ON SUNDAYS 1, 8, 15 & 22 DECEMBER.**

Visit www.orleans.fr for terms and conditions
and information about the prizes.

