

'Tis the season to be jolly



Fishy feast: It's penguin-ing to look a lot like Christmas at London Zoo this year

MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR CHRISTMAS BREAK

ONCE the presents have all been opened and the wait for the New Year fireworks begins, there is still time to enjoy some seasonal treats in London. Here are a few suggestions, with advice on how to get there.

WINTER'S A DRAG

The Southbank Centre will be bringing some extra glitz and glamour to the festive season with its one-off Winter's a Drag event on December 29.

Running in the Clore Ballroom on the Royal Festival Hall's second level, expect a full afternoon of entertainment from some of London's finest drag kings and queens. Proceedings kick off at noon and admission is free. While you're there, check out the outdoor Wintertime market for plenty of mulled wine, hot chocolate and other treats.

How to get there: The nearest station is Waterloo (Bakerloo, Jubilee, Northern and Waterloo & City lines). Bus route RV1 stops outside the Southbank Centre, while numerous buses run to nearby Waterloo. Alternatively, the RB1 river bus service stops at London Eye Pier.

A MOMENT IN TIME

Christian Marclay's 2010 video installation *The Clock* is a simple but beguiling artwork that has enchanted millions.

The New York-based artist has taken clips from thousands of movies that depict clocks or reference time, and edited them together into a 24-hour-long montage that plays in real time.

The work is showing until January 20 at Tate Modern and admission is free (although donations are welcome). One for art lovers and movie buffs.

How to get there: Bus routes 381 and RV1 run nearby. Tate Modern is also a short walk from Southwark (Jubilee line) or Blackfriars (Circle or District lines) stations.

WINTER AT KEW

Kew Gardens is an awe-inspiring day out at any time of the year. However, it truly sparkles over the Christmas period when many of the famous glasshouses and gardens are illuminated with thousands of lights.

Visitors can take part in Tales and Trails - a family-friendly programme of activities. Expect outdoor theatre performances with Grimbert the Badger and Reynard the Fox, as well as storytelling and woodland walks. Tales and Trails runs from December 22 until January 6.

How to get there: Take the District line or London Overground to Kew Gardens station. Or bus route 65 stops outside the entrance.

LONDON ZOO

Perhaps not the most obvious destination in the depths of winter, London Zoo now celebrates the season with its own after-dark illuminated trail.

The one-mile twinkly path comes to life after the animals have gone to bed, and you can catch it until January 1.

Christmas at London Zoo also features a colourful penguin pool panorama, tunnel of light, sledge tree, 'magic mountain' and winter food offerings.

How to get there: The zoo is a 15-minute walk from Camden Town Tube (Northern line). Alternatively, go to Baker Street and catch the 274 bus. The C2 bus also stops nearby.

MAKE A MASK

Are your children getting cabin fever? Do you want to drag them away from their games console? The British Museum's mosaic mask making workshop, on Sunday December 30, is aimed at youngsters aged five and over.

Just drop in anytime between 11am and 4pm to be shown how to digitally design your own Aztec-inspired mask.

How to get there: Both Tottenham Court Road (Central and Northern lines) and Holborn (Central and Piccadilly lines) Tube stations are 500 metres away.

Plan your wintery adventure at tfl.gov.uk/travel-tools

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Family fun: Wrap up and connect with nature at Kew Gardens JEFF EDEN

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