



Conference & Visitors Bureau

NEWS

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For Immediate Release

October 8, 2009

2009 Solvang Julefest Celebration Event Highlights

~This Year's Theme is "Village of Music" Featuring Free Concerts and Caroling

Solvang, California, USA – The "Danish Capital of America" will transform into a Northern European-style Christmas village from November 20, 2009, through January 8, 2010, during Solvang's annual Julefest Celebration. This year's theme is "Village of Music" featuring free concerts, holiday musicals, street singers and caroling in Solvang Park's Gazebo complemented by many open houses at local businesses and special events taking place throughout the season.. As is tradition, Solvang will twinkle with thousands of sparkling white lights. All events are free and the public welcome.

More than 150 boutiques and specialty shops present everything from clogs to Danish porcelain to handmade lace, leather, iron art, jewelry, clothing, elegant antiques and collectibles, beautiful imported objects, vibrant arts and crafts, and colorful home furnishings. Five unique toy stores offer playful options for stocking stuffers and kids of all ages. More than a dozen wine tasting rooms provide seasonal cheer. The incredible variety makes Solvang a perfect destination to shop for unique holiday gifts while creating a holiday tradition.

Some Highlights of the 2009 Julefest include:

Friday, December 4, 2009

Julefest emerges with the annual **Tree-Lighting Ceremony**. Held in Solvang Park (Mission Drive & First Street) starting at 5pm, enjoy free musical entertainment, refreshments and caroling followed by the arrival of Old Saint Nick.

Saturday, December 5, 2009

The annual **Julefest Parade** begins at 11am featuring Santa and Mrs. Claus as Grand Marshalls this year. Entries include Danish dancers, musical groups, vintage vehicles, horses, carriages and animals. The parade originates at Old Mission Santa Ines (1760 Mission Drive), travels west on Mission Drive (Highway 246), turns left on Fourth Street, turns left on Copenhagen Drive, and ends on Alisal Road at the Post Office.

Saturday, December 12, 2009

The "Christmas Story" comes to life in the **Nativity Pageant** at the outdoor Solvang Festival Theater (420 Second Street). Enjoy a choir, actors in traditional costumes, and live animals on stage. There are two FREE performances at 5pm and 7pm., with seating on a first come, first entertained basis. (In the unlikely event of rain, performances will not be held.)

Friday, December 18, 2009

The **Winter Solstice Party** will feature candle lighting, carolers and singing to mark this special time of the year. Held in Solvang Park starting at 6pm, all ages are welcome to join this festive, free celebration.

For more detailed information about all events and a 2009 Julefest Program (available in mid-November), please visit www.SolvangUSA.com or call the Solvang Conference & Visitors Bureau at 1-800-468-6765 or 805-688-6144.

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The Solvang Conference & Visitors Bureau promotes the culture, cuisine, shopping, arts and attractions of the village known as the "Danish Capital of America," centrally located in Santa Barbara County, California.

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