

VENTURA HARBOR VILLAGE

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For Immediate Release

**CELEBRATE THE WONDER AND MAGIC OF THE HOLIDAYS
AND RE-DISCOVER THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR
AT HARBOR VILLAGE ON CALIFORNIA'S HIGHWAY 101
Festive Holiday Boat Parade, Winter Wonderland & Holiday Marketplace
Holiday Cruising, Seaside Shopping and Dining and a Waterfront Decked Out for the Season**

VENTURA, Calif. – Put a little sparkle in the season and celebrate the most wonderful time of the year by immersing in the sights, sounds and smells of holiday season at the festively adorned Ventura Harbor and Ventura Harbor Village with its seasonal events. A must on your holiday list is the 40th Annual Ventura Harbor Parade of Lights & Fireworks “Parks on Parade,” commemorating the National Park Service’s Centennial, and Winter Wonderland and Holiday Marketplace featuring Santa and Mrs. Claus, live reindeer, faux snow flurries, and Dickenson carolers clad in traditional costumes. The magic of the season comes alive this December 2016 at this seaside playground boasting year round sun and fun amid a California waterfront setting.

Shop Local on Small Business Saturday

November 26, 2016 - Kick off the season and shop 'til you drop and partake in “LOVE LOCAL–SHOP LOCAL!” when shoppers come together for the day in salute to *Small Business Saturday* and enjoy shopping at more than 16 shops that offer affordable and authentic items at Ventura Harbor Village amid a pedestrian-friendly village with fabulous waterfront dining. This national day allows local businesses to showcase their one-of-a-kind merchandise that benefits consumers and the community. Check out the Village’s newest shops, including The December Store & More for his handcrafted gifts; Lost in Socks for crazy, whimsical, themed socks for the whole family – baby, too; Island Creations for its tropical and Afro-Caribbean inspired clothing and accessories; and Mermaid Gallery for gorgeous oil paintings showcasing surfers, sandy beaches, and luminous blues and greens of the ocean.

Other great stores with unique finds for that someone special on your list are Barefoot Boutique (stylish and affordable fashions for women and a signature collection of “must have” handmade fashion jewelry), Beach Break Surf Shop (all things surf), Casa De Regalos (seas-inspired home décor, fun T-shirts, sweatshirts, women’s apparel, toys and jewelry), Channel Island National Park Gift Shop (books, memorabilia, postcards, stationary, board games, puzzles, posters and stuffed animals), Hats Unlimited(1,000 styles of hats for all occasions), Silhouettes By The Beach (professional hair/nail care and products), Treasure Cove (seafaring specialty gifts and collectibles), and Ventura Swimwear (bikinis, board shorts, cover-ups, beach towels, hats and jewelry). www.VenturaHarborVillage.com.

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Celebrate Traditions of the Past at European Christmas Marketplace

Halls will be decked, reminiscent of the European Christmas artisan marts, to greet visitors at the 1559 Courtyard in Ventura Harbor Village as it re-creates a quaint village atmosphere complete with twinkling lights, trees and festive carolers, all reminiscent of yesteryear. The sights, sounds and smells of the holidays will permeate the holiday townscape with homemade gingerbread and homemade fudge. The Courtyard will come alive with color stocking stuffers and one-of-a-kind gifts, from homemade jewelry and soaps at The December Store & More, distinctive paintings from local artists at the Harbor Village Gallery & Gifts, hand crafted pottery from Ventura County Potters Guild, paintings from the Mermaid Gallery and delicious confections from the Village Carousel & Arcade Candy Shop. The Marketplace will be held Saturday and Sunday over three weekends **December 3 & 4, 10 & 11, and 17 & 18**. Hours are **11 a.m. to 4 p.m.** www.VenturaHarborVillage.com.

Get on the Water in Style on a California Sleigh Ride

Share a little joy in a “one horse open sleigh California style” with Ventura Boat Rentals as they take visitors on a California Sleigh Ride cruise through Ventura Harbor. Ride aboard “The Dreamer” vessel decked out in holiday décor that takes patrons on a voyage to see the beautifully decorated boats and homes in the Ventura Harbor and Ventura Keys. Each one-hour cruise also allows guest to enjoy holiday music, complimentary hot cocoa and holiday cookies. Adults can also enjoy Ventura Boat Rentals famous specialty “Reindeer Milk” from the onboard bar. Choose between a **5:45 p.m. or 7:30 p.m.** departure times from **December 5-31, 2016**. Cost: \$16 adults, \$13 seniors and \$10 for children 12 years old and younger. Reservations Required. Call: 805-642-7753. www.Ventura Boat Rentals

Come Celebrate a Holiday Tradition with Island Packers

Take to the water in holiday style to view holiday lights with family and friends during Island Packers *Caroling Cruise* on select weekday evenings: **December 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 18, 19, 20, 21, and 23, 2016 - 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.** with optional on-board caroling. Advance reservations recommended and bring a scarf! - \$16 for adults, \$13 for seniors and \$10 for children. Call for Tickets 805-642-1393. www.IslandPackers.com.

Put Some Sparkle in The Holiday at Ventura Harbor Annual Boat Parade

Make merry and bright at the 40th Annual Ventura Harbor Parade of Lights & Fireworks set for **Friday and Saturday, December 16 & 17, 2016 - 6:30 p.m. - Parade, and 8 p.m.** Fireworks – Free to attend. Mark the calendar for an all-out holiday extravaganza at this annual “must-see” event. Themed, “**Parks on Parade,**” commemorating the National Park Service’s Centennial,” the event will feature beautifully decorated boats and nightly fireworks over the water. In conjunction with the annual event, children will delight in festive and fun carnival rides held on the main lawn during both nights. Make seaside dining reservations now to enjoy dinner with front row parade seating. On Saturday, December 16th watch Santa fly over in his sleigh at 6:30 p.m. as the parade kicks off. For Parade of Lights information, visit www.VenturaHarborVillage.com.

Revel in A Festive Winter Wonderland & Holiday Marketplace

Saturday, December. 17, 2016 – 1-5 p.m. - Free

Delight in holiday shopping, and wander through a festive village as part of the popular “Winter Wonderland & Holiday Marketplace” at *Ventura Harbor Village*. Come early for fun and festivities that includes faux snowfall every 15 minutes, visits with Santa & Mrs. Claus, two live reindeer, Dickenson carolers, holiday boutiques, carnival rides, and holiday crafts. The 40th Annual Parade of Lights & Fireworks to follow! www.VenturaHarborVillage.com.

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Celebrate Chanukah with A Special Seaside Festival

Sunday, December 26, 2016 – 2-4:30 p.m. - Free

Gather on the Ventura Harbor Village Main Lawn for a special Chanukah celebration, and enjoy live music, Judaica boutiques, hot latkes, and more. Everyone is invited to join the festivities – and it's free to all! Presented by Chabad of Oxnard. 805-382-4770. www.ChabadofOxnard.com.

About Ventura Harbor Village:

Located on scenic Highway 101, Ventura Harbor Village is 30 minutes South of Santa Barbara and one-hour North of Los Angeles. Ventura Harbor Village is a vibrant, working harbor village and fishing marina boasting 35 shops, galleries, restaurants and waterfront activities including a Village Carousel & Arcade, Comedy Club, Harbor Cove Beach and Surfer's Knoll Beach, dive and fishing boats, harbor tours, boat, kayak and peddle boat rentals, and a beautiful walking Promenade.

The Village offers Visitors an escape to a sun-kissed, seaside playground with transportation to and from the Harbor via the Ventura-Downtown Harbor Trolley, annual special events, live weekend entertainment, dog-friendly facilities, soft adventure, and spectacular sunset views of the Pacific coastline. Home to the Channel Islands National Park Visitor Center, (open seven days a week with free admission and parking and within walking distance to the Village), this coastal playground features its own viewing tower, exhibits and bookstore and is easy for travelers to visit the five islands right off the Ventura coast. It is here that visitors can experience world-class island diving, snorkeling, hiking, kayaking, sea cave exploration, photography, camping and wildlife viewing.

For visitor information, contact Ventura Harbor Village at 805-477-0470, online at www.VenturaHarborVillage.com, via fax at 805-644-1684. Ventura Harbor Village is located at 1583 Spinnaker Drive in Ventura.

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