

Charles County holiday trail keeps season's traditions alive

Posted by [TBN_Admin](#) On 11/20/2014

From Friday, Dec. 5 through Sunday, Dec. 7, the Charles County Holiday Trail will offer locals and visitors alike an opportunity to get into the holiday spirit, while visiting county landmarks. Admission costs, dates, and times vary with location. For more information and a detailed schedule, visit www.CharlesCountyHolidayTrail.com.

The following are featured locations:

- [African American Heritage Society](#) (7485 Crain Highway, La Plata) View the artifacts from the William A. Diggs collection and other items of historical significance that depict the African American experience in Southern Maryland and the nation.
- [Charles County Fair: Kris Kringle Christmas Market](#) (8440 Fairgrounds Road, La Plata) Enjoy holiday music, shopping, and tasty Christmas treats.
- [Christ Church Port Tobacco Parish](#) (110 Charles Street, La Plata) This parish existed in Port Tobacco as early as 1682 and showcases thirty one stained glass windows that grace the sanctuary and narthex. Some are by the famed Tiffany Glass Company.
- [Friendship House](#) (8730 Mitchell Road, La Plata) Enjoy holiday refreshments while touring one of the earliest surviving Maryland Tidewater dwellings that was rebuilt in La Plata.
- [Maryland Veterans Memorial Museum](#) (1000 Crain Highway, La Plata) See historical exhibits and artifacts at the museum while visiting a holiday Civil War encampment on its Patriot Park grounds.
- [Mattawoman Creek Art Center](#) (2750 Sweden Point Road, Marbury) Shop for something original to give for the holidays, unique handmade items will be available for purchase.
- [Maxwell Hall](#) (17388 Teagues Point Road, Hughesville) Enjoy live entertainment, refreshments, holiday greens demonstrations, and children's crafts. Maxwell Hall will be decorated for Christmas and the Daughters of the War of 1812 will be on site to answer House questions.
- [Mount Aventine, Chapman State Park](#) (3452 Ferry Place, Indian Head) Come enjoy the house, refreshments, nature walks, and the sounds of the season with performances from various music groups over the course of its two-day holiday celebration.

- Mount Carmel Monastery (5678 Mount Carmel Road, La Plata) Come and tour the historic monastery where the chapel was built in 1954. A gift shop is available with staff to answer any questions you may have.
- Port Tobacco Historic Village (8430 Commerce Street, Port Tobacco Village) Port Tobacco was settled in 1634, and was once Maryland's second largest seaport. Come and tour the Port Tobacco Courthouse, Burch House, and Stagg Hall.
- Serenity Farm (6932 Serenity Farm Road, Benedict) Visit a working farm featuring a live nativity. The farm will hold a short program featuring animals from the petting pen and a live telling of the Christmas Story. Come make a natural decoration for one of the 23 graves in the historic burial place of enslaved African-Americans dating from 1790-1810. A brief tour and decoration of the graves will take place.
- Smallwood Retreat House (2750 Sweden Point Road, Marbury) Tour General Smallwood's house decorated for the holidays, learn about cooking in Colonial times, and visit with costumed interpreters while indulging in holiday treats around the fire.
- St. Thomas Manor at St. Ignatius Catholic Church (8855 Chapel Point Road, Port Tobacco) St. Ignatius Parish is the oldest parish in the continuous existence in the United States. Founded in 1641, the current church was erected in 1798 and incorporates the old brick chapel built over 300 years ago.
- Thomas Stone National Historic Site (6655 Rose Hill Road, Port Tobacco) Enjoy a candlelight tour through the restored Haberdeventure conducted by costumed staff who will discuss the life of the Stone family during the midst of the revolution.

For information Holiday Trail locations, visit www.CharlesCountyHolidayTrail.com. For additional information about the event, contact Ms. Catherine Carroll at 301-396-5819, or by email at HerbertC@CharlesCountyMD.gov. Citizens with special needs, contact the Maryland Relay Service at 711, or Relay Service TDD: 800-735-2258.