

Press release



Experience Christmas at Haddon Hall

The hall will come alive with festive workshops, craft demonstrations and more

This festive season, Haddon Hall will come alive with *Experience Christmas*, with traditional crafts, rousing live music and an artisan market at the heart of its seasonal programme.

Craftsmanship has been integral to Haddon Hall over the centuries, and this Christmas, it pays homage to this with a fantastic and fun daily schedule of craft workshops and demonstrations. Traditional crafts feature prominently, with the likes of calligraphy with Jane Lappage, paper cutting with Alison Evans, Pom Pom Fairies with Ida Makes and Willow and Blossom Botanicals teaching the basics of candle making.

Those interested in floristry will have plenty of opportunities to try their hand at being green fingered. While Carol Hickman will showcase how to make Christmas bouquets, Sally Smith will demonstrate how to make natural organic wreaths from hedgerows and garden materials and Kindred and Kind will talk visitors through how to make a beautiful Scandinavian wreath using wild winter foliage, eucalyptus, rosemary and pine, with fir cones and seed heads.

There are also plenty of workshops and demonstrations to help with preparations for the festive season. As well as making fragrant pomanders with the Haddon team, there'll be festive baking by Fed by Ned and cocktail mixology by Monk Bar, while Lydia Waters will demonstrate how to decorate Christmas cakes and biscuits. For those interested in how to style themselves, Manchester stylist Martine Alexander will be on hand to talk through the best outfits for the party season, while Jodie Ferrari Makeup Academy will be offering makeovers to show how to create a different look this Christmas.

In addition to the wonderful workshops this Christmas, in The Long Gallery, visitors will have the opportunity to sign Haddon Hall's longest ever Christmas card – spanning the length of the gallery, where local artists such as Pam Smart will add a new creation to it daily, before it is delivered to the Queen in time for Christmas Day.

The hall will be decked out with magnificent medieval decorations, glistening lights and trees, and stories on the traditions of Christmas through the ages. Joyous music will be performed daily by local community choirs and bell ringers in the Banqueting Hall, at midday and 2pm, which echoes throughout the hall, as visitors wander from room to room, enjoying the multitude of different festive experiences available.

Mercatum – Haddon Hall's artisan market, will also return this winter, showcasing a carefully curated selection of over 100 of the finest artisans from across the country, selling everything from soaps and scents, candles to jewellery, fine art and food and drink. Opening from 10am until 5pm, *Mercatum* will run from the 13th-17th November, with the addition of a VIP evening this year on 12th November, where guests can enjoy a more relaxed shopping experience with a drink on arrival. Tickets for the VIP evening can be purchased [online](#) and are priced at just £25 (and include entry on Wednesday and Thursday market days). General admission to *Mercatum* is £5.50.

In the quiet of the evening, the much-loved Candlelight Tours will offer a different take on the Hall's Christmas façade by candlelight, and will allow a glimpse into its nine-hundred-year history, steeped in the engravings, tapestries and art adorning the walls. The festive tours begin with a glass of mulled wine and a mince pie before embarking on a truly beautiful roam through the Hall with a knowledgeable guide. All tours need to be pre-booked, which can be done [online](#).

Open daily from the 1st to the 23rd of December, feasting, fun and festivity can also be enjoyed by all with the Haddon Restaurant and the beautiful, cosy Gardener's Cottage.

Lady Edward Manners said; "Craft has always played such an integral role at Haddon Hall and this year we wanted it to be at the very centre of our Christmas celebrations. Every room will offer visitors something different and truly wonderful, and as well as enjoying all the magnificent decorations and the festive music, people will have a chance to learn a new skill at our workshops and demonstrations, which will hopefully come in handy over the Christmas period.

“Our Candlelight Tours always delight visitors, and provide a great opportunity to see the Hall in a different light, while our *Mercatum* goes from strength to strength each year, offering a fantastic array of unique gifts.

“Christmas at Haddon is one of our favourite times of year, the atmosphere in the hall is truly magical and we’re looking forward to welcoming people into our home and hope they leave imbued with the spirit of Christmas!”

To see the full line-up of workshops and demonstrations available during Experience Christmas, please visit the Haddon Hall [website](#).

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Notes to editors;

This Christmas, Haddon Hall is open from December 1st-23rd, 10.30am-4pm, with last admission at 3pm.

Admission prices vary;

Adult (16 and above) £16.75

Concessions (Over 60) £15.75

Student (With a valid ID) £14.25

Children (Age 5-15) FREE

Car Parking £3.00 per car

