Hello everyone! On behalf of the Queen’s University International Centre and World Link Program, we present our recommendations for winter fun in Kingston! There is so much to do in this fantastic town inside on a cold day or outside enjoying the snow. Take this holiday break to recharge yourselves for the upcoming semester and make some exciting new memories.

❄️ Join QUIC:

December 28th and December 30th from 2:00-4:00pm at the Kingston Coffee House for a Holiday meet up and social! Please register using these Eventbrite links:

1. December 28th: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/473547381967
2. December 30th: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/473559478147

Here are some Helpful Links to find Additional Information:

- https://downtownkingston.ca/blogs/upcoming-events/festive-friday
- https://www.todocanada.ca/christmas-holiday-events-kingston/

🎄 Holiday Festivities:

Christmas Lights Displays

- Kingston Downtown (Springer Market Square, Confederation Park and Princess Street)
  Kingston is a truly magical place in the wintertime. Store shops are decorated with magnificent displays. Additionally, while walking, trees and streetlamps are covered in gorgeous lights. Springer Market Square specifically is incredible with a massive Christmas tree. Confederation Park is perfect for photo ops, with festive light up signs. (We also recommend you check out the Martello Alley 203 B Wellington Street downtown Kingston!)

- Kingston Neighbourhoods
  Many houses in downtown Kingston put up incredible holiday displays! This can include lights but also massive inflatables and full out Christmas scenes. Walking throughout neighbourhoods you will for sure find some.

- Christmas Lights Trolley Tours
  Enjoy an hour trip in a trolley to view all the beautiful Christmas lights in downtown Kingston. Thursday to Sundays throughout December at 7:00pm, research “Friday Festivities in Kingston Ontario”, sometimes there is great deals on the price!
  https://www.kingstontrolley.ca/christmas/
**Festive Fridays!**

Watch downtown come alive with festive holiday cheer and customer appreciation events at your favourite downtown businesses from 5 PM to 8 PM on Festive Fridays. You won't want to miss sales, trolley rides, giveaways, live entertainment, horse drawn carriage rides and much more! Th - https://downtownkingston.ca/blogs/things-to-do/monthly-events-calendar#calendar-ae0f221-ccc2-4249-a7bb-e248c01fd2dd-event-357f97fe-bda1-4672-847d-072207240f33

**German Christmas Market:**

Friday December 2nd from 4:00-8:00pm and Saturday December 3rd from 12:00-4:00pm. Located within the Biergarten, join twelve different local artists in shopping for gifts and trying some treats! Check them out on Facebook for more information: @Amadeus Café (170 Princess Street)

**Holiday Stop and Shop**

**Saturdays in December (2nd, 10th & 17th) from 11:00am-3:00pm**

FREE Stop & Shop Trolley rides throughout the downtown core

- Trolley Trivia with Cam Christmas (Fridays 6pm – 8pm, Saturdays 12pm-2pm). Test your knowledge and win Downtown Dollars!
- Horse-drawn wagon rides (corner of Princess and Sydenham)
- Cozy wood burning fires in Springer Market Square
- Santa’s Village (Brock Street side of Springer Market Square) and Rochleau Forest for the perfect holiday pic

Plus, carollers, live entertainment, in-store specials and so much more!
https://downtownkingston.ca/blogs/things-to-do/monthly-events-calendar#calendar-2edd3bc0-2dc6-4bfe-a5cd-1e82eea21d85-event-8b6e613e-613e-47f6-8ed4-9c138f3ea090

**Enjoy the Outdoors:**

Outdoor Skating- there are many free outdoor skating rinks in Kingston!
- Victoria Park
- City Park
- Springer Market Square

Where to get skates:
- They are available to rent at Trailhead Kingston (262 Princess Street)
- Thrift Stores within Kingston
- Play it Again Sports (500 Gardiners Road)

Toboggining:
If there is snow covering the ground, people will be at a hill tobogganing! Locations will vary.
Walks/Hiking)
- The Waterfront Trail (right outside of Queen’s campus!)
- Lemoine Point Conservation Area (make sure to bring birdseed for the birds, they will land in your hands!)
  - [https://cataraquiconservation.ca/pages/lemoine-point](https://cataraquiconservation.ca/pages/lemoine-point)
- Little Cataraqui Creek Conservation Area (check out their website, they may have snowshoes and cross-country ski’s available to rent!)
  - [https://cataraquiconservation.ca/pages/little-cataraqui-creek](https://cataraquiconservation.ca/pages/little-cataraqui-creek)
- Marshlands Conservation Area
  - [https://crca.ca/who-we-are/marshlands-conservation-area/](https://crca.ca/who-we-are/marshlands-conservation-area/)

Indoor Activities)

😊 The Nutcracker at Kingston Grand Theatre
Enjoy the internationally acclaimed state ballet theatre of Ukraine tell the classic Nutcracker holiday story. Playing December 7\(^{th}\) and 8\(^{th}\) at 6:30 pm. Check out their website to buy tickets and for additional information.

-The Screening Room
Kingston’s Independent theatre showing a whole bunch of movies throughout December + they have comfy seats and popcorn!
  - [https://screeningroomkingston.com/](https://screeningroomkingston.com/)

Landmark Cinemas
Showing the newest movie releases, you can enjoy in comfy reclining seats!
  - [https://www.landmarkcinemas.com/showtimes/kingston](https://www.landmarkcinemas.com/showtimes/kingston)

Wonderland Board Game Cafe
Located at Gardiners Rd. (on a city bus route). Featuring fun neon signs, themed drinks, and hundreds of board games to choose from
  - [https://improbableescapes.com/about-wonderland/](https://improbableescapes.com/about-wonderland/)
Downtown Shopping
There are so many local owned businesses in Kingston. They are perfect for gifts of all occasions for family, friends, and yourself. We recommend:

- Just Bead it
- Modern Primitive
- Amanda’s House of Elegance
- WHIT & Agent 99
- 1000 Islands Soap Company
- Minotaur
- Happy Thoughts
- Cooke’s
- Midori Gifts
- Waterfront Gifts and Apparel
- Verde
- All Good Things
- Antique Emporium
- Novel Idea

@downtownkingstonon on Instagram has some awesome recommendations!

Axe Throwing
The name says it all, you can throw axes! This activity is surprisingly fun!
- [https://www.kingstonaxethrowing.com/](https://www.kingstonaxethrowing.com/)

Boiler Room Climbing Gym
Kingston’s climbing gym is suitable for beginners to advanced climbers. Equipment rentals are available.
- [https://www.boilerroom.ca/](https://www.boilerroom.ca/)

Bowling at Cloverleaf
In the evening there’s glow in the dark bowling. Pro tip: where white so you glow too! Shoe rentals are available. Bonus: there are also pool tables and arcade games!
- [https://cloverleaflanes.com/](https://cloverleaflanes.com/)

Spa Day
The holidays are a time to kick back and relax! Why not pamper yourself at one of Kingston’s many spas? Consider a manicure, pedicure, massage, facial, and more.

Pool at The Grizz
Times can be booked at The Grizzly Grill. You can enjoy food, drinks, and a game of pool.
- [https://thegrizzlygrill.ca/](https://thegrizzlygrill.ca/)
**Escape Rooms (Improbable Escapes and Sherlock Escapes)**
Escape rooms offer some fun mind-bending puzzles! Virtual and in person options are available. Find the in-person locations downtown Kingston, walking distance from Campus!

- [https://www.sherlocksescapes.com/](https://www.sherlocksescapes.com/)
- [https://www.improbableescapes.com/](https://www.improbableescapes.com/)

**Trampoline Park**
You can bounce from wall to wall on massive trampolines.


**Hockey Games**
Check out the schedule for the local Kingston Frontenacs!

- [https://kingstonfrontenacs.com/schedule/73/2](https://kingstonfrontenacs.com/schedule/73/2)

**Food Recommendations**

**Food and Drink in Kingston:**
- **Kingston Coffee House:** Enjoy a nice holiday and winter themed drink downtown Kingston (322 King Street East)
- **Pan Chancho Bakery:** Delicious baked goods, a beautiful and historic building with a great atmosphere (also close to the water for a nice walk!) (44 Princess Street)
- **Crave Coffee House and Bakery:** An amazing place to study, read a book and relax. They also have a fireplace! (166 Princess Street)
- **Beavertails:** A Canadian classic and sweet treat. Goes perfectly with a hot chocolate while your outdoors in the snow! (many locations across Kingston including Springer Market Square)