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Ring in the New Year at Navy Pier!

The Midwest's iconic destination offers family-friendly celebrations, including Fifth Third Bank Winter WonderFest, a dynamic fireworks show, boat cruises, special dining options and more

CHICAGO – Navy Pier is set to host an unforgettable New Year's Eve celebration – 100 years in the making! As part of its *Fifth Third Bank Centennial Celebration*, the Pier is rolling out a series of special events, entertainment and fun to ring in the New Year.

As one of Chicago's top family-friendly New Year's Eve destinations, Navy Pier will begin the celebration early at the **16th Annual Fifth Third Bank Winter WonderFest**. With dozens of activities and attractions and 170,000 square feet of entertainment for all ages, including the Chicago Blackhawks Ice Skating Rink, 40-foot Cliff Hanger and expanded Artic Express Train, families can enjoy quality time together in anticipation of the New Year. The *Fifth Third Bank Winter WonderFest* will be open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. on New Year's Eve. Tickets can be purchased [online](#) or at the Winter WonderFest Box Office on site.

In addition, the Pier's grand, new **Centennial Wheel** makes its New Year's Eve debut. Revelers can celebrate from high above ground in enclosed and heated gondolas. The year-round attraction offers comfortable rides with unparalleled views of the city and lake. Reservations can be made in advance [online](#) for a coveted seat on the *Centennial Wheel's* VIP gondola, featuring plush seats, glass bottom, and for those wishing to toast to 2017, champagne can be purchased to accompany the ride.

At the stroke of midnight, guests can gaze out to the lakefront and enjoy the **Navy Pier New Year's Eve Fireworks Show, presented by Miller Lite and Jewel-Osco**. Synchronized to music, this signature fireworks show promises a unique and magical experience over a span of 15 minutes, making it the longest fireworks display in the city.

Chicago Children's Museum invites children and families to mark the end of 2016 with a *Noon Year's Eve* celebration on Saturday. Guests will be treated to activities that celebrate the New Year in a fun, family-friendly atmosphere. Activities include creating festive crowns and noisemakers, the last dance party of 2016, and a countdown to high noon, topped off with a multi-colored confetti finish. The Museum opens at 10 a.m. and the festivities begin at 10:30 a.m. Chicago Children's Museum's *Noon Year's Eve* celebration is included in admission (\$14 for adults and children; \$13 for seniors) and membership.

Ring in 2017 in royal style at the **Chicago Shakespeare Theater** with a special New Year's Eve performance of the hit production of *King Charles III* at 8 p.m. and enjoy a complimentary glass of champagne at intermission. This provocative, insightful political drama has captivated critics and audiences alike in its highly anticipated Chicago premiere—featuring celebrated British actor and Downtown Abbey favorite Robert Bathurst in the title role. Tickets are \$100 and now available at www.chicagoshakes.com or by calling the box office at (312) 595-5600.

For guests looking to wine and dine their way into the New Year, **DMK Burger Bar and Fish Bar**, **Harry Caray's Tavern**, **Riva Crab House** and **Tiny Tavern** will have special offerings all night long and prime views of the fireworks show.

[DMK Burger Bar and Fish Bar's](#) New Year's Eve festivities include an open bar, passed favorites from their menu and a champagne toast at midnight. Tickets are \$95 and available [online](#).

For family-friendly fun this New Year's, make a reservation at [Harry Caray's Tavern at Navy Pier](#). Enjoy handcrafted burgers, oven-fired pizzas, inspired cocktails and a champagne toast at midnight.

[Riva Crab House](#) is also accepting reservations for its main dining room and bar on the second level from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m., with a two-hour seating limit. Hats, noisemakers and a complimentary champagne toast at midnight are included with dinner. The Riva Café, located on the first level, will be open from 5 p.m. to 2 a.m., with a \$15 cover charge starting at 8 p.m. The night's festivities will include a cash bar, complimentary hors d'oeuvres, hats, noisemakers, champagne at midnight and a live DJ from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Guests must be 21 years or older to attend.

New this year, [Tiny Tavern](#), Navy Pier's recently opened craft cocktail bar, offers holiday cheer and a festive atmosphere. For \$50, enjoy a prix fixe menu, featuring a New Year's Eve exclusive three-course meal and a complimentary Prosecco toast at midnight.

Guests are also welcome to choose from one of the many classic party or cruise options at the Pier:

- **The 5th Annual Chicago Resolution Gala** returns to Navy Pier's Aon Grand Ballroom as a part of the Chi-Town Rising programming. The event, which runs from 8:15 p.m. to 2 a.m., will feature more than 30 bars, an extraordinary food spread, music from four world-renowned live DJs and access to an exclusive private space on the Lakeview Terrace to watch the fireworks show at midnight. Tickets to this highly anticipated event are available for purchase [online](#). **Must be 21 years or older to attend.*
- **The Crystal Gardens New Year's Eve Party** marks its 11th anniversary this year and promises to deliver a unique New Year's Eve experience in Navy Pier's beautiful Crystal Gardens. Guests will be treated to top-shelf drinks, several food stations, more than 20 premium liquor bars, a private lakefront terrace for fireworks viewing, red carpet photo opportunities and more. Complimentary noisemakers and other party favors will also be provided, and multiple popular live DJs will be on hand as guests dance the night away. Doors open at 9 p.m. Ticket packages and information for this must-hit party can be found [online](#). **Must be 21 years or older to attend.*
- For those interested in ringing in 2017 on Lake Michigan, several boat parties will be available including the **Odyssey New Year's Eve Fireworks Dinner Cruise**. Attendees can enjoy a sophisticated celebration on the lakefront with DJ entertainment, dinner, a platinum bar package, a midnight champagne toast and one of the best views of Navy Pier's fireworks show. The cruise will run from 9:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m., with an 8:30 p.m. boarding time. Extend the celebration with the **New Year's Day Champagne Brunch Cruise** on Sunday, January 1 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., with a 12:15 p.m. boarding time. Booking information and more details are available [online](#).

- **Spirit of Chicago's New Year's Eve Fireworks Dinner Cruise** offers a festive and entertaining evening on the lake, with access to a dinner buffet, platinum open bar, champagne toast at midnight, interactive DJ entertainment and a special view of the fireworks show. The cruise will run from 9:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m., with an 8:30 p.m. boarding time. For families looking to celebrate early, Spirit of Chicago offers a **New Year's Eve Family Lunch Cruise**, which runs from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., with an 11 a.m. boarding time. The cruise features a special countdown to noon, lunch buffet with holiday favorites, complimentary glass of champagne for adults 21 and over, and endless Chicago skyline views gracing every window for the perfect family-friendly New Year's Eve experience. Look [online](#) for booking information and more details.
- Another option to consider is **Mystic Blue's New Year's Eve Fireworks Dinner Cruise**, featuring tasty treats, a platinum open bar package, midnight champagne toast and of course, a first-class view of the spectacular fireworks show from the lake. The cruise will run from 9:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m., with an 8:30 p.m. boarding time. For those looking to get the celebrations started early, Mystic Blue is also offering an **Eve of the Eve Cruise** on Friday, December 30 from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m., with a 7 p.m. boarding time. Booking information and special deals are provided [online](#).

For the safety and comfort of all guests, Navy Pier will once again enforce its standard security measures for large-scale events, including bag inspection and youth escort policy throughout the Pier on New Year's Eve. Per policy, guests under the age of 18 must be accompanied by and remain with a parent or legal guardian at all times.

For more information on New Year's Eve events and activities at Navy Pier, please visit www.navy Pier.com.

About Navy Pier

Located on Lake Michigan, Navy Pier is the top attended leisure destination in the Midwest, stretching more than six city blocks and welcoming more than 8 million guests annually. Originally opened in 1916 as a shipping and recreation facility, this Chicago landmark showcases more than 50 acres of parks, restaurants, attractions, retail shops, sightseeing and dining cruise boats, exposition facilities and more. Navy Pier, Inc., a 501 (c) (3) not for profit organization, maintains and oversees Navy Pier and its redevelopment into a bolder, greener and more contemporary urban space. For more information, visit our website at www.navy Pier.com.

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