

Orchard Road Christmas light-up 2026 is on 17 November, with a 6.2m Merli and a Christmas Eve street party

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The Orchard Road Christmas light-up 2026 switches on at 7pm on Tuesday, 17 November, at Shaw House Urban Plaza. This yearâ??s Christmas on A Great Street runs from 17 November 2026 to 3 January 2027 under the theme Season of Golden Joy, so expect a lot of gold. A few parts of the programme have already started, and the street party on Christmas Eve now has its headliners.

Here are the dates, timings and spots to plan around, from the ceremony to Christmas Eve.

Orchard Road Christmas light-up 2026: the ceremony on 17 November

The Christmas on A Great Street Community Chest Light-Up Ceremony starts at 7pm on 17 November at Shaw House Urban Plaza, at the corner of Orchard Road and Scotts Road. It is organised by the Orchard Road Business Association (ORBA) with Community Chest, and Hitachi is the main sponsor again. The official event page lists no tickets for the ceremony, though it does carry a link for donations to Community Chest.

Orchard MRT (NS22/TE14) is the closest station, a short walk through Wisma Atria or Ngee Ann City. The organisers have not named a guest of honour yet. Last year the President officiated, so arrive early if you want a spot near the front.



The 6.2m Merli inflatable on top of Shaw House. Source: Orchard Road Business Association

Merli in a Santa hat, on top of Shaw House

The new thing this year is a Merli giant inflatable on top of Shaw House. The organisers put it at about 6.2m tall, and it lights up nightly from 6.30pm to 6.30am.

Merli wears a Santa hat from 17 November 2026 to 3 January 2027, then switches to its usual look from 4 January to 20 February 2027. That means it stays up through Chinese New Year, which falls on 6 February in 2027. Kids who know Merli from the Singapore Tourism Boardâ??s campaigns will spot it from Orchard MRT.

Already on: a 3D projection show and Christmas music

Two parts of the programme started on Sunday, 1 November, so you can catch them before the lights go on:

- The Outdoor Multimedia 3D Projection Show plays on the faÃ§ade of Hilton Singapore Orchard from 7pm to 10pm daily until 3 January 2027. On Christmas Eve and New Yearâ??s Eve it runs until 12.30am, with a midnight countdown.
- Music in the Air pipes Christmas songs along the walkways from ION Orchard to Ngee Ann City and outside Mandarin Gallery, Paragon and Shaw House, from 10am to 6.59pm daily.

The Hilton is beside Mandarin Gallery, roughly midway between Orchard and Somerset MRT stations. The projection is the easiest free thing to tick off on a weeknight after work.

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The 3D projection show at Hilton Singapore Orchard during a previous edition. Source: Orchard Road Business Association

Five photo spots along the street

ORBA calls these the Snap & Shine photo spots. They are spread over about 1km, so you can do all five on one walk from Shaw House towards Paragon:

- Steps of Golden Joy, in front of Shaw House Urban Plaza
- Gateway to Golden Joy, an illuminated arch in front of ION Orchard

- A Golden Christmas Moment, also outside ION Orchard, with shimmering trees
- Meet Me Under the Mistletoe, a giant mistletoe installation in front of Ngee Ann City
- The Golden Christmas Tree, in front of Mandarin Gallery

Weeknights are your friend here. Weekends in December get properly crowded, and nobody enjoys queueing for a photo with 40 strangers in the background.



Artistâ??s impression of The Golden Christmas Tree at Mandarin Gallery. Source: Orchard Road Business Association

The Great Christmas Village and brand pop-ups

The Great Christmas Village returns at two sites, Ngee Ann City Civic Plaza and Shaw House Urban Plaza, with carnival games and rides. We covered its opening dates, hours and carnival card prices in our Christmas markets in Singapore 2026 guide.

Several brand pop-ups also join the season. The official site gives dates but not exact venues, so check closer to the time:

- Avengers: Doomsday display pieces with stamp standees, 12 November 2026 to 3 January 2027
- LEGO Christmas pop-up, 13 November to 22 December 2026
- Google Pixel Pro pop-up, 20 November to 6 December 2026
- Geneco Forevermore pop-up, 7 to 20 December 2026
- Celebrate Christmas in Singapore, 16 to 22 December 2026

The Great Christmas Eve Street Party on 24 December

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The big night is Thursday, 24 December. Orchard Road closes to traffic from 6pm to 2am between Paterson junction (ION Orchard) and Bideford junction (Ngee Ann City), and the party runs from 8pm to 12.15am.

Benjamin Kheng and Maia Lee headline the live performances. Expect DJ sets, festive mascots and food trucks too, plus *SCAPEâ??s Sleigh the Street! with street dance, graffiti art and circus acts.

A few kiasu tips for the night:

- Take the MRT. Roads around the closure will jam from late afternoon, and buses will be diverted.
- Somerset (NS23) is often less packed than Orchard station when the crowd leaves after midnight.
- Pack a small umbrella, because November and December are the wet months and the party goes on rain or shine.

If you are planning the whole holiday stretch, our Christmas 2026 family dates list covers Gardens by the Bay and the school holidays. For the night after, The Kallang Countdown 2027 has its New Yearâ??s Eve line-up out. Full schedules and any updates are on the Christmas on A Great Street website.

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Author
priya