

Places to Go

Unmissable flower shows, plant fairs, courses and exhibitions to attend this month

Bright LIGHTS

Christmas at Kew

22 November-5 January, London

Now in its sixth year, Christmas at Kew will feature several new artworks along a glimmering trail set around the gardens. Enjoy an expanse of dancing lights, 300 illuminated origami boats floating on the beautiful lake, an enchanted walkway of giant peonies and papyrus, and the magnificent, kaleidoscopic Palm House Pond finale. Additional treats will include a festival fairground, food stalls, an opportunity to buy gifts and the all-pervasive aroma of mulled wine. Tickets £16.50. *Tel: 020 8332 5655; kew.org*



Garden PARTY

Christmas at The Alnwick Garden

17 November-23 December, Northumberland

The Alnwick Garden is the venue for an extravaganza of festive events from mid-November onwards. Kicking off with The Grand Lantern Parade, led by Father Christmas himself, the winter celebrations will also include a display of magical giant birds, street theatre performances, a Christmas market, an ice-skating rink and a clue trail created by elves. There's a range of more grown-up evening parties, dinners and dances to choose from as well. Tickets from £8 (garden entry price). *Tel: 01665 511350; alnwickgarden.com*

LOOKING AHEAD: SEASONAL celebrations

Woodcut Christmas cards

16 Nov, Kent

Learn to design, cut and print beautiful woodcut cards at this workshop led by professional printmaker Will Dyke at Knole Park. £85. *Tel: 01732 462100; nationaltrust.org.uk*

Christmas Glow at Wisley

1 Dec-2 Jan, Surrey

Follow an illuminated festive trail past floating lights and giant glowing flowers to the

Woodland Realm, where you'll find elves, reindeer and a tree made of poinsettias. *Tel: 01483 224234; rhs.org.uk/wisley*

The Newburgh Priory Christmas Fair

29 Nov-1 Dec, Yorkshire

Find unique Christmas gifts, create wreaths and gingerbread houses and enjoy locally sourced food (right). Tickets from £5. *Tel: 01347 868372; newburghpriory.co.uk*

Hot Pot Pottery

Christmas Fayre

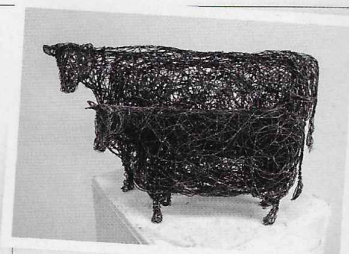
8-9 & 11 Dec, Gloucestershire

Browse local artists' work or paint your own pottery, with festive nibbles on offer and a cosy woodburner. Free admission. *Tel: 01594 837943; hotpotpottery.co.uk*

Carols by Candlelight

22 Dec, Staffordshire

The National Memorial Arboretum hosts its annual



candle-lit carol service in Heroes' Square, surrounded by a host of illuminated trees. Refreshments are available to buy. Free admission. *Tel: 01283 245100; thenma.org.uk*