



Historic Rosedale Press Release
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For immediate release

Candlelight Christmas at Historic Rosedale

Historic Rosedale is hosting the beloved Annual Candlelight Tour featuring a garden stroll and guided house tour on Sunday, December 7, 2025, from 5:00 pm-7:00 pm

Guests are invited to experience Historic Rosedale as it was seen by residents and visitors past--by candlelight. Candlelight makes everything more magical. Throughout history, items like clothing, dinnerware, and furniture were designed to enhance the darkness that night brought without the benefit of electric lighting. Add holiday decorations, and you have an exceptionally special experience.

Generations of families lived at Historic Rosedale including Frews, Caldwells, Davidsons, enslaved, and freed African Americans over its 200+ year history. As such, it has experienced many joys and sorrows during the holiday season. Visitors are encouraged to visit the 1815 historic home and gardens, lit by a combination of candlelight and minimal electric lighting, and decorated in a variety of Christmases past: a Victorian Christmas dinner in the Great Hall, a 1940's wartime Christmas in the family parlor, the main bedroom decked in period mourning commemorating residents who passed at the holidays, and our cellar kitchen sharing traditions of the African-American community at Rosedale.

This festive guided tour of our historic home will also feature a holiday performance of strolling characters courtesy of Queen City Groove and light holiday treats--coffee, tea, hot chocolate, and sweets--at our pavilion. Gates open at 5:00pm to allow for a leisurely stroll through our gardens and grounds, and the house tour begins promptly at 6:00pm. To provide a true candlelight tour experience, organizers respectfully request that no cell phone lights be used inside the house; guests will be provided with individual electric tapers for additional lighting.

NEW THIS YEAR! Santa at the Smithy, featuring everyone's favorite jolly old elf hard at work in our reconstructed blacksmith shop! Photos with Santa are available for \$10.00 each, and can be taken with your own phone, or you can choose a printed souvenir photo to take home with you.

This event takes place rain or shine - no refunds will be given. Tickets can be purchased online at <https://historicrosedale.simpletix.com/> or on site upon arrival (Guests are asked to bring proof of ticket purchase on their cell phones.)

Ticket prices are as follows:

Candlelight House Tour: \$25.00 (includes Garden Stroll)
Garden Stroll only \$10.00
Children under 5: free
Visit and photo with Santa: \$10

For those who are unable to visit during the Candlelight Tour, Historic Rosedale is open to the public Wednesday through Saturday from 10am-3pm with guided house tours at 11:30am and 1pm. More information about the tours and 9-acre grounds which include formal gardens, a recreated blacksmith shop, and an accredited arboretum can be found at www.historicrosedale.org.

For more information about the Candlelight Tour or other programs at Historic Rosedale, please visit www.historicrosedale.org, email office@historicrosedale.org, or call 704-335-0325.