



Los Gatos Children's Christmas/Holidays Parade
123 E. Main Street, Los Gatos, CA 95030
408-354-8700 Email: parade@lgsrecreation.org

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

Los Gatos Children's Christmas/Holidays Parade

When is the Parade?

The Parade is always the first Saturday in December each year. For 2026, the Parade is on **Saturday, December 5, 2026**. The Parade is held Rain or Shine.

What time is the Parade?

The Parade starts at 11:00 A.M. and typically ends around 1:00 – 1:15 P.M. Please note that many streets downtown are closed for the Parade from early morning to late afternoon. Traffic is heavy in the downtown area on Parade Day. After the Parade, the Los Gatos Monte Sereno Police Department usually re-opens the streets by 3:00 – 3:30 P.M.

Where is the Parade?

The Parade is held in downtown Los Gatos. The Parade starts on Alameda Ave. at North Santa Cruz Ave., proceeds south on North Santa Cruz Ave. to Main Street, east on Main Street to Church Street, where it will terminate. Please refer to the [Parade Map](#) on the www.lgsrecreation.org website on the Parade page which shows the parade route.

How much does it cost to participate in the Parade?

Business/Commercial entries pay a \$50 fee. Non-profit/Non-commercial entries are able to participate free of charge.

Where can I park on Parade day?

Please refer to the [Street Closures](#) and [Parade Map](#) on the www.lgsrecreation.org website on the Parade page for information on the areas downtown affected by the Parade. Parking is available in non-posted areas. Please note that many streets downtown are closed for the Parade from early morning to late afternoon. Traffic is heavy in the downtown area on Parade day. After the Parade, the Los Gatos Monte Sereno Police Department usually re-opens the streets by 3:00 – 3:30 P.M.

Can I pass out candy, flyers, coupons or other items during the Parade?

No, per the Parade Safety Policy: To avoid any safety hazard, no toys, candy or other materials can be handed out or thrown from your entry. Any entry handing out or throwing items will be removed from the parade.

Can we have a Santa in our entry?

No, only the OFFICIAL PARADE SANTA will be permitted in the parade. PLEASE DO NOT dress anyone in your entry as Santa. Participants may wear Santa hats; however, a dressed Santa is not permitted.

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What is the theme of the Parade?

Each entry must have a Christmas or Holiday theme to be able to participate in the parade.

Do I have to be in a group to participate in the Parade?

No. If you, your family and/or friends want to be in the Parade, you may submit an Entry Form to participate in the Parade. You will need to name your Entry and have a Christmas or Holiday theme to be able to participate. If your child wishes to be in the Parade and does not belong to a group, they may, with a parent or guardian, participate in the Parade as part of the LGS Recreation Entry. Please contact LGS Recreation at 408-354-8700 for further information on being part of the LGS Recreation Entry.

Can I have a vehicle in the Parade?

Yes, each Entry is permitted to have **one vehicle**, not to exceed: 40 feet in length. 12 feet in height, and 10 feet in width. No advertising on a vehicle other than unit entry company name. Additional solicitations or fundraising not permitted.

When will I get my Entry Number?

Entry Number Assignments/Parade Line-Up will be posted on the www.lgsrecreation.org website by **Friday, November 6, 2026**. Entry Number Assignments will no longer be mailed. Please check the [Entry Number Assignments/Parade Line-Up](#) listing on the Parade following that date.

Where will my Entry be located in the Staging Area? When will I know?

Please refer to the [Parade Map](#) on the www.lgsrecreation.org website on the Parade page to locate the staging area. The streets in the staging area will be marked with Entry Numbers by Thursday, December 3, 2026 if not earlier that week, weather permitting. You may drive through the staging area to see where your Entry will be staged. On Parade day, you may check in with a marshal in the staging area for assistance with your location; marshals will be wearing bright green vests and will be available throughout the staging area.

What time does my Entry need to be in the staging area?

Please refer to the [Parade Day Special Instructions](#) on the www.lgsrecreation.org website on the Parade page for information about the time entries need to be in the respective staging areas. There are separate [Parade Day Special Instructions](#) for General Entries, School Band Entries and Equestrian Entries.

**PLEASE REFER TO THE PARADE PAGE ON THE www.lgsrecreation.org WEBSITE FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE PARADE.
THANK YOU.**

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!