

The Winery at Sovereign Estate 9950 North Shore Road, Waconia, MN 55387 (952) 446-9957

For Press Release Starting November 6th, 2025

Make A Holiday Memory with The Spirit of Winter: Festival of Lights at The Winery at Sovereign Estate

The Winery at Sovereign Estate invites you to light-up the season with our Spirit of Winter: Festival of Lights from November 21st - December 31st. The Estate is transformed into an illuminated winter wonderland, with over twenty miles of musical synchronized lights strung over 20 acres of our lakeshore property. This outdoor walking experience permits guests to stroll the vineyards and grounds and enjoy a variety of attractions like our Candy Cane Lane, life size Nativity scene, photo opportunity at Santa's Sleigh, write and send a Letter to Santa with a response, real live winter Llamas, inflatable Snowman Ball, children's Snow Maze, kid's Boot Hockey Arena, and Nana's Gingerbread House! Once you arrive, guests also have the opportunity to purchase Holly Trolley rides in our Wine Store for a special guided tour of the decorated grounds. The real life Santa will be arriving every night from November 28th-December 23rd at 5pm-7:30pm during the Christmas season. All guests will enjoy the pleasure of meeting the famous Mr. Claus as he wanders our Spirit of Winter event.

This is a Family Friendly Event that everyone is sure to love with a range of hot treats to keep you warm and toasty! Grab a hot chocolate, cookies, or roast a s'more at our *S'more Station*! Adults can enjoy mulled wine, boozy hot cocoa, local brews, and our full range of wine at our *Polar Bear Bar*! Our *Blizzard Bistro* will also be serving up items like chili and our famous flatbreads. Be sure to check out our *Wine Store* for the perfect holiday gift including holiday and Sovereign merchandise, our stuffed Christmas llamas, and, of course, bottles of our Sovereign Estate Wine!

We are also excited to introduce the enchanting *Nutcracker Suite*, a festive holiday cocktail bar nestled within the winery for guests 21 and older with admission to the Spirit of Winter. Come and experience a whimsical journey as you step into a beautifully decorated Christmas lounge, featuring an array of custom seasonal cocktails such as the delightful Sugar Plum Fairy Martini and the creatively named "Nutcracker." In addition to the cozy atmosphere and festive cocktails, a selection of delicious appetizers will be available, each designed to enhance the magic of the holidays. The Nutcracker Suite will be open Thursday-Sunday during our Spirit of Winter hours. Seating will be available on a first-come, first-served basis, ensuring a perfect destination for family and friends to come together and toast to the season.

Admission Options to the Spirit of Winter:

- **NEW THIS YEAR!** \$25 Admission per car or \$100 for large buses/limos/etc. A great deal compared to other holiday light shows within the Twin Cities. Tickets can be purchased online in advance or cash at the gate (if not sold out in advance). Gates open at 4pm.
 - o **DISCOUNTED** Wednesdays! \$15 per car or \$50 for large buses/limos/etc. on Wednesday nights.
- Unlock Holiday Magic with our Family Season Pass for only \$50! Save money and create unforgettable holiday
 memories with unlimited access to the Festival of Lights. This Season Pass includes entry to the Festival of Lights
 through November 21st-December 31st for one car entry. This is a great option for guests wanting to attend more
 than once.
- Our Christmas Cabanas are the perfect option for larger groups to experience the Spirit of Winter! Enjoy the
 beautiful view of the festival of lights as you cozy up in your own private, holiday retreat. Since the Spirit of Winter
 is an outdoor walking event, this rental option provides a warm, private seat as you enjoy the holiday lights.
 Includes admission to the Spirit of Winter for up to 8 guests per cabana with a heater and table.

Our customers agree: "This is our favorite holiday tradition!" "The best, family-friendly light show in the Twin Cities" "Beautiful place with great wine!" "We rented their Christmas Cabanas and invited friends for a private Holiday Party! It was like a Hallmark movie!"

Business Hours for the Spirit of Winter:

Open Wednesday-Thursday from 4pm-8pm, Friday- Saturday from 4pm-9pm, and Sunday 4pm-8pm *OPEN Monday, December 22nd and Tuesday, December 23rd from 4pm-8pm. CLOSED Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, and Christmas Day.*

Links:

- The Winery at Sovereign Estate: https://sovereignestatewine.com/
- Admission Online Tickets: https://www.sovereignestatewine.com/spirit-of-winter

If interested, please contact us for a video segment, expanded story, or images/videos.

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