Hi,

This document will share with you all the essential information for planning your visit to Father Christmas at The Lost Gardens.

You and just your family will meet Father Christmas and his elves in the cosy setting of Head Gardener’s Office, nestled in the garden. Each child will receive a small traditional gift.

Please note that when you book within a 1-hour slot, Father Christmas will see you within your allocated hour, though please be aware there could be a 5 to 55-minute wait outside Head Gardener’s Office. We have festive activities and Elves on hand to help during your waiting time. However, you can arrive at any time within your hourly time slot. Please check in with an Elf on your arrival at Head Gardener’s Office.

Due to the cosy setting within Head Gardener’s Office, we can only accommodate 6 people at one time. Tickets are non-transferable, so not to confuse our Elves. Children must be accompanied by a paying Adult.

To enjoy the full ‘Father Christmas at The Lost Gardens of Heligan’ experience, we recommend you wrap up warm, pull on your wellies and allow a couple of hours or so, to be able to explore our Festive Trail through the Gardens, write your letter to Father Christmas and enjoy Christmas craft workshops by the fire.

**Father Christmas Experience event information:**

**Festive Christmas Trail**
Explore the gardens with your family and share in some good old-fashioned festive fun!
This sensory trail invites you to sing along to your festive favourites, detect the ‘smells’ of Christmas, enjoy bird spotting for our friendly Robins, guess the present (by squeezing, not peaking!) and have a chuckle at our best Christmas cracker jokes!
Wrap up warm and pop your wellies on, to join us in festive merriment this Christmas at Heligan!

**Write your letter to Father Christmas**
Located in Melon Yard Lean-to.
Nestle underneath twinkly lights and write your wishes on a letter to Father Christmas, pop your letter into our magical post box to be whisked away to ‘the man himself’!

**Christmas Craft Workshops**
Located in the Steward’s House

Come and warm up by the fire and enjoy crafting for Christmas.
- Re-cycle, Re-use and Reinvent - Come and enjoy the simple craft of making recycled paper chains or learn how to make origami Christmas trees.
- Here at Heligan we love our feathered friends, come and make your own ‘Rocking Robin’ friend to take home with you.
- Christmas is about ‘giving and receiving’, dig deep in your pocket… what treasures will you find? Perhaps a stone, a beautiful shell or maybe an acorn, that you may have picked up previously on a walk or adventure...
  Give your treasure and pop it on our shelves and select a special item in return…. What will catch your eye? What will you receive? Sometimes the most special things do not cost anything at all...

*All event activities are open 10am - 4pm (*10am – 1pm on 24th Dec) and are part of your Father Christmas experience at no additional cost.*

**Key Information:**

**Opening hours**
The Lost Gardens of Heligan is open 10am – 5pm.
You are welcome to arrive at any time during your booked day, to explore and enjoy the Gardens, Festive Trail and Christmas Craft Workshops. Please do allow at least 10 to 20 mins walking time from our Ticket Office to Head Gardeners Office, within your allocated slot time.

**Arrival and Parking**
We have ample accessible car parking bays, which are within the Main carpark, which is hardstanding. The Field Car park has hard chippings and some grass.

**Toilets**
Main toilets are located at the entrance which include baby changing, family room, accessible and Changing Places facility.
Male/ Female toilets only at The Barn.
Male/ Female, Baby changing and accessible toilets at Steward’s House.

**Food and Drink**
Heligan Kitchen is open 9.30am – 4.30pm.
Hearty breakfasts, Seasonal lunches, hot and cold drinks, barista coffee, selection of cake and sweet treats.

**Welcome**
Enter the Garden through our Ticket Office, please have your Father Christmas ticket or confirmation email ready to be checked off by our Ticket Office team. Plus, your valid garden entry such as Local’s Pass, Heligan Membership card or combination Father Christmas / Garden entry ticket.

**Access information**
For full access information, please refer to our accessibility page on our website [www.heligan.com](http://www.heligan.com).

The Festive Trail route will take you along natural paths and has the flattest most accessible route through the Garden. The paths are fairly wide and are made from compacted path material, though sometimes the paths get worn and scoured in the rain creating uneven surfaces. The trail will lead you from the Ticket Office through the Gardens, to the Melon Yard where you can ‘Write your letter to Father Christmas’. Then will lead you to Head Gardener’s Office where you will meet Father Christmas and his Elves.

You will be walking approximately 10 to 20 minutes (depending on the length of little legs!) from our Ticket Office through the Gardens to get to Head Gardener’s Office.

The Festive Trail then continues through the Gardens, leading you along through Home Farm and on to the Steward’s House, where you can enjoy Christmas Craft Workshops by the fire.
Please note: Some of the paths around the Farm paddocks have loose chippings.

**Additional information**
Well behaved dogs on short leads are welcome throughout the Garden, within the Head Gardener’s Office, the Steward’s House, Covered Area and the Heligan Shop. Assistance dogs are welcome within the Heligan Kitchen.

**Additional specific enquiries**
Please contact our Reception team on Telephone 01726 845100 option 6, or email [enquiries@heligan.com](mailto:enquiries@heligan.com).

We look forward to welcoming you this festive season.
The Heligan Team