

A WINDY WONDERLAND

CHRISTMAS IN CHICAGO

BY ALICIA PIAZZA

Can you find the perfect mix of holiday tradition and cutting-edge amenities? The Peninsula Chicago hotel, of course. Lavish Christmas decor, gracious staff, and Santa visits are the hallmark of the holidays at this hotel, along with a new Hybrid skating rink.

Chicago is an extraordinary city with endless possibilities to offer its millions of visitors. What's the allure? Maybe it's the mid-western hospitality? Maybe the Chicago Cubs, the history or the architecture? Or perhaps, the amazing food? The town's enthusiasm around Christmas time is legendary. It reminds me of the Dr. Seuss's Whos of Whoville. The Peninsula reflects this passion and the decorators give that extra effort during the festive season to curate a memorable ambiance. They kick off their tree lighting ceremony on Nov 27th, and all guests are invited to help decorate it. Each guest is provided with ornaments and lots of hot chocolate and champagne. The children are welcome to partake in the Peninsula's children's holiday afternoon tea. Additionally, the hotel offers holiday room packages, Thanksgiving Day brunches & lunches, and Christmas & New Year's Eve parties. Everything is meant to feel as though the attendees are spending the holiday with their families in a home away from home.

What is different about the Peninsula is its Asian origins. The brand began in Hong Kong and Shanghai, cultivating the essences of subtle elegance and discrete service. The Peninsula franchises are located all over the world, yet its Asian soul runs through all of its properties.

Aside from drop-dead gorgeous decorations, they get the fundamentals right too. The Peninsula has a great new IT program with cutting edge technology that makes it the most sophisticated high-tech hotel in the world at the moment. There are tablets in all the renovated rooms, as well as a complete interactive environment that connects to your personal "smart" device. With a touch of a button, the tablet can translate eleven languages. Ergonomically correct, the standard suites optimize the use of space making them feel more like junior suites. Due to the hotel brand's continuous forward thinking, the team is constantly in touch with the client's needs making them the perfect host.

So if you are in the mood for some festive cozy holiday cheer with a chill, you should consider Peninsula Chicago, where Asia, Europe, and the Midwest meet, along with all the pretty horses parked outside. www.peninsula.com/chicago



Holiday Lion



Ice Skating



The Peninsula Lobby