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# 10 Dazzling Light Displays

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Nothing marks the holiday season like a festive display of lights. Cultures around the world celebrate this time of the year with various traditions, but one thing seems to cross the cultural divide and that's the love of lights. From [Rome](#) to [Rio](#), cities get decked out in dazzling lights and our [Forbes Travel Guide](#) crew crisscrossed the globe looking for the most lavish holiday displays to help get you in the Yuletide spirit, too.

[Making your holiday wish list? Venture over to our travel blog to check out gifts you'll want this year.](#)

## Champs-Élysées, Paris

For the quintessential Parisian Christmas experience, stroll down the legendary Champs-Élysées for a view of sparkling lights, fantastic shopping and a festive feeling you won't get outside of [Paris](#). This year, the famous avenue's trees are stunning thanks to the "Tree Rings" installation, which includes three LED-lit rings encircling each tree with a curtain of lights draped over to bring a new sparkle to the display.

## Rio de Janeiro

The world's largest floating Christmas tree is at the Rodrigo de Freitas lagoon in [Rio](#). The Bradesco Seguros Christmas Tree sits on an 8,700-square-foot base and stands as tall as a 28-story building. This year marks the 17th anniversary of the tree, and the theme for 2012 is "All the Christmases in the World." The lighting on the tree is designed to reflect all four seasons—green and red leaves signify fall; dazzling white lights are a nod to winter snowflakes; a colorful floral display hints at a budding garden in spring; and bright yellow lights shine for summer.

## Rockefeller Center, New York

Since the 1930s, the Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree has been a [New York](#) staple. The annual tree lighting ceremony charms viewers—both in person and on television—ringing in the season with musical performances and celebrity appearances. Along with the tree, Rockefeller Center is transformed into a winter wonderland with its famous ice-skating rink and elaborate lights and decorations scattered throughout the plaza. —Jordan Lawson

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