

**Editor's Note:** We're offering a clarification regarding ticket distribution for the 2016 Indiana Rail Road Santa Train. Tickets will be distributed at each stop at the time of the train's arrival, by Indiana Rail Road personnel. Tickets cannot be acquired at each stop in advance.

Tickets – which are free – are being introduced for the first time this year in order for Santa Train to stay on schedule. We apologize for any inconvenience related to the initial press release.



### **For Immediate Release (With Updated Ticket Information)**

## **INDIANA RAIL ROAD'S 2016 SANTA TRAIN RIDES THE RAILS DEC. 2-4 New for 2016: FREE Ticket Required to See Santa (Details Below)**

INDIANAPOLIS, Monday, Nov. 21, 2016 – For the 27<sup>th</sup> consecutive Christmas season, Santa Claus will be coming to towns in southern Indiana and Illinois by train.

The Indiana Rail Road Company (INRD) will operate its Santa Train on December 2, 3, and 4, and families are invited aboard the festively-decorated train to visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus, for free. Guests will be entertained by a full cast of costumed characters, brought to life by Indiana Rail Road employee volunteers, their families and friends.

Santa's helpers will also give away coats, hats and gloves to help families in need of warmth this winter.

The Santa Train tradition has transcended multiple generations, as many of the earliest Santa Train visitors bring their own children to the event each year. INRD employees consider the train's three-day trek across southern Indiana and eastern Illinois to be a labor of love, which operates due to the time and generosity of employees and sponsors.

**New for 2016:** A free ticket is required to see Santa, and a limited number of tickets will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis at each stop **at the time of the train's arrival**.

"Attendance for Santa Train has doubled within the last decade – almost 9,400 guests at 12 stops in 2015 alone – and the train has operated up to two hours late as a result," said Eric Powell, INRD spokesperson. "We do not want to have little ones waiting in the cold, for extended periods of time, to see Santa Claus, so we feel a free-ticket system is the best way to keep Santa on time, and to let families know up front if they've arrived in time to step aboard the Santa Train."

For persons or companies interested in donating coats and hats: INRD is not equipped to accept clothing, but all cash donations will go directly to the purchase of cold-weather gear that will be distributed from the Santa Train. Checks can be made out to Indiana Rail Road (put "Santa Train" on the memo line) and mailed to INRD, Attn.: Shae LeDune, 8888 Keystone Crossing, Suite 1600, Indianapolis, IN 46240.

The Indiana Rail Road Company is a privately-held, 250-mile railroad which serves central and southwest Indiana, and eastern Illinois. INRD connects to the entire North American rail network via strategic gateways at Chicago, Indianapolis and Newton, Ill.

For more information on the railroad and its community involvement, visit [www.inrd.com](http://www.inrd.com) or find us on Twitter and Facebook.

(Full 2016 Santa Train schedule on the following page)



**The 2016 Indiana Rail Road Santa Train Schedule (All times local; free admission!):**

Station/Location	Arriving	Line for Santa Closes
<b>Friday, December 2</b>		
Bargersville, Ind./Town Hall	3 p.m.	5 p.m.
Morgantown, Ind./Fire Station, Highland St.	6:30 p.m.	7:30 p.m.
Helmsburg, Ind./Helmsburg Road	8:30 p.m.	9:30 p.m.
<b>Saturday, December 3</b>		
Solsberry, Ind./Yoho Store	8:30 a.m.	10 a.m.
Bloomfield, Ind./Seminary Street	11 a.m.	Noon
Linton, Ind./S.E. C Street	1:30 p.m.	3 p.m.
Dugger, Ind./Main Street	4 p.m.	5 p.m.
Jasonville, Ind./City Park	6 p.m.	7 p.m.
<b>Sunday, December 4</b>		
Newton, Ill./South Van Buren St.	9 a.m.	10 a.m.
Oblong, Ill./South Range St.	11:15 a.m.	12:15 p.m.
Palestine, Ill./Lincoln St.	1:30 p.m.	2:30 p.m.
Sullivan, Ind./South Main St. and Judy Lane	4 p.m.	5 p.m.

**A printable PDF copy of the schedule is available at:**

[http://www.inrd.com/documents/2016\\_Santa\\_Train.pdf](http://www.inrd.com/documents/2016_Santa_Train.pdf)

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