

FACTSHEET

Biltmore by the numbers***America's Largest Home gets ready for Christmas at Biltmore 2019***

- For the *Christmas at Biltmore* 2019 celebration, more than 50 hand-decorated Christmas trees will shine inside Biltmore House.
- The largest tree inside Biltmore House is the Vanderbilt tradition – a fresh 35-foot-tall Fraser fir in the Banquet Hall. The smallest is a table top tree found in the Raphael bedroom.
- It takes around 50 Biltmore staff members to carry in, raise and secure the towering tree into place in the Banquet Hall.
- A lit 55-foot-tall Norway spruce encircled by 36 other illuminated evergreens decorates the front lawn of Biltmore House for *Candlelight Christmas Evenings*.
- A total of 64 additional decorated Christmas trees are located across the estate, including the Winery, The Inn on Biltmore Estate, Antler Hill Village and our restaurants.
- The Conservatory is decorated with groups of potted plants arranged in Christmas tree shapes. Multiple types of poinsettias can be found in each room of the Conservatory.

Lights and candles

- There are around 45,000 lights and 150 candles inside Biltmore House. Another 135,000 LED and mini lights are found around the estate.
- 55,000 lights illuminate the Front Lawn tree, with 33,450 more on the surrounding trees and shrubs. Ground-level lighting accents the poplar trees lining the front lawn.
- The driveway leading to the front of Biltmore House is lined with 250 luminaries that are hand-lit each evening at dusk for *Candlelight Christmas Evenings*. Biltmore staff members come back to extinguish them at the end of the night.

Ornaments

- Five hundred gift boxes, 500 ornaments and 500 LED Edison bulb style electric lights decorate the Banquet Hall Tree.

- There are 13,000 ornaments used on the other trees inside Biltmore House, and that many again around the estate to add sparkle and seasonal interest.
- Between seasons, the ornaments are sorted, labelled, and stored in approximately 1,000 boxes.

Poinsettias and other blooming plants

- There are more than 1,000 traditional poinsettias found in the Christmas displays around the estate.
- More than 1,000 amaryllis, Christmas cactus, orchids, peace lilies, cyclamen, begonias, and kalanchoe and potted green plants.
- More than 300 poinsettias enhance the holiday décor inside Biltmore House.

Wreaths

- We place 325 fresh wreaths and sprays along with 130 faux pieces around the estate during the season.
- Wreaths are made of fresh white pine and Fraser fir, ornamented with golden arborvitae, holly, or other natural materials such as twigs and cones.

Garlands

- We use 2,327 feet of fresh evergreen garlanding during the season, made of mixed white pine and Fraser fir. The garlands are replaced weekly to maintain a fresh look and fragrance for our guests.
- Faux garlands add another 1,654 feet in Biltmore House and around 1,800 feet in other areas.

Ribbons and bows

- We use 1,000 bows inside Biltmore House with twice as many at the other estate venues. We use everything from narrow cording to 8-inch-wide ribbons to make the bows. We decorate with velvets, metallics, satins, burlap and printed cottons.
- The amount of ribbon that is needed to make a bow ranges from 5 yards for a bow used on fresh garland on the Grand Staircase, to 15 yards to make a tree topper bow for a 16-foot tree like you might see in the Tapestry Gallery or Banquet Hall.
- In addition to the large 35-foot tree in the Banquet Hall, there are two 16-foot trees flanking the large triple fireplaces on the opposite side of the room. The design for these trees will feature a series of ribbon swirls using a total of around 1,000 yards of ribbon.
- Biltmore's design team is made up of 11 full-time floral designers and 14 part-time floral staff members.
- Every department from engineering services to housekeeping pitches in so that *Christmas at Biltmore* is memorable for each and every guest.