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> Christmas at the Botanics opens for third year

CHRISTMAS AT THE BOTANICS OPENS FOR THIRD YEAR

By [Kenny Smith](#) - 25th November 2019 [Facebook](#) [Twitter](#) [Google+](#) [LinkedIn](#) [Email](#)

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The Glasshouse, for Christmas at the Botanics, held at the Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh (Photo: Phil Wilkinson)

Christmas at the Botanics has opened at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, unveiling a series of magical light installations inspired by Christmas.

This year's event is set to be more spectacular than ever; with over one million twinkling lights, more than 4500 metres of cabling, 250 metres of garlands, 4480 candles and 60 Moroccan lamps dispersed throughout the trail.

The one-mile trail weaves through the Botanics, using the Garden's natural landscape and historic buildings as a backdrop for awe-inspiring visual effects.

This year will showcase new installations such as Voyage, a display of 300 floating origami boats on the Pond, created by Italian art and design studio Aether and Hemera, and the Laser Garden which comes to life with dancing laser beams and theatrical fog.

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Festive favourite, the Cathedral of Light, which wowed visitors with its 60-metre-long archway in 2018, is back as well as the Fire Garden, which displays a mixture of fire and light to create a unique, sensory experience.

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Voyage at the 2019 Christmas at the Botanics, held at the Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh (Photo: Phil Wilkinson)

Visitors can conclude their winter wonderland journey by taking part in the new Light Hearted installation, a playful interactive sculpture which lights up when two people hold hands, before enjoying the 'Festive Finale' at Inverleith House, which centres around colourful projections that play in time to much-loved Christmas classics.

Kari Coghill, director of enterprise and communication at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, said: 'At this time of year, when we are all thinking about Christmas trees, holly wreaths and so many other delights from the plant kingdom, there is a wonderful synergy with the light trail and the work we do.'

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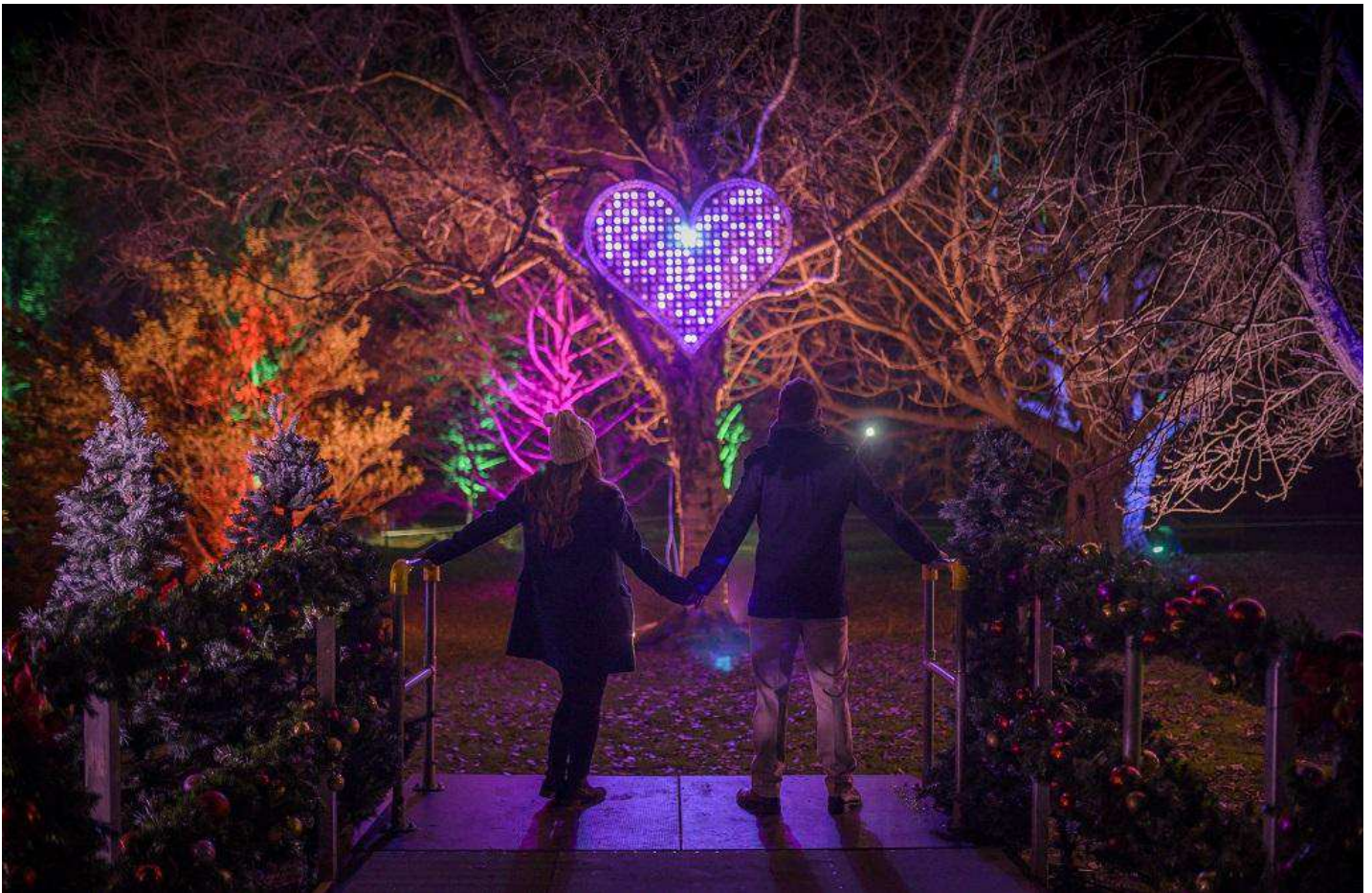
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'We are at the heart of efforts to look after plants such as these and currently support a huge conifer conservation project ongoing in more than 50 countries across the globe. Buying a ticket helps to support this and our other plant science and conservation work.'

Over 75,000 visitors attended Christmas at the Botanics in 2018 attracting audiences from as far as Germany, Japan and Australia.

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Light Hearted at The Botanics (Photo: Phil Wilkinson)

Jonathan Marks, chief development director at Raymond Gubbay, a division of Sony Music, which promotes the event, said: 'As the event enters its third year, it has become a staple light show in the winter calendar for Edinburgh locals and tourists alike.

'What better way to kick off the festive season and encourage a bit of Christmas spirit than with a dazzling light show set against the natural landscape of the Botanics. The new installations for this year will keep adults and children mesmerised for the entire duration of the trail and encourage them to spread a little Christmas cheer amongst family and friends.'

For ticket information, pricing and timings, visit rbge.org.uk and follow @mychristmastrails #ChristmasAtTheBotanics

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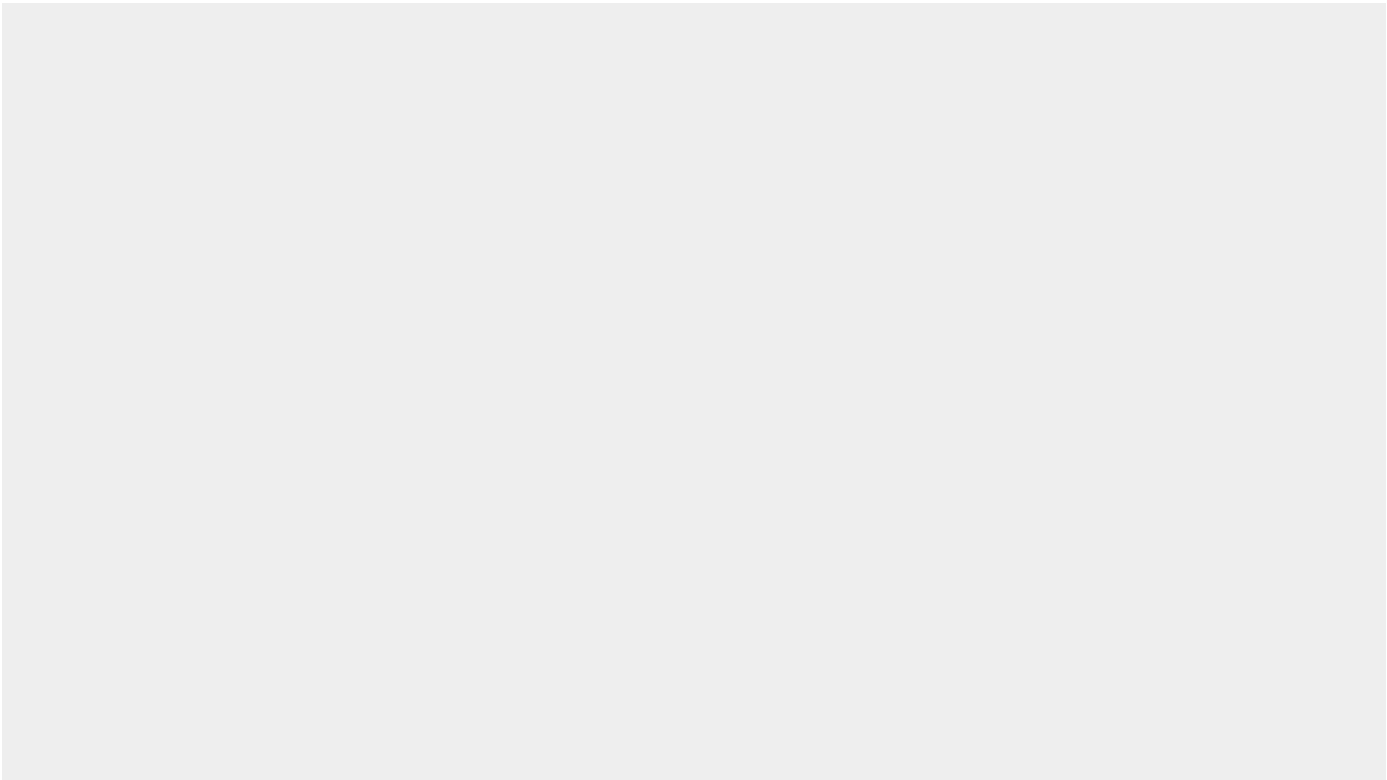


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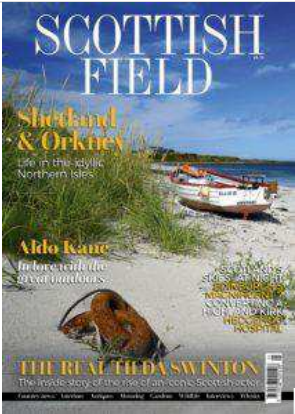
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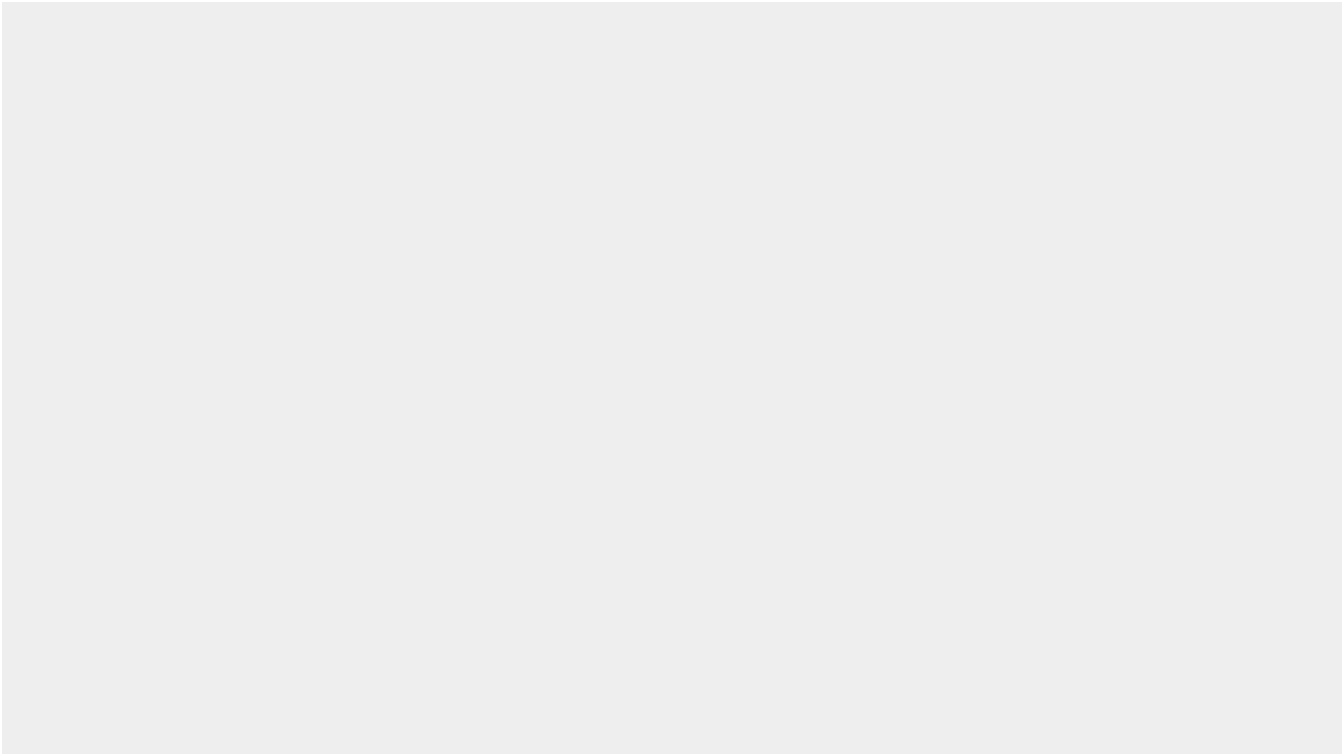
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