



HISTORIC
MITCHELVILLE
FREEDOM PARK | EST 1862

MEDIA ALERT:

**"THE GULLAH VILLAGE AT HOLIDAY NIGHTS AND LIGHTS"
IN HISTORIC MITCHELVILLE FREEDOM PARK RETURNS**

Join us for a mesmerizing drive through the Historic Mitchelville Freedom Park as it transforms into a Gullah Village decorated for the Holidays! From December 6-8, our beloved Holiday Nights & Lights event returns for the sixth year, bringing with it twinkling lights and fun holiday displays.

"Holiday Nights & Lights has become one of the ways our community comes home to Mitchelville. Each year, families, neighbors, and visitors drive through the Park and see not just lights, but the reflection of a living, breathing story that began right here. This season, as we honor 'The Gullah Village,' we're celebrating joy, resilience, and togetherness — the same values that built this community and continue to guide our work today," says Ahmad Ward, Executive Director of Historic Mitchelville Freedom Park.

The display is open nightly from Saturday, December 6th, through Monday, December 8th, 2025, from 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM at Historic Mitchelville Freedom Park, 40 Harriet Tubman Way, Hilton Head Island, South Carolina 29926. This event is for all ages, where children and adults alike can immerse themselves in a dazzling holiday light display.

This year, our theme is "The Gullah Village" to celebrate our local Gullah and Historic Communities and the rich holiday traditions throughout the Lowcountry. Drive through the village and visit with our community, just as in the days "before the bridge," when the holidays were a time for families to be together and enjoy simple joys like singing hymns, exchanging gifts like fresh fruit, and decorating the tree with Spanish moss. Be on the lookout for special recognition of The Gullah Museum, The Heritage Library, Penn Center, Lowcountry Gullah, NIBCAA, and more!

"When we say 'The Gullah Village,' we're inviting people to imagine what it felt like when folks visited one another 'before the bridge' — when community meant knowing your neighbors, sharing food, songs, and stories, and looking out for each other," says Joyce Wright, Director of Programs and Interpretation. *As you drive through the displays, we hope you feel that same warmth and welcome. These lights honor our Gullah and*



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historic communities, but they also remind us that the spirit of Mitchelville is still very much alive.”

Prepare for a magical evening at the Park—grab some hot cocoa, tune into your favorite Christmas music channel, and keep an eye out for surprises! To avoid long waits, we recommend lining up on Beach City Road beginning at 5:45 pm or at 7:30 pm. We ask for your patience with our volunteers and fellow participants. Admission is free, but donations are warmly accepted to support our mission. For more information about this event via our website at exploremitchelville.org or call 843-255-7301.

Event Website: <https://exploremitchelville.org/visit/holiday-nights-and-lights-25/>

When:

Nightly from Saturday, December 6 – Monday, December 8, 2025
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Where:

Historic Mitchelville Freedom Park
40 Harriet Tubman Way
Hilton Head Island, South Carolina 29926
Participants should line up on Beach City Road, Hilton Head Island, SC

About Historic Mitchelville Freedom Park:

Historic Mitchelville Freedom Park is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization and a cherished cultural landmark dedicated to preserving and celebrating the history of Mitchelville, a significant community founded by formerly enslaved individuals in 1862. The park aims to promote human understanding and foster just communities through the exploration of arts, culture, and history. To learn more about the park's initiatives and projects, visit exploremitchelville.org.



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Presents

The Gullah Village at
HOLIDAY
Nights & Lights

— A Drive Through Light Show —

AT HISTORIC MITCHELVILLE FREEDOM PARK

DEC 6-8
2025 | 6PM - 8PM

40 HARRIET TUBMAN WAY
HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SC 29926

Donations are welcome.



ATTENDEES MUST
REMAIN IN VEHICLES

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FOR MORE
INFORMATION

For more information, visit exploremitchelville.org or call 843-255-7301.

South Carolina
Just right.

