

Edinburgh nights

The nights are long, the mornings dark, autumn is over and it's not yet Christmas. It's tempting to hibernate at this time of year but let's save that for January and embrace the darkness...

Christmas at the Botanics

A million twinkling lights, seasonal and classic music, mulled wine, roasted marshmallows and a plethora of good food. Get the woolly hats on and head to the Botanics for a truly illuminating experience.



©Wullie Marr Photography

The standout exhibit this year is the Cathedral of Light,

running for 70 meters alongside the Garden's famous beach hedge, this installation features more than 100,000 pea lights. There is also a Santa show for the children where it is questioned whether his escaped reindeer might damage the conifers. When they ask what's to be done about this, "Shoot them and barbeque them, " turns out not to be the answer they were looking for. This is a great event if you want to take some fabulously flattering selfies for your social media pages.

Prices start from £14 for adults and £8 for children. [Www.rbge.org.uk/Christmas](http://www.rbge.org.uk/Christmas). Runs to 29th December.



La Clique performers posed under the Silent Light archways but

they are appearing at the Spiegeltent on Festival Square

La Clique Noel – Part Deux

If the title's in French you know it's adults only. A popular show last Christmas, la Clique is back with more 'dysfunctional artist's (show me ones that aren't) and genre-bending new variety performers.



Bernie Dieter and some invited guests at La Clique Noel Part Deux Photo Ian Georgeson

Sure you might have seen acts similar before but host Bernie Dieter and the fantastic live band give the atmosphere a very sexy vibe. Yes there's nudity but the tent is well heated, thank goodness. Some audience participation is involved, so if you don't want to find yourself rubbing Bernie's thigh, sit at the back.

Tickets from £21.50 www.edinburghchristmas.com Runs to 5th January and remember your EH discount!



Heather Holliday in La Clique Noel Part Deux Photo Ian Georgeson