

VISUAL STORY – WINTER WONDERLIGHTS

25 June – 19 July

SOVEREIGN

HILL

MUSEUMS
ASSOCIATION



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Winter Wonderlights Multi-sensory Event		Winter Wonderlights Zones		Planning your visit	
3	Visual Story Terms	11	WWL Zoned Map	19	Tickets
4	Winter Wonderlights Atmosphere	12	Zones from 5pm	20	Ticket Prices
5	WWL Event Visual Symbols	13	Shining Streetscapes PINK ZONE	21	Message from Sovereign Hill
6	Sensory Supports	14	Diggings After Dark PURPLE ZONE		
7	I will see	15	Fairylight Fun GREEN ZONE		
8	I will hear	16	Reflections of Winter BLUE ZONE		
9	I may feel	17	Food and Drink Available		
10	I may smell	18	Festive Treats		



VISUAL STORY TERMS

TERM	MEANING
SH	Sovereign Hill, museum name
SH Staff	All Sovereign Hill staff and volunteers
SH Guide	A Sovereign Hill staff or volunteer who guides my tour
WWL	Winter Wonderlights event - starts once the sun goes down from 5.45pm.
Precinct	An area of the museum
Township	The precincts in the outdoor museum
Brazier	A container used to hold a fire
Display	WWL sound and light show including projects and soundscapes

SH WINTER WONDERLIGHTS ATMOSPHERE

Winter Wonderlights (WWL) is a **three-week multi-sensory winter event** held at Sovereign Hill during the Victorian mid-year school holidays.

During the event, the 1850s township is **decorated with Christmas lights, large-scale light projections, snow, and displays.**

I can learn more at the WWL website [Winter Wonderlights](#)

MULTI-SENSORY STIMULATION



WWL is a multi-sensory event.

I may experience different sights, sounds, and other sensations happening at the same time.

DARK OUTDOOR ENVIRONMENT



WWL is a night-time experience.

I may find it harder to see in low-light areas.
The museum may look and feel different in the dark.

SEASONAL WINTER WEATHER



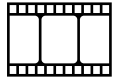
WWL is a Winter event.

I may feel the temperature change over the day.
I will experience colder weather.



WWL EVENT VISUAL SYMBOLS

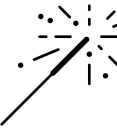
I will see:



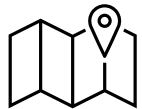
Projections with moving images and patterns on buildings at night.



Lights in different colours that might shine, flicker, or move in the dark.



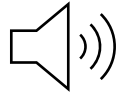
Fireworks, bright bursts of light will appear from buildings and then quickly disappear.



Map numbers help me to find different places during WWL.

I can use it to know where I am, and to plan my visit.

I will hear:



Soundscapes of different voices, music or sound effects that repeat.



Performances of people playing music, acting or a show.

I may feel:



Snow that is wet and lands like little bubbles on me. The fake snow fall is safe.



Overwhelmed by crowds, with less personal space around me. It may take longer to move in areas.



Quiet spaces are where there is often less noise and fewer people.

I can use these spaces to rest, calm down, and plan my visit.

I may smell:



Smoke from the brazier or fireplace. It may be a strong burnt or woody smell.



Scents that are sweet or spicy, warm, earthy and strong.



Food and drink with stronger smells because they are freshly cooked

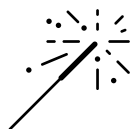
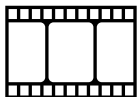
SH SENSORY SUPPORTS

I can:

- Bring a support person or items with me to help me feel more comfortable during the event.
- Check the temperature for Ballarat before I visit and wear warm comfortable clothing.
- Get a pass out from the front entrance and take a break from the event during the day or night.
- Organise a meeting point with my group, go to a quiet space, and go inside a building to have some time out from the event,

MULTI-SENSORY ENVIRONMENT	WINTER WEATHER OUTDOOR EVENT
I can bring: • Sight: sunglasses, glasses, a hat with a brim, a cap or hood. • Noise: noise-cancelling headphones or ear plugs. • Smell: face mask or a scented item. • Touch: gloves, long sleeves, comfortable shoes. • Comfort: fidget toy or comfort object. • Comforting snacks and a drink bottle. • Small torch or I can use the torch on my phone.	I can: • Wear thermal clothing, waterproof shoes, a warm coat – waterproof jacket. • Bring gloves, scarf, beanie or hat. • A small umbrella or hand warmers. • If I drive, I can have clothing items in my car in case the weather changes. • Buy warm drinks or food. • Warm my hands near the braziers. • Sit inside a venue, take a break in my car.

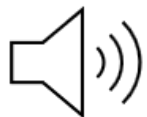
I WILL SEE BRIGHT LIGHTS AND MOVING IMAGES



I can:

- look away for a moment
- close my eyes for a moment
- go inside a building
- move further away so the images look smaller and less bright
- move into a darker space
- go inside
- move further away so the lights are less intense
- look at the ground or focus on something else nearby

I WILL HEAR MANY SOUNDS AT THE SAME TIME



I can:

- cover my ears to dull the sound
- wear noise cancelling headphones or ear plugs
- close my eyes and listen to just the sounds
- stand further away from the speakers so the sound is quieter
- go to a quiet space
- move around the precincts as I can see the projection repeated
- stand at the back or side of the audience area
- leave during the performance and take a break
- move further away so the sounds are less intense

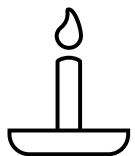
I MAY FEEL OVERWHELMED OR UNCOMFORTABLE



I can:

- shake or wipe the snow off
- use a towel or tissue to wipe the snow fall off
- watch from a distance
- move away to a dry sheltered area
- watch from a distance
- move away to a dry sheltered area
- stand at the back or side of the audience area
- leave during the performance and take a break
- move further away so the sounds are less intense

I MAY SMELL OVERPOWERING SMELLS



I can:

- Wear a face mask
- Move away from the source of the smell if it feels too strong
- Walk past a strong smell quickly
- Step away and take a breath of fresh area
- If the smell is inside, step outside
- Move to a less crowded area
- Use a calming or grounding strategy
- Bring my own food
- Eat outside

WWL ZONED MAP

I can visit four WWL zones.

I can use the colour key to locate the precincts on the map.

SHINING STREETSCAPES

I will see projections on the Main Street Buildings.

I can walk from the Blacksmiths **Map 22** up to Steinfelds at the top of the hill **Map 47**.

FAIRYLIGHT FUN

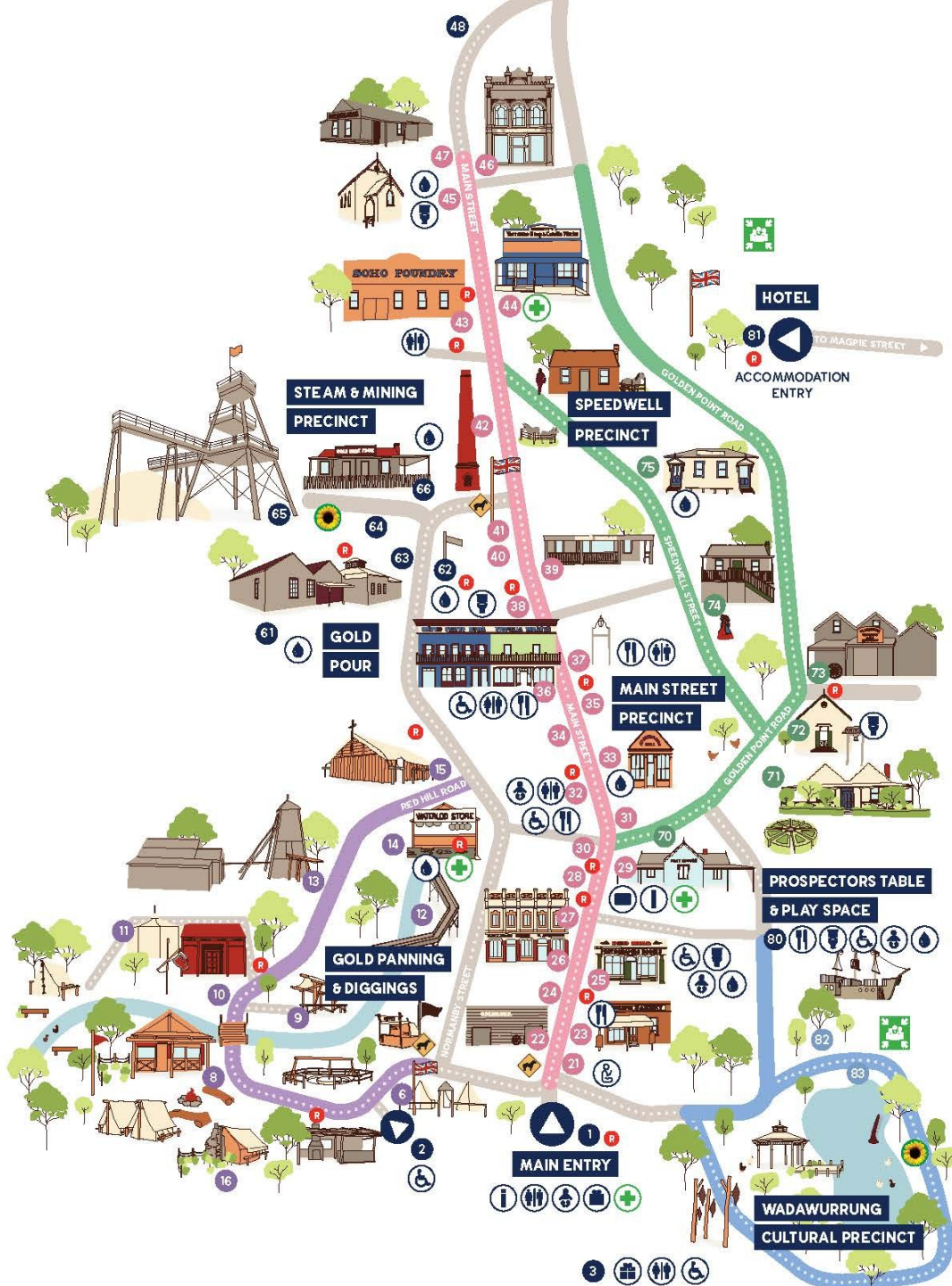
I will see 18KM's of fairylights along Speedwell Street cottages and the gardens.

THE DIGGINGS AFTER DARK

I will hear-the-sounds of people singing, talking, on the diggings at night.

REFLECTIONS OF WINTER

I will see lights on the surface of the Post Office Dam.



SH ZONES FROM 5PM

SHINING STREETSCAPES

I will see and hear projections in
Main Street.



DIGGINGS AFTER DARK

I will see lights and hear soundscapes at
the **Diggings and Chinese Village.**



FAIRYLIGHT FUN

I will see fairylights decorating **Speedwell Street** buildings and gardens.



REFLECTIONS OF WINTER

I will hear music and see light reflected on
the **Post Office Dam** water.



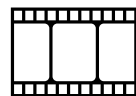
SHINING STREETSCAPES: 4.30PM – 7PM | 8.45PM - 10PM



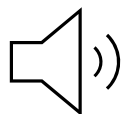
I can walk up and down Main Street to see the projections on the outside of the buildings.



- I can walk along Main Street from **Map 21 to Map 47** to view the projections.
- I do not need to go inside any buildings to see the projections as they are on the outside.



- I will see colourful moving projections shown in **15-minute** blocks that repeat.
- I can move along the street to view them from different angles and on different buildings.



- I will hear a countdown from **10 to 1** at **5:45pm**, which signals the start of the projections.
- I will hear music and sounds that accompany the projections.



- I can hear The Hill Band between **12pm – 4pm**. I can move away if it is too loud.
- I can hear the brass band play Christmas Carols between 4.40pm to 5.30pm.



- I might feel the fake snow land on my skin or clothing. I can brush it off if I don't like it.
- I will see three snowfalls. I will see the snow fall from buildings **Map 24, 36, 28, 44**.



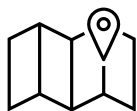
- I might feel overwhelmed by the crowds in the street.
- I can move to the wider roads at the top of **Main Street (Map 44)**, where there is more space.



- I might smell smoke from the braziers. SH staff monitor the fires and will put wood on.
- I can move away from the brazier. Sometimes the smell of smoke will stay with me for a while.



I can walk along Red Hill Road and stop to listen to the sounds of people down at the Diggings and the Chinese Village



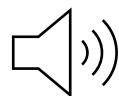
- I can view the Diggings **Map 6**, Red Hill Mine **Map 13**, and St Alipius Church **Map 15**.
- I can view the Chinese Village at **Map 8 and 10**.



- I can walk on wider roads. I can take my time as I walk up the hill.
- I can pause and look at the lights in the Chinese Village at **Map 8 and 10**.



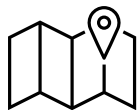
- I will see lights that look like lanterns.
- I will see lights in trees.



- I will hear voices singing, talking or a dog barking. I can stop and listen.
- I will hear the soundscape repeat every 15 minutes. I can do not have to listen to it all.



I can walk along Speedwell Street and visit the cottages and gardens decorated with fairy lights.



- I can visit a school Map 75 and cottages **Map 74**.
- I can visit Church Map 72 and the Brightview Gardens **Map 71**.



- I can walk on wider roads. I can look down at Main Street to see the projections.
- I can take a break in the Linton Cottage garden, down from **Map 74**.



- I will see cottages, fences and plants outlined in fairy lights.
- I can use the fairy lights to guide me as I walk down the paths.



- I can visit an 1850's family inside the cottage.
- I can stop and speak to them, or I can walk past them.



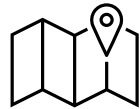
- I can enter the cottage through the open front door. I can exit out the back door.
- I might feel crowded in the cottage as they are small. I don't have to stay inside.



- I might smell a fire at the cottage. SH staff will put wood on the fires and check them.
- I might smell strong smoke in the cottage. I can leave the cottage for fresh air.



I can walk along Red Hill Road and stop to listen to the sounds of people down at the Diggings and the Chinese Village



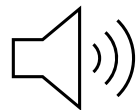
- I can visit St Nichola's Grotto **Map 83**.
- I can visit Wadawurrung Cultural Precinct and walk around the dam using the path.



- I can have my photo taken with St Nicholas between **2pm – 4pm & 5pm – 7pm Map 83**.
- I might have to wait in line for my turn.



- I will see lights on the water. The lights will change colour.
- I will see lights in trees and fairy lights twinkling in the dark.



- I will hear music through loudspeakers.
- I can wear headphones or cover my ears if it is too loud.



- I might see many people lining up to buy food, visit St Nick or shopping.
- I can walk or I can move away and take a slow walk around the dam.



- I might smell strong smoke from the braziers. I can check the wind direction and move away.
- I might smell different food smells at the Winter Store **Map 82 4pm – 7pm**. I can move away.



MAP 80

The Prospector's Table

10am – 7pm | 10pm
Dine-in & Take-away

**I can buy:**

- Fresh coffee
- Chips, sandwiches, pies
- Cake, ice-cream, fruit
- Cold drinks

**Vegetarian, Vegan,
Gluten Friendly items**



MAP 32

New York Bakery

11am – 6.45pm | 9pm
Dine-in

**I can buy:**

- Fresh coffee
- Hearty comfort food
- Sweet & savoury options
- Cold drinks

**Vegetarian, Vegan,
Gluten Friendly items**



MAP 23

Hope Bakery

10am – 7pm
Take-away

**I can buy:**

- Sausage rolls, pies & pasties
- Slices, pastries, biscuits
- Christmas treats

**Vegan &
Vegetarian items**



MAP 40

Tinsmiths

10am – 7pm | 9.30pm
Take-away

**I can buy:**

- Hot drinks
- Meatball Sub
- Christmas treats
- Cold drinks

Vegetarian items



MAP 36

United States Hotel

12pm – 7pm | 10pm
Dine-in & Take-away

**I can buy:**

- Gilded Grog Cocktail
- Hot mulled wine
- Beer



FESTIVE TREATS

I can enjoy special Christmas in July shops, meals, sweets and craft during the day or night.



MAP 80

Winter Store

4pm – 7pm | 10pm



MAP 70

Market Stalls

12pm – 7pm | 10pm



MAP 37

WWL Dinner

5pm & 6.45pm

Book at the United States Hotel



MAP 27

Confectionery Shop

10am – 7pm | 10pm



MAP 21

Christmas Craft

11am – 6pm



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TICKETS

Around 100,000 people enjoy WWL during the three-week event.

I can plan my visit in advance.

I can book my tickets online <https://www.sovereignhill.com.au/events/winter-wonderlights/>

I can buy tickets at the Front Entrance. I should check online first to make sure tickets are still available.

I can choose from **three ticket types**.

DAILY	EVENING	NIGHT
10am to 7pm	5pm to 7pm	8pm to 10pm
WWL projections start at 5.45pm	WWL projections start at 5.45pm	WWL projections start at 8.45pm
Monday to Sunday	Saturday	Friday & Saturday
• June 26, 27, 28, 29, 30 • July 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 • July 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 • July 16, 17, 18, 19	• June 27 • July 4 • July 11 • July 18	• June 27 • July 3, 4 • July 10, 11 • July 17, 18



TICKET PRICES

TICKET TYPE	DAILY	EVENING	NIGHT
TIME	10am to 7pm	5pm to 7pm	8pm to 10pm
ADULT	\$77.50	\$45	\$45
CONCESSION	\$62	\$35	\$35
CHILD 5 to 15 years	\$40	\$25	\$25
FAMILY 2 Adults & 2 Children	\$199	\$110	\$110

IMPORTANT

- Evening and Night-time tickets are only available on certain dates
- Children and toddlers under 5 are free
- Australian Pension Cards accepted
- Australian Companion Cards accepted

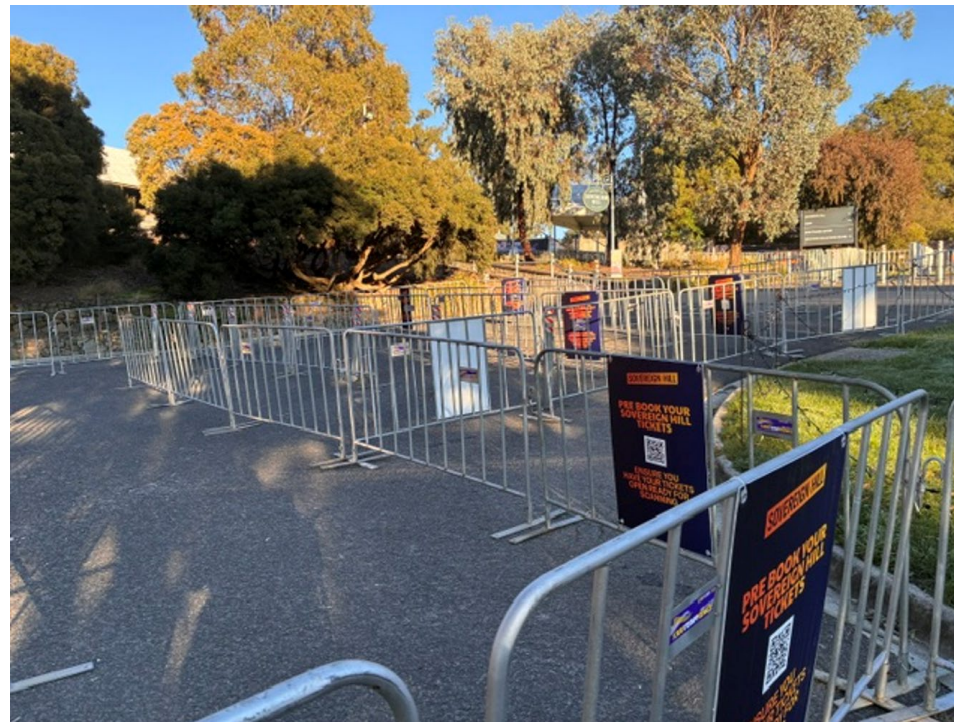
SH ARRIVAL



Once I have parked my car, I will follow the signs to the front entrance.

I may see lots of people waiting in line.

I will see metal fencing that shows where the line goes.



I will join the end of the line and wait for my turn.

If I am not sure where the end of the line is, I can ask someone, "Is this the end of the line?"

As the line moves, I will walk forward towards the front entrance.

The line will wind up the hill, so I will keep following the people in front of me.



When I get closer to the front entrance, I will join the line for my ticket type.

If I need to buy a ticket on the day, I will join the **Tickets** line.

If I bought my ticket at home, I will join the **Pre-purchased Tickets** line.

If I am not sure which line to join, I can ask a SH Staff for help.



If I need to buy a ticket, I will go inside the Front Entrance building.

If I have a pre-purchased ticket, I will enter through the gate.

SH staff will show me where to go and how to enter.

If I am unsure, I can ask a staff member for help.



MESSAGE FROM SOVEREIGN HILL

Thank you for visiting SH during WWL. We hope you will visit again.

We hope our visual story helped you to:

- learn about the Winter Wonderlights event
- plan your visit

We would like to hear your feedback so that we can continue to improve our visual story.

I can email feedback to education@sovereignhill.com.au

This visual story has been co-designed with



Autism Friendly



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