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Norad santa tracker 2015

NORAD Santa Tracking will help young and old track the trip on CHRISTMAS EVE THUNDER BAY - NEWS - It all started with a bug. At the height of the Cold War, on Christmas Eve 1955, the phone rang at the U.S. government's air defense headquarters. Visit www.noradsanta.org to enjoy the website. Instead of a senior general or the president of the United States, along the lines was a kid asking is this Santa Claus? This first mistake has grown for more than half a century in a Christmas Eve tradition. For more than 50 years, NORAD and its predecessor, Continental Air Defense Command (CONAD) have tracked Santa's flight around the world. The tradition began in 1955 after an announcement by Sears Roebuck & Co., based in Colorado Springs because kids call Santa to misprinting the phone number. Instead of reaching Santa, the phone number put the children through conad commander-in-chief's operations phone line. The Operations Director at the time, Colonel Harry Shoup, had his staff check radar for directions from Santa making his way south from the North Pole. Children who called were given updates on their location, and tradition was born. In 1958, the governments of Canada and the United States created a bi-national air defense command for North America called the North American Aerospace Defense Command, also known as NORAD, which then assumed the tradition of following Santa. North America's Aerospace Defense Command is celebrating the 60th anniversary of the follow-up to the Santa Iuletda voyage. Norad Tracks Santa's website, which launched today, features Santa's North Pole Village, which includes a holiday countdown, games, activities, and more. The website is available in eight languages: English, French, Spanish, German, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese and Chinese. Official NORAD Tracks Santa apps are also available in Windows, Apple and Google Play stores, so parents and children can count down the days until Santa's launch on their smartphones and tablets. Follow-up opportunities are also offered on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Google Plus. Santa's followers simply need to write @noradsanta on each search engine to get started. This year, the website features NORAD headquarters in North Pole Village and highlights of the program over the past 60 years. Tracking Santa's flight From 12:01 a.m. to 6 a.m. MST (2:01 a.m. EST) December 24, website visitors can see Santa make preparations for his flight. NORAD's Santa Cams will stream videos on the website as Santa makes his way over several locations. Then, at 4 a.m. MST (6 a.m. EST), the trackers everyone can talk to a live telephony operator to ask about Santa's whereabouts by dialing toll number 1-877-Hi-NORAD (1-877-446-6723) or by emailing noradtracksanta@outlook.com. Anytime on December 24, Windows users can request location from Santa Cortana, and OnStar subscribers can press the OnStar button on their vehicles to locate Santa. NORAD Tracks Santa is largely possible to the efforts and services of numerous program contributors, NORAD officials said. It may be the night before Christmas, but Santa is already difficult at work delivering toys to girls and boys (unless they are naughty) on the other side of the world. North America Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) - a joint operation between Canada and the United States that controls airspace in North America - is tracking Santa's journey around the world and five tweeting all the adventure. NORAD will be live tweeting Santa's journey throughout the day and civilians can also follow along to NORAD's live map on their website. Social media users can begin following Santa's journey after 12:01 a.m. ET on December 24. The story continues below the announcement. The defense support program satellites of the command center use an infrared sensor to detect heat signatures of Rudolph's nose to provide more accurate monitoring of sledding. Norad's Santa Tracker has been operating since 1955, after an ad misprinted the phone number for children to call Santa. Instead of reaching out to the cheerful man, the children began calling the commander-in-chief of continental Air Defense Command who began updating the children at Santa's geographic location. SEE: GENERAL CANADIAN CONVERSATIONS NORAD tracking Santa on his Christmas trip. In 2013, the NORAD website attracted more than 19.5 million unique visitors in December, the Facebook page attracted 1.45 million likes and the Twitter feed had 146,000 followers. Volunteers received 117,000 phone calls for children asking about Santa's whereabouts and answered 9,600 emails. Keep track of Santa's journey home Twitter users can continue to use the hashtag #NORAD or visit the NORAD website for more interactive updates. The story continues below the Google ad also has a Santa tracker that maps the sleigh trip on an interactive map. And when you put some milk and biscuits for Santa tonight, be sure to leave Rudolph and the other reindeer some carrot stick - they are bound to be tired by the time they end up in Canada. 60 years ago, a local Sears (SHLD) store in Colorado Springs ran a Santa sphere ad. Except the number was a mistake. Instead of listing the Santa de Sears helpline number, he published the number for the continental air defense command center. On Christmas Eve 1955, the Harry Shoup began receiving calls from children asking to speak to Santa Claus. Shoup worked in the operations department of the air defense center, now known as NORAD, so the call must have come as a surprise. Instead of telling the kids they dialed the wrong number, Shoup said it wasn't Santa Claus, but that he could track it on radar. All night, night, and his team made calls, giving the children details about Santa's location as he and his reindeer flew through the sky to deliver gifts to children. Colonel Harry Shoup Was born a tradition, and NORAD has opened its phone lines for its annual Santa Tracker ever since. Last year, hundreds of volunteers, including many employees of NORAD and Michelle Obama, made 135,000 calls from 234 countries. That's 40 calls per volunteer per hour. Volunteers make calls from children looking for Santa Claus's whereabouts. The original call center was created by AT&T, which had already served as NORAD's telecommunications provider. AT&T eventually split from Lucent, which later split from Avaya (AVYA) -- the company that now helps manage NORAD's crazy call volume on Christmas Eve. NORAD CONAD's predecessor in 1955. The Santa Tracker uses the same technology that is powering the government's critical systems, said Susan Keys, Avaya's Head of Government Solutions. Of course, it's more sophisticated technology today than it was 60 years ago. NORAD now also operates a website and social media channels where children can track Santa. It partnered this year with Microsoft to develop a special Christmas coloring book for people using the Microsoft (MSFT) Edge browser. The defense center tells children that it uses all of its vast technology to track Santa's movements around the world. Our constellation of defense satellites uses infrared tracking to maintain timely accuracy in the heat signature of Rudolph's nose, NORAD says in its promotional materials. Ground-based radar tracking sites relay global positioning updates to our elite fighter pilots, who often escort Santa's sleigh through the rough weather. CNNMoney (New York) First published December 24, 2015: 10:56 AM ET Where is Santa Claus? When will he arrive? These are questions millions of children around the world are asking themselves this Christmas Eve. To help, two wonderful services are ready as usual: NORAD Tracks Santa and Google Santa Tracker. Here at Search Engine Land we are also prepared, as always, with our own tradition: the annual review of both services and how to make the most of them, whether accessing them from the web or a smartphone, or even making an old-fashioned voice phone call. Santa Trackers > How They Got Started Once again, here are the two main Santa tracking services we recommend for 2015: NORAD Tracks Santa Google Santa Tracker Both are reliable and secure Santa trackers that will serve you well. Here's some brief background on each of them. The ad with a number of which obtained the Norad tracking of Santa Claus (source: NORAD) NORAD represents the North American Aerospace Defense Command, a joint military operation between the United States and Canada. This year, NORAD is celebrating its 60th anniversary follow-up to Jolly Old St. Nick. It all started in 1955, thanks to an error. A Sears store printed evil to call Santa in an ad, a number that rang at the headquarters of NORAD's predecessor, CONAD. The military group responded to this unusual call for service by giving an update on Santa's whereabouts, a tradition that has continued ever since. Google has been following Santa since 2004. First, it started on its own within Google Earth. Then, from 2007 to 2011, NORAD and Google worked together officially. In 2012, Google returned on its own, and Microsoft became the Norad partner. You can read more about Google's Santa tracking history in our article last year: How Google became a Santa Tracker tradition to rival NORAD. Looking for Santa The easiest way to find the Santa Claus location is just to search for Enter Santa on Google and a box will appear at the top of the page: Last year, Santa's current location appeared in this box. This year, this is not happening. Instead, you need to click on the box. You'll then be taken to the Google Santa Tracker, where you can find Santa Claus' location, as explained in a moment. You can also use Google Now or the Google search app to talk about search. Just say Santa to get a result like the one above. Don't say Where's Santa, as this doesn't work with Google. In Bing, find Where's Santa, and its current location will appear: If you click the Follow Santa link, you'll be taken to the NORAD site as described below. Those who use Bing-powered Cortana can talk, Where's Santa and get an answer with their location: This works for Cortana on Windows, iOS and Android. By the way, Apple Siri doesn't help. If you ask Siri Where's Santa, she just answers with her standard North Pole joke, of course! Finding Santa on a map, via the web Another easy way to track Santa is by going to NORAD Tracks Santa or Google Santa Tracker directly to your web browser. If you go to NORAD, a 3D view of where Santa is flying will automatically appear: at the top of the screen, you'll be shown where he was last seen, where he's headed and the estimated number of gifts delivered. Use YOUR MOUSE to click and drag to rotate the view. The buttons in the upper right corner allow you to zoom in and out. Google has a similar overview map: Google's map shows Santa's current location on the left side. On the right, you'll see Santa's distance from you, gifts delivered so far, his next stop and when he'll get there. You can also scroll through the right side column to see the locations above, as explained below. Why do trackers show Santa in different locations? Some children may be confused if how to check the two at the same time and discover that Santa Claus is appearing in different places. How is this possible? One reason is that NORAD depends more on radar radar satellites to scan Santa, while Google depends more on updates coming from Wi-Fi hot spots and cell towers. This can cause some delays and, in turn, differences. For more on this, see our most detailed story of 2013: Santa Tracking Explained: Why NORAD & Google Show Different Locations & Gifts Delivered. The biggest reason is that Santa Claus is super fast. By the time you've seen it in one place, in the blink of an eye, you've already gone to the next. That's why when it's bedtime, kids really have to be right to sleep. Santa could appear in a flash! Where was Santa Claus? You can use Google maps and NORAD to see places Santa has already visited. Not every place he has been will be shown. Santa visits everywhere, of course. Listing all these sites would make the map too crowded! If you don't see your own location, don't worry. Santa has visited or is still on his way. On NORAD, to see where Santa has been, use the 2D/3D button at the top right of the screen to reveal the world's 2D view. Map icons show where Santa Claus was previously seen. Click any location that appears and the screen will change with more information about this site: Alternatively, scroll through the feed on the right side of the screen to see the places it's been, mixed between videos and other status updates. NORAD's Santa Cam Video My favorite feature of Santa's followers is the one offered by NORAD, his Santa Cam videos showing Santa flying over different landmarks in cities around the world. Here's a screenshot of him flying over Sydney this year: Here's the real video: The easiest way to watch all Santa cam videos as they are posted is to click on the Movies link at the top of the NORAD site, which opens a window with a video playlist: NORAD also has a YouTube channel. However, it doesn't list Santa Cam videos there, even though they are hosted on YouTube. Instead, the only way to discover them is through the NORAD site. While Google has video clips, unlike NORAD, they don't show Santa in flight, nor are they customized to any location. Santa Yes Tracker applications, there are apps to follow Santa. NORAD offers them for Windows, and Android: Android iPhone/iPad/iOS Windows 8 and 10 Windows apps work in a similar way to going to the actual website (and if you're on a Windows desktop, there's no compelling reason to use the Windows app through your browser). Here it is Looks on iOS: Again, Google only offers one app for its Santa tracker on Android, which provides basic tracking information: the app offers the ability to location Chromecast Santa, which is nice. More on this is explained below. If you have Android Wear, you're also supposed to be able to get a Santa tracker face. Google also offers a Chrome browser extension that places an icon in the top right corner of your browser to instantly access Santa Claus' location. It's very practical. Here's what it looks like: Tracking Santa on the TV with Chromecast as mentioned above, if you have the Google Santa Tracker app for Android, you can send Santa's location to a Chromecast device or Android TV unit (such as Nexus Player). Just tap the Chromecast icon at the top of the app. Here's how it looks on TV: I love this. It's a great way to keep up about Santa's progress without running to a computer or smartphone. Santa's follow-up via social media Yes, Santa's follow-up can be done through social media. NORAD provides updates on Santa's location through the following services: Here's an example of how updates look on Twitter: In the past, Google has made updates on Santa's progress through its Google Maps social accounts. So far, that hasn't happened this year. But in case you come back as Christmas Eve progresses, here are the accounts to see: Google Maps on Google+ Google Maps on Facebook Google Maps on Twitter Santa's Location By Voice Phone Call or Email If you're looking for ways to keep track of Santa, you can email noradtracksanta@outlook.com. You should get an answer back telling you your current location. You can also make a phone call to NORAD, the way it all started. The number is 1-877-Hi-NORAD (or 1-877-446-6723). If the line is busy, you may be told to call or hear a recorded message asking you to wait. Finally, a real person will respond, usually a military volunteer resigning on Christmas Eve to provide an update. This covers the trackers. While you wait for Santa to arrive, if you want something fun to do, try printing google's special logos of running paper houses and making them yourself. Google has provided special templates, as shown further in our other story: 'Tis The Season! For holidays Google Doodles papercraft models and clippings. Merry Christmas and Merry Christmas all of us here at Search Engine Land! Earth!