

SHORE LIVING
REAL ESTATE



AT HOME ON
THE SHORE

HOLIDAY *home* GUIDE

From cozy holiday recipes to smart home tips, local events, and seasonal décor ideas, this guide has everything you need to make the most of the holidays.



P 06
*Must-See
Attractions*

TABLE *of* CONTENTS



p 05
*Holiday Nibbles:
Pain D'espice*



P 06
Quiet Luxury:
The Holiday Trend *of the Year*



01 YEAR-END HOME VALUE REPORT 2024

02 HOLIDAY & WINTER PREP CHECKLIST

03 SEASONAL ENERGY SAVING TIPS

04 HOLIDAY DECOR TREND OF THE YEAR

05 HOLIDAY NIBBLES AND FESTIVE TREATS

06 CITY EVENT GUIDE: MUST SEE ATTRACTIONS

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Whether you're in full-on holiday prep mode or just looking for an excuse to try something festive (like the recipe on page 5), this guide has you covered.

As the holidays roll in and another year wraps up, I wanted to send you something a little extra special. Think of this as a cozy, fun-packed bundle of **everything you need to get into the holiday spirit**, stay connected with your home, and maybe even try something new.

Wishing you all the best this holiday season, and I'm just a call away if you need anything—or if you want to share how that super delicious new recipe turned out!

— Julie





THE HOLIDAYS

aren't about perfection;
it's about *imperfect people*
making *perfect memories* in a
space filled with love, laughter,
and a little bit of *festive chaos*.”

- MELANIE GREY



THE NUMBERS ARE IN

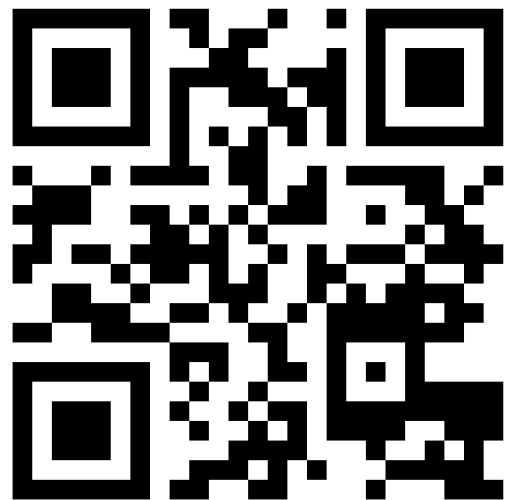
Year-End Home Value Report

Drumroll...your home's value is looking pretty sweet.



Curious of your home's increasing value?

Scan this code below to instantly see your home value. You can tweak it by inputting information about your initial purchase, any refinances and begin tracking your wealth!



You may be looking at some serious equity. You've not only made memories, you've made a smart investment—and it's paying off, big time.

SO WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR YOU?



INCREASED EQUITY

Your home's growing value means more equity you can use for refinancing, investing, or a home project you've been dreaming of.



MARKET OPPORTUNITIES

With home values rising, it's a great time to explore if staying, selling, or refinancing fits your future plans. Even if you're not moving, it's smart to stay informed.



PLANNING AHEAD

Knowing your home's value helps you plan upgrades that boost its worth, like energy-efficient improvements or enhancing curb appeal for long-term gains.



HOLIDAY & PREP CHECKLIST

WINTERIZE YOUR HOME

(interior)

- **Seal Doors and Windows**
Keep the cold out and the warmth in by checking for drafts and sealing any gaps around windows and doors. **[Insert recommended local specialist]**
- **Check Your Heating System**
Before winter really sets in, have your furnace or heating system serviced to ensure it's running efficiently. **[Insert local HVAC contractor]**
- **Insulate Pipes**
Avoid frozen pipes by adding insulation to exposed pipes in colder areas of your home (basements, attics, garages). **[Insert local plumber]**

WINTERIZE YOUR HOME

(exterior)

- **Clean Gutters**
Clear out leaves and debris to prevent ice dams and water damage during winter storms. **[Insert recommended local specialist]**
- **Inspect Roof & Chimney**
Check for roof damage and clean your chimney to avoid hazards. **[Insert recommended local roofing or chimney sweep service]**
- **Trim Trees & Shrubs**
Prune branches near your home to avoid damage from heavy snow or ice. **[Insert recommended local tree trimming service]**

CLEAN & PREP

- **Deep Clean High-Traffic Areas**
Give a little extra attention to spaces like the kitchen and bathrooms before holiday guests arrive.
- **Declutter and Organize**
Keep things festive but functional by clearing out clutter and organizing spaces for entertaining.
- **Get Your Fireplace Ready**
If you have a wood-burning fireplace, make sure it's clean and safe for cozy fires all winter long.

GUEST PREP

- **Cozy Beds**
Make your guests feel pampered with freshly changed linens and extra blankets to keep them warm.
- **Gather Essentials**
Provide fresh towels, facecloths, and essential toiletries on the bed.
- **Extras**
Bedside chargers for all device types, a bottle of water, and a light book or magazine for easy bedtime reading.

DECK THE HALLS (SAFELY)

- **Check Holiday Lights**
Inspect all holiday lights for frayed wires or broken bulbs before you hang them.
- **Hang Decorations Securely**
Avoid accidents by making sure all holiday decorations are safely secured, especially on staircases, roofs, or around the fireplace.

BONUS: BUDGET HACKS

- **DIY Wrapping Paper**
Use old newspapers or brown paper bags to wrap gifts, then dress them up with festive ribbons, stamps, or drawings.
- **Potluck Holiday Parties**
Hosting doesn't have to break the bank —ask friends and family to bring a dish to share. That way, everyone contributes, and you save on the food bill!

Seasonal Energy-Saving Tips

Winter's here, and while we love a cozy vibe, nobody loves skyrocketing energy bills. Don't worry—we've got five simple (and smart) ways to keep things toasty without toasting your wallet.



01 Sunlight = Free Heat

Nature's giving you some free warmth, so why not take it? Keep those curtains open during the day to soak up all that glorious sunshine. Then close them up when the sun sets to lock the cozy in. Easy, right?



02 Stop Sneaky Drafts

Your windows and doors might be letting the cold sneak in. Grab some weatherstripping or caulk to seal those pesky gaps. Trust us, you'll feel the difference—and so will your energy bill.

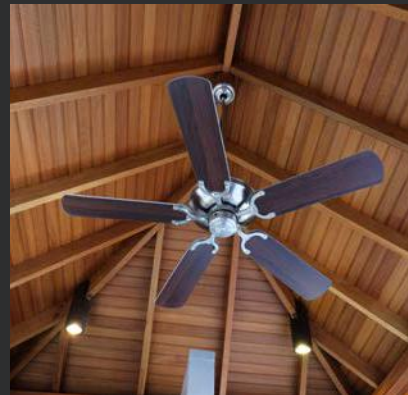
03 Thermostat Smarts

If you don't have a programmable thermostat, now's the time. Set it to dial down the heat when you're not home or catching some Z's, and boom—up to 10% saved on heating costs. Your future self will thank you.



04 Flip That Fan

Here's a fun one: set your ceiling fan to spin clockwise in the winter. It'll push warm air back down where it belongs, and you can stay cozy without cranking up the heat. Who knew fans worked year-round?



05 Lighten Up with LEDs

Still rocking old-school bulbs? It's time to upgrade. LEDs use way less energy (we're talking 75% less!) and last longer—so you can stay lit for the holidays without the electric bill guilt.





Quiet Luxury: 

The Holiday Decor Trend of 2024

“Quiet luxury,” is everywhere right now and holiday decor is the next wave to be hit by this growing trend. Here's how to bring this trend into your holiday setup:



TONE-ON-TONE DECOR

For a chic holiday look, try tone-on-tone décor by layering different shades of a single color. Whether you choose winter whites or festive reds, this creates a sophisticated, cohesive space that's festive without being overwhelming.



EMBRACE EARTHY VIBES

Brown is having its moment, and it's perfect for creating a warm, grounded holiday space. Think rich, chocolate-toned velvet throws, dark wood accents, and textured linens that bring depth to your décor.



VINTAGE LAMPS

A mid-century floor lamp or pendant light—especially Italian or French styles from the '50s—can bring warmth and a timeless, festive feel to your holiday space, making it both stylish and inviting.



MIX TEXTURES

Layer soft fabrics like wool, velvet, and linen with natural elements like wood and stone to create a cozy, inviting space that feels rich and full of character.



COZY HOLIDAY BITES *to* SAVOR

DELICIOUSLY WARM BITES AND SWEET TREATS TO
BRING JOY AND COMFORT TO EVERY HOLIDAY MOMENT

SHORE LIVING

NONA'S PAIN D'ÉPICES

Nona's Pain d'Épices is kind of a big deal in my family. For years, it was her well-guarded secret—made just once a year, with a perfectly measured dash of cinnamon and a whole lot of honey. We'd wait all season for that first warm, spicy bite. Last year, I finally convinced her to let me in on the magic. And now, with her blessing, I'm sharing it with you. (Trust me, it's worth the wait!)



METHOD

1. Preheat oven to 180°C (350°F) and grease a small baking tin.
2. Mix spelt flour, rye flour, cinnamon, ginger, nutmeg, cloves, baking powder, baking soda, and salt in a large bowl.
3. In another bowl, whisk coconut milk, honey, oil, orange juice, and zest.
4. Combine wet and dry ingredients, mixing until just combined.
5. Pour into the prepared tin and bake for 50-55 minutes.
6. Cool for 10 minutes, then transfer to a rack to cool completely.
7. Wrap and let rest overnight before slicing and serving.

INGREDIENTS

- 1 1/2 cups light spelt flour
- 1/2 cup rye flour*
- 1.5 teaspoons baking powder
- 0.5 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 0.5 teaspoon ground ginger
- 0.5 teaspoon fresh ground nutmeg
- 0.5 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 0.25 teaspoon ground cloves
optional
- 0.25 teaspoon sea salt
- 13.5 oz. canned coconut milk
- 1/2 cup honey
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- Zest of an orange
- 2 tablespoons orange juice

CHRISTMAS CHOCOLATE CAKE

- 2.3 OZ PRUNES, CHOPPED
- 8.8 OZ RAISINS
- 4.4 OZ CURRANTS
- 1.75 OZ CANDIED ORANGE PEEL
- 6.2 OZ UNSALTED BUTTER
- 6.2 OZ DARK BROWN SUGAR
- 6 FL OZ HONEY
- 4.2 FL OZ COFFEE LIQUEUR
- JUICE AND ZEST OF 2-3 ORANGES
- 1 TSP MIXED SPICE
- 4 TBSP COCOA
- 3 LARGE EGGS, BEATEN
- 5.3 OZ PLAIN FLOUR
- 2.6 OZ GROUND ALMONDS
- ½ TSP BAKING POWDER
- ½ TSP BAKING SODA

Combine prunes, raisins, currants, and candied orange peel. / In a large saucepan, melt butter, sugar, honey, liqueur, orange juice, and zest over low heat. Stir in mixed spice and cocoa. / Add the dried fruit to the mixture and simmer for 10 minutes. Let cool. / Stir in eggs, flour, almonds, baking powder, and baking soda. / Pour into a greased tin and bake at 300°F (150°C) for 1.5-2 hours until a skewer comes out clean.

“When I was a kid, I’d wait all year for this cake. My mom refused to make it any other time, so Christmas was extra special—definitely not your average fruitcake!”

-Melanie Grey

A festive winter scene with falling snow and people in winter attire. The background shows a crowd of people, some wearing hats and coats, in a snowy environment. A building with lit windows is visible in the distance. The overall atmosphere is cozy and celebratory.

What's Happening Around the Eastern Shore

Whether you're on the hunt for cozy holiday markets to pick up unique gifts or looking for festive events to enjoy with friends and family, this guide has you covered!

SHORE LIVING

Fed.

EVENTS *in the* CITY



EASTON HOLIDAY PARADE

Enjoy over 60 decked-out vehicles and floats starting at 6:30 PM. The festivities kick off earlier with Santa's arrival at Thompson Park at 5:30 PM, followed by a tree lighting at 6:00 PM.

DECEMBER 7, 2024



OXFORD HOLIDAY MARKET

At the Oxford Community Center, this festive market offers unique artisan gifts, holiday music, and delicious food. It's free to attend, making it an accessible option for all.

DECEMBER 13-15, 2024



CHRISTMAS IN ST. MICHAELS

Bring the kids to explore a Candy Land-themed event with games, crafts, and story time. This fun, sweet adventure is perfect for younger children.

DECEMBER 13-15, 2024



A CHRISTMAS CAROL AT THE AVALON THEATRE

Enjoy this classic holiday production at the historic Avalon Theatre in downtown Easton.

ON SELECT DATES IN DECEMBER

HOLIDAY CHECKLIST

THINGS TO BUY

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

THINGS TO CLEAN

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

THINGS TO PREP

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

FOOD TO MAKE

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

TO-DO TODAY

TO DO

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

NOTES



TO-DO TOMORROW

-
-
-



THAT'S A WRAP!

Wishing you and your family big dreams, warm hearts, and maybe a little extra sparkle in the new year!

Whether you're decking the halls, setting New Year's goals, or simply enjoying the space you're in, we hope this guide brought a little extra joy and inspiration to your holiday season! If you try out any of the tips or recipes, let us know—we love hearing what makes your holidays brighter.

Tag us on Instagram @shorelivingrealestate, and share your festive finds! Here's to new beginnings, warm homes, and all the beauty this season (and 2025!) holds.



Need My Help?

I'm always a text, phone call or email away!

410.251.5291 | JULIE@SHORELIVINGREALESTATE.COM | SHORELIVINGREALESTATE.COM

SHORE LIVING