



Now it's all about Santa's trip

Posted on December 2nd, 2014 by Harriet Baskas



Now that all that turkey business is over with, it's time to start watching the skies for Santa.

NORAD – the North American Aerospace Defense Command – is already on the job with its [NORAD Tracks Santa](#) website, which has a holiday countdown, games, activities, Santa data and more in eight languages: English, French, Spanish, German, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese, and Chinese.

Leaving no Santa-tracking stone unturned, NORAD is also tracking Santa with apps in the Windows, Apple and Google Play stores, on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Google+.

Why does NORAD track Santa?

The story goes that in 1955 a Colorado Springs-based Sears Roebuck & Co. advertisement misprinted the telephone number for children to call Santa. The phone number put kids through to the desk of the Continental Air Defense Command (NORAD's predecessor) Commander-in-Chief instead and that man, Colonel Harry Shoup, played along and gave kids updates on Santa's progress.

A tradition was born and now, using the internet and a team of volunteer elves, the whole world can check on Santa via NORAD's satellites and Santa cams.



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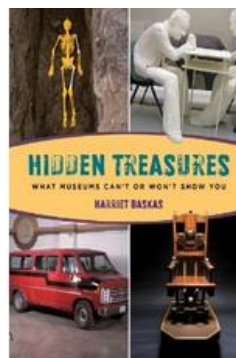
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Travel Tools

NORAD isn't the only organization tracking Santa this season. [Finnair](#), which claims to be the official airline of Santa Claus since 1983, has two of its Airbus 321 Sharklet aircraft flying with Christmas livery.



The airline also is also sharing this "secret of Christmas" video.



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Advertisers

A LEGO Minifigure Family advertisement. The background is teal with white stars. At the top left is the LEGO logo. A white banner with a ribbon effect says "MINIFIGURE FAMILY". Below this, the text reads "Create a Minifigure version of your family's holiday card." and "www.MinifigureFamily.com". In the center, there are two minifigures: a gingerbread man holding a red bucket that says "DUNK ME!" and a snowman. To the right, there are two holiday cards: one says "Happy Holidays" and the other says "Happy New Year". At the bottom, there is a teal button with the text "GET STARTED".