

The Queen gets Christmas ready with a 20ft tree at Windsor Castle and it even has crown baubles

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Christmas has arrived for the royal family with staff putting up some spectacular trees at Windsor Castle today. Festive photographs show the traditional 15ft Nordmann Fir trees from Windsor Great Park being erected in the Crimson Drawing Room, and a 20ft version in St George's Chapel.

The Queen has got in Christmas spirit today and a 15ft Nordmann Fir tree was erected in the Crimson Drawing Room in Windsor Castle

Staff could be seen carefully adding red and gold baubles to the impressive trees, before hanging miniature crowns and silver-gilt pieces from the Grand Service.

Ladders were needed to reach the highest branches of the trees that are now the centre-pieces of the grand rooms of the Queen's weekend palace, which is a stone's throw from Meghan Markle and Prince Harry's home Frogmore Cottage.

The show-stopping Christmas decorations are an annual tradition, with Queen Victoria's husband Prince Albert being the first to ship over a 26ft Nordmann Fir from Germany for the castle.

The Queen is expected to spend some time at Windsor Castle in December, but typically goes to Sandringham for the big day itself.

The Queen arrived back from Buckingham Palace to Windsor Castle for the weekend accompanied with dog Candy yesterday

Staff had to climb ladders to get the red and gold decorations to the higher branches

The decorations are now the centre-pieces of the grand rooms of the Queen's weekend palace

Members of the royal family join the Queen and Prince Philip on Christmas Eve in Norfolk and celebrations last until Boxing Day.

During this time, they eat delicious food, play games like Charades, go on walks and everything is pencilled into a schedule.

The royals typically like to give cheap, jokey gifts to one another, with Prince Harry once taking the gag gift rule to the extreme with a very rude present for his grandma - a shower cap with a slogan across it reading "Ain't Life A B****h".

Prince Harry, Meghan and baby Archie are reportedly not spending Christmas with the rest of the royal family this year.

Staff from Windsor castle, adjust decorations on a Christmas tree in St George's Hall room

A Royal Collection Trust member of staff puts the finishing touches to a 20ft Nordmann fir tree, sourced from the Windsor Great Park

Most of us hurry to put the tree away by the Twelfth Night on January 5, but Her Majesty does things a little differently.

She's said to keep her decs up until February 6, which marks the anniversary of her father's death.

King George VI passed away at Sandringham, where the royals celebrate Christmas, on that date in 1952.

And the Queen tends to stay in the Norfolk estate to mark the anniversary in private with Prince Philip before returning to Buckingham Palace and Windsor Castle.

- The Sun