



Merry Ho,

May god help us all - Santacon is coming to town!

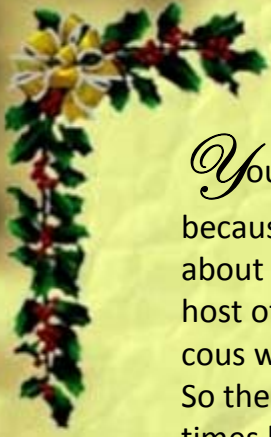
*L*isten up soldiers! Drag Santa here. We've lost many a good Santa over the years to beast that is "The 'Con", so quit ya bitchin' and pay attention. Those of you who have taken part in Santacon before will no doubt be personalizing your red suits and building up your capacity to drink alcohol, scare children, dodge bullets and throw a five fingered Shaolin eye gouge. If you're not then you damn well should be!!

*F*or those of you who have not attended, you're probably sat blissfully unaware of what is about to befall you. Like a newborn gazelle on the Serengeti, you may well find that your youthful innocence is your downfall as you lie in central London with your throat ripped out...maybe surrounded by lions...maybe not...maybe that's just taking the metaphor too far. Either way, you'll be bleeding out and your final thought will be that Drag Santa has remarkably good legs for a guy. You're not wrong. However, your second to final thought will be that you wish you'd read the 'Guide to Santacon 2008' a whole lot more closely!! If you're really unlucky, you'll have me standing over you - yes you get to check out my fine pins one last time but you'll also suffer the indignity of me saying 'I told you so!

*R*ight, on to business. This year, Santacon is on...(drum roll please)...**Saturday 13th December**. WAIT! Don't pass out just yet...there's more!

*E*ach year Santacon gets bigger and bigger, meaning that we get to do less and less stuff because of the size. That's right ladies – sometimes bigger isn't better! This year we are doing things a little differently...this year we're going to have **2** start points; **West** and **South** London, with both groups meeting a bit later in the day.





You can choose to go to whichever you want but both have been picked because they provide the opportunity for a great deal of fun! There's more about the routes and the organisers later in this guide, along with a whole host of important advice and more poor jokes...all served on a bed of cous cous with a light balsamic dressing and a side of winter vegetables. So there you have it. I don't care whether you've been to Santacon a billion times before and evacuate your bowls at the mere mention of the event, or if this is your first time - Read this guide! (...and rub yourself in that special place.)

Drink and be Merry!

Drag Santa



Main Santas

OK, so every year you get to enjoy Santacon but we should give some props to the Santas behind the event. Santacon has been changing over the years and the organizers have changed a fair bit. Therefore a big HOOOO! for past organizers and those who don't hold the megaphone on the day but who provide support each year - may sherry and mince pies rain down on them:

Then you have the main Santas this year. This is not just about ego-massaging (honestly!). On the day there are only a few people (5) who actually know what is going on for the rest of the day, so memorise their faces in case you need to speak to them. They are (in no particular order):

Blue Beard (Route Undecided)



One of the original Santa organizers, BB is pure old school and has the most impressive record when it comes to the number of 'Cons completed. Integral to the success we enjoy each year, she is a lynch-pin of the entire operation. Sporting her infamous blue beard, she's a saucy she-devil in a red suit who will drink any man under the table and then take his girlfriend home to party. This Santa should be feared!

Don King (South route)



With more staying power than a Duracell powered Rampant Rabbit, Don King Santa is a key feature at pretty much every social occasion of worth in London. His Germanic efficiency is the glue that keeps the Santacon planning process stuck together year-on-year. One of the nicest Santas you could possibly hope to meet, he's got love for everyone. This Santa should be revered!

Badass (West route)



They say that those who see the face of god go insane...well the same can be said for those who glimpse the mind of Badass. A Santa who oozes creativity from every pore, we have to sedate him with elephant tranquilisers on the day, just to limit his partying to mere mortal proportions. A Santa for many years, everything he touches turns to party! This Santa should be certified!



Miss Thang (Route Undecided)



Packing a 'tude and a shiv, Miss Thang Santa is the enforcer of the group and someone not to be messed with. Formerly Dred Santa, she has changed her hair and name in an effort to evade capture by the authorities. While she doesn't hold the megaphone, she does hold the power to smite men down with her pinky. Buy her a drink however, and you'll have a friend for life 😊. This Santa should be respected!

Drag (West route)



Drag Santa is quite clearly sex on legs. While he makes the worst 'woman' when dressed up, he is universally lusted after by men and women alike - the latter due to his impressive reputation that earned him the nick-name 'The Pneumatic Tongue'. Armed with a beguiling sexual potency, he is required to regularly sign a special register and is not allowed within 100 metres of any branch of the Women's Institute. This Santa should be molested!

Lastly, we have a couple more Santas who will be providing invaluable support and helping lead on the day. Hug them at all costs!!

Santhony (South)



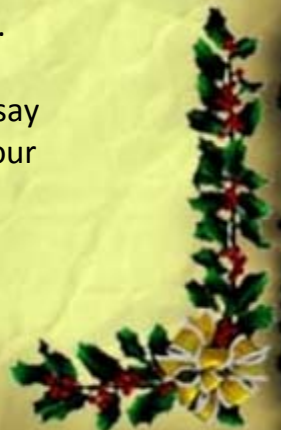
Santa Muff (West)



There is absolutely no profit made on this venture and any money made on the afterparty door sales is used as a deposit for a venue for the next year.

All organisation is done out of the kindness of the Santa organisers' hearts.

If you're having a great time and see one of the Santas above, feel free to say thank you and buy them a drink, give them a hug or perhaps even share your last chocolate coin 😊.





Missions

When we have so many Santas, we find we can't get away with some of the fun things we used to do when we numbered but a few. Therefore, in an attempt to re-capture the halcyon days gone by, we have come up with several 'Santa Missions' that will see small groups of no more than 10 Santas head off around London to have a little bit of fun and spread the cheer on a smaller scale.

We've had emails from Santas interested in taking part in the missions and we'll be in touch with them shortly. All other interested Santas should approach one of the leaders at the start point on the day - leaders at each route start point will then hand out mini-santa missions.

After Party

We have an after-party organized at a secret venue in Central London, WC2. The venue for our finale party uses Ticketweb, and as their admission desk is set up for and familiar with that, we are going to go with that this year as it will speed up entrance and not leave you standing in the cold. This is the good news.

A single admission will be £5 plus an 85p booking fee, so we feel that it's still good value and the pay-off of not having to queue for so long in the cold will be worth it. There may be some left-over tickets on sale on the door but these will be very limited, as there are probably going to be well over 1000 santas painting the town red this year and the venue has a limited capacity. Best to book ahead. To purchase your ticket, click on the following link:


[Please...please please please let me have tickets to the Santacon afterparty](#)

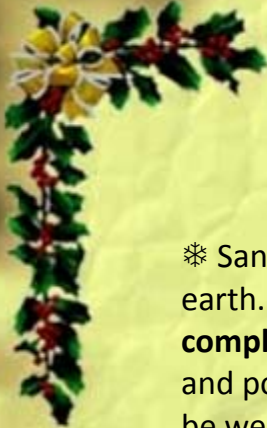
Once you have tickets, just turn up on the day armed with the credit card you used to make the purchase and you're in.

The venue details will be announced on the list prior to the event of course, but for now know that it is in WC2 and it is wheelchair accessible.

We'll be hitting the afterparty venue at 8pm and full details will be revealed nearer the time. Hot drinks and food will be available between 8 and 10, and special performances will be at the START of the night.

Oh, and if you're under 18 you won't be allowed in!





Santa's Wisdom

* Santacon is the meeting of likeminded Santae from the four corners of the earth. Anyone is welcome. The only prerequisites are that you arrive in a **complete Santa outfit** (though occasionally we have a few reindeer turn up) and possess the Santa cheer. **A Santa hat alone is not enough** and you will not be welcome! Your Santacon outfit is however absolutely essential - customise it in any way you see fit. Seriously, go all out! The wackier the better and we guarantee you won't feel over dressed!! There is only one Santa but he has many forms. We have had Pimp Santas, Robot Santas, Punk Santas, Cricket Santas, Sexy Santas, Superhero Santas...and an assortment of magical beards. Dazzle Japanese tourists with your flair and panache.

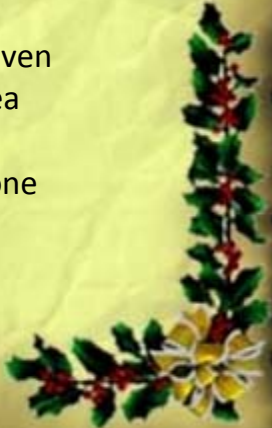
* Santacon is a mysterious little beast and, in keeping with tradition, the start locations for both the West and South routes will not be revealed until the day before. The details of where Santa is to convene will be made public via the London Santacon mailing list and Facebook list. We will say this however, the general start time will be about 11.30am/12.00pm.

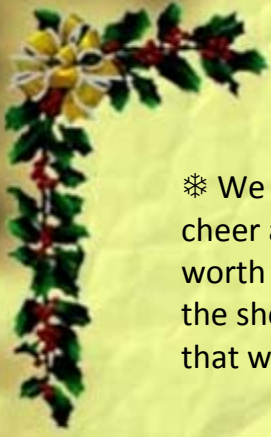
* From here Santa will begin his epic journey through the streets of London, spreading cheer and frequenting a few bars along the way.

* **Warning:** Some people think it's all big and clever to bring their own alcohol along with them so they don't have to queue at bars! We agree – it's a bloody great idea. Some Santae have been known to carry rucksacks containing a noxious alcoholic elixir that would remove the pants of a sexy Elf from up to 20ft away (or, as we're in Europe, 6.096 metres). Be aware that this might mean you're not able to enter the occasional public house that we visit so will have to stand outside with the other 450 Santa who can't get in...or be really sneaky beaky by hiding it in the front of your suit as your 'belly'. Of course if you're a bit of a porker then this space is already taken. Improvise Santa! – Spare space down the front of your boxers? According to Mrs Claus, the answer's an unsatisfying yes...

* Hmm...if a point's worth making, it's worth making twice. The queues for the bars can be hideous - bring your own booze!! (...and maybe a bottle of water and some festive snacks – it's a marathon not a sprint!)

* We know it is somehow, astonishingly, difficult to know who to follow given that there are hundreds of Santae. Obviously the megaphone gives one idea but this year we will hopefully also have some large flag poles held by the leaders and maybe some smaller flag bearing herders to point the way. If one of the organisers comes into a bar and says we're off then drink up Santa...we're moving out.





❄ We are Santa and, as such, we have no agenda. We are here to spread cheer and enjoy ourselves. If you've been on Santacon before, you'll know it is worth doing just to walk the streets and see the bemused look on the faces of the shoppers, shop keepers, tourists, security guards, police, children and pets that we encounter. Just know where the line is and obey the Four D's:

- ❄ Don't mess with kids (they'll stab you)
- ❄ Don't mess with security (they'll cry)
- ❄ Don't mess with the police (they'll shoot you several times and link you to terrorism, particularly because you have a beard)
- ❄ Don't mess with Santa (Chuck Norris will be attending in a Santa outfit – you really want to take that chance?)

❄ Santa loves to include not exclude and therefore we say that anyone can come. Understand however, that this is not a child 'friendly' event in that we enter several pubs where they will not be allowed. Similarly we've had pets come along and while they're cute, they get scared and have no idea which of the hundreds of Santas they belong to. The only pets that are welcome are gimp Santas and only if they are kept on a leash at all times.

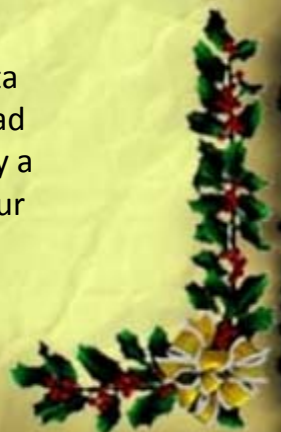
❄ We will hit Trafalgar Square this year as normal. Indeed that is where the two routes will meet. However, don't rock up here instead of the meeting point as only we know when we will arrive there and you could be waiting some time...

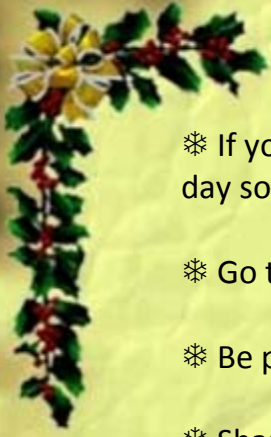
❄ Load yourself up a good belly-lining breakfast and bring snacks and water for the day too. You may be prepared to run into shops and buy some on the day, but many Santaes get left behind this way. Santa T pities the fool who thinks Santacon stops at a restaurant for food. You've been warned Sucka!

❄ Look after your feet – Slack Reindeer and a nationwide Elf strike means Santa walks quite a lot on the day. Wear comfortable/sensible shoes or boots (it doesn't make you a lesbian. (However, if you are, and your friends often describe you as attractive, come and say hello!))

❄ Likewise, you'll be spending a fair amount of time outside in between bars so wear something a little warm under your Santa outfit!

❄ Occasionally you'll find a lot of Santas in the bars we visit. Use your Santa sense and find other bars next door to make sure you get served and spread the cheer. **Stay with the massive though** – it's strangely easy to lose nearly a thousand Santas and we won't come looking for you. Alternately, bring your own booze! (did we say this already?)





❄️ If you see an off license then use it Santa. We can't sit around in pubs all day so buy some ale to drink along the way.

❄️ Go to the toilet when you can – there's not always one around

❄️ Be patient in the pubs at the bar. Santa was there before you.

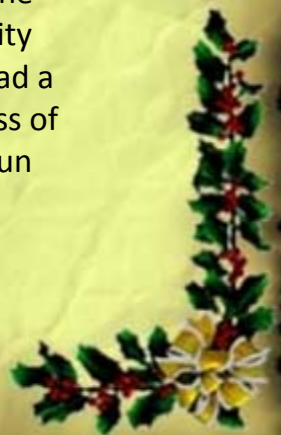
❄️ Share the love! Make/Bring badges to stick on passers by, wrap brussel sprouts and coal for those who have been good/bad. Full blown signs and banners will make you a hit for the tourist photos. Maybe make some hug vouchers - people luuurve to hug Santa. Hug vouchers encourage people to molest your fellow Santae!

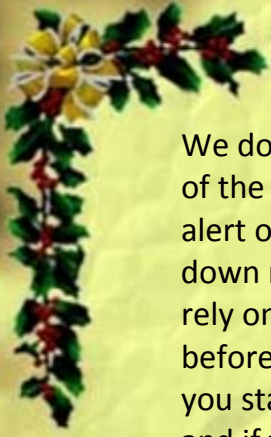
❄️ Seasoned veterans of Santacon know all too well the folly of trusting in the belts that come with Santa outfits. Sort yourself out with a proper belt or black tape. It also more than a little useful to carry safety pins, a needle and thread, some wonder web hemming stuff, a bicycle pump, a snake bite kit, an assortment of aromatic oils and a guide to the Shipping Lanes and Tidal movements of the South East Coast. We're not saying it's going to be exactly like last year but it pays to be prepared. Kendal Mint cake is optional. Some Santae have been known to attach a cotton backing to their beards to avoid the itching sensation. This will not work with genital conditions – go and see you local GUM clinic!

❄️ Don't forget to print out a copy of the carols that we'll be singing at Trafalgar Square. The 2008 version is up on the main site (www.santacon.co.uk) and posted on Facebook and even attached to the end of this guide.

❄️ Don't fall off Santa's shoulders and dislocate your own shoulder – you know who you are Santa 😊.

❄️ Lastly, and we **hate** to say this, but previous years have occasionally seen an unwanted element turn up to Santacon. Last year some idiot Santa started trying to jump on the roof of a bus...in front of the police. No Santa! NO! Throw yourself under its wheels? Great...I'll help you (seriously), but a little common sense please. Santacon is a surprisingly delicate operation and can only take place because of the goodwill, generosity and seasonal spirit of the partaking Santas. Some, however, see it as an occasion to use the anonymity of hundreds of Santa to steal, cause trouble or become aggressive. We tread a verrrry fine line between being just a fun walk about and being a scary mass of people that the police will want to disperse immediately. We're out for a fun day so no stupidity that'll spoil it for everyone else.





We do not want trouble and believe us, it WILL NOT be tolerated. We need all of the Santas to keep an eye out for any behaviour unbecoming of a Santa and alert other Santas immediately - if necessary, alert the police. We're not laying down rules but all reasonable Santas know where the line is. We would like to rely on the self-policing of Santas but we will involve the law as we have done before should individuals or groups behave in the manner outlined above. If you start causing trouble then the police will get you (with our full support) and if they don't then Drag Santa will and he'll bring some Santa mates. For those of you turning up to have a jolly lovely day out, please ignore the previous paragraph. Lecture over! ☺

❄ This year we'll be updating our progress on Twitter so if you get lost you can find us again. If you want to find out more, check out the website – www.santacon.co.uk.

❄ When we say certain Santas organise and lead, we should point out that SantaCon is not an organised event per se. Instead, a few of us go out for a wander and grab a beer. Occasionally, some people dressed as Santa follow us. We certainly don't take any responsibility for the actions of anyone dressed as Santa who happens to be following us ;-).

❄ So there you have it. All you could possibly need to know about Santacon.

To summarise:

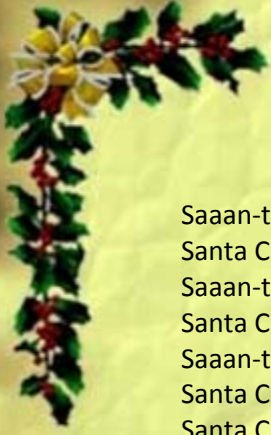
- ❄ **Where a complete Santa outfit or don't bother turning up!**
- ❄ **Spread Christmas cheer!**
- ❄ **Have a great day!**





Disclaimer

- * Santacon does NOT endorse drinking irresponsibly – it's bad for your elf.
 - * Santacon does NOT endorse the wearing of red suits with white fur trim or any other Christmas regalia.
 - * Santacon does NOT endorse the manipulation of traditional festive songs to satisfy Santa's comedic requirements.
 - * Santacon features stunts performed by professionals. Do not attempt to recreate these unless surrounded by a suitably large audience armed with cameras.
 - * Refrigerate Santacon after opening, and consume within 3 days.
 - * Santacon expects all participants to fully conform to the law at all times.
 - * Santacon is for educational purposes only.
 - * Santacon is a novelty toy and should not be used internally.
 - * Santacon is not designed or intended for use in on-line control of aircraft, air traffic, aircraft navigation or aircraft communications; or in the design, construction, operation or maintenance of any nuclear facility.
 - * The views and opinions expressed on Santacon are purely those of Santa and are not paid for by special interests.
 - * Santacon may not be used for advertising or product endorsement purposes
 - * All Santacon models over 18 years of age.
 - * Any similarity to persons living, dead or fictional is completely coincidental.
 - * Do not attempt to operate motor vehicles while under the influence of Santacon.
 - * Santacon may cause severe cramps, nausea, nose bleeds, dizziness, munchies, redundancy, headaches, embarrassment, loss of voice, loss of clothes and loss of dignity. Use at own risk!
 - * References in Santacon to any specific commercial products, processes, or services by trade name, trademark, manufacturer, or otherwise, does not necessarily constitute or imply its endorsement, recommendation, or favoring, unless otherwise specified. This includes, but is not limited to, alcoholic beverages, brussel sprouts, white beards, red outfits or coal.
 - * All images, sounds, and quotes used in Santacon are copyright of their respective originators from whom we may or may not have permission.
 - * Santacon may contain trace amounts of nuts and seeds and is therefore not suitable for those with a nut allergy.
 - * This guide is intended for the Santacon massive only. It contains information that is confidential and protected from disclosure. Any review, dissemination or use of this transmission or its contents by persons or unauthorized employees of the intended organisations is strictly prohibited.
 - * The contents of this guide do not necessarily represent the views or policies of Santacon, its reindeers or its elves.
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Chants

Saaan-ta!
Santa Claus!
Saaan-ta!
Santa Claus!
Saaan-ta!
Santa Claus!
Santa Clause is coming!!

—

We love you Santa,
We do,
We love you Santa,
We do,
We love you Santa,
We do,
Oh Santa we love you.

—

S-A-N-T-A,
We're S-A-N-T-A,
We know we are,
We're sure we are,
We're S-A-N-T-A.

—

Ole, Ole, Ole, Ole,
Ole, Ole, Ole, Ole,
Santa Clause, Claus, Claus

(sung to 'You are my sunshine)

We are the Santa
The drunken Santa,
We're loud and horny
And here to play,
We're here to tell you
How much we love you,
And take you home at
The end of the day.

—

He's big,
He's red,
He'll drink until he's dead,
Santa Claus,
Santa Claus.

He's fat,
He's round,
He's taking over town,
Santa Claus,
Santa Claus.

Oh When Santa goes marching in
Oh when the San-ta
Goes marching in
All wearing red and
drinking gin
You'd better step back Mr Shopper
Oh when the Santa goes marching in





Carols

Away on a Bender

Away on a bender, been sick on the bed,
the drunken old Santa lays down his
sweet head.

The stars in the Met Bar look down where
he lay,

The pissed up old Santa asleep on the
drain.

The in-laws are rowing, the baby awakes,
But drunken old Santa no crying he makes.
I love thee, old Santa! But zip up your fly,
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, my Santa; I ask thee to stay
Close by me forever, you are my best
mate.

Bless all the dear bottles in thy tender
care,
Invite us to sit down, and please let us
share.

Hark! The Drunken Santas Sing
Hark! the drunken Santas sing
Glory to the new-born King!
Pissed on bitter and on mild,
God and Santa reconciled!
Joyful, all ye Santas, rise,
drive your reindeer through the skies;
With the sozzled host proclaim
Santa's born in the West End
Hark! the drunken Santas sing
Glory to the new-born King!

O Come all ye Santas

O come, all ye Santas,
Joyful and a bit drunk,
O come ye, O come ye to Selfridges;
Come and behold him,
Born the King of Christmas;
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O Come, let us adore him, Sa - anta Claus.

Sing, choirs of Santas,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of Sa - antacon;
Glory to Santa
In the highest;

O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O Come, let us adore him, Sa - anta Claus.

We drink bells (Jingle Bells)

We drink Bells

We drink Bells

We drink it all day

Oh what fun it is to drink, a pint of Bells a
day

The Twelve Days of Christmas

(remembering to emphasise 5 double gins,
as in 5 golden rings)

On the first day of Christmas my true love
bought for me:

A Lager for 99p

On the second day of Christmas my true
love bought for me:

2 Rum and Cokes

and A lager for 99p

On the twelfth day of Christmas my true
love bought for me:

12 Tequila slammers

11 Hundred Pipers

10 Shots of Absinthe

9 Remy Martins

8 vodka tonics

7 Cheap dry sherries

6 Bacardi Breezers

5 Double Gins

4 Smirnoff Ice

3 Real Ales

2 Rum and Cokes

and A Lager for 99p

We Wish You A Merry Christmas

We wish you a Merry Christmas;

We wish you a Merry Christmas;


We wish you a Merry Christmas and a
Happy New Year.

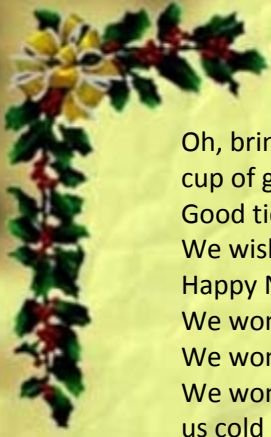
Good tidings we bring if you bring us gin;

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a
Happy New Year.

Oh, bring us some friggin' peanuts;

Oh, bring us some friggin' peanuts;





Oh, bring us some friggin' peanuts and a cup of good beer.
 Good tidings we bring if you bring us gin;
 We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
 We won't go until we get drunk;
 We won't go until we get drunk;
 We won't go until we get drunk, so bring us cold beer.
 Good tidings we bring if you bring us gin;
 We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
 We wish you a Merry Christmas;
 We wish you a Merry Christmas;
 We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New year

Sung to 'Deck the Halls'

Becks and Grolsch
 Becks and Grolsch and shots of Stolly
 Fa la la la, la la la la.
 Tis the season to get trollied,
 Fa la la la, la la la la.
 Proudly wearing red apparel,
 Fa la la, la la la, la la la.
 Pissed and drunk and singing carols,
 Fa la la la la, la la la la.

Santa's here for merry mischief,
 Fa la la la la, la la la la.
 losing clothes and baring arse cheeks,
 Fa la la la la, la la la la.
 See the tourists stop and staring,
 Fa la la la la, la la la la.
 Take a photo if you're daring,
 Fa la la la la, la la la la.

Santas off to cause more mayhem,
 Fa la la la la, la la la la.
 Bars and clubs until 4 am,
 Fa la la la la, la la la la.
 Home with girls to get more drinkies
 Fa la la la la, la la la la.
 Last a visit down their chimneys,
 Fa la la la la, la la la
 laaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa.

SantaCon is coming to town

You better watch out
 You better take fright

You better keep your daughters
 at home tonight
 SantaCon is coming to town
 SantaCon is coming to town
 San-ta-Con is com-ing to town

We're making a list
 Of bars we can hit
 Where happy hour's on
 And the ladies are fit
 SantaCon is coming to town
 SantaCon is coming to town
 San-ta-Con is com-ing to town

We know what you've been up to!
 You've made the naughty list.
 So buy us beer and vodka,
 Coz we're nicer when we're pissed

So get out of the way,
 Of our red suited wave,
 Is this anyway,
 For St Nick to behave.
 San-ta-Con is com-ing to town!!!

