

George's FIRST Christmas!

Flaming pudding, gag gifts and hunting!
Us has all the details of the royal holiday

BY SARAH GROSSBART
WITH OMI D SCOBIE



"The focus is on family, church and tradition," a source close to William and Kate says of holidays at Sandringham.



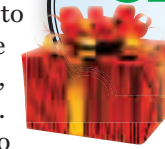
Midday The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, both 31, arrive with George to Sandringham, the queen's Norfolk, England, retreat. Valets carry gifts to the red drawing room, arranging them by recipient on linen-covered tables.

5 P.M. Tea time! Prince Edward and other guests coo over the 5-month-old while nibbling scones. The queen, says *The New Royal Family* author Robert Jobson, "sips her own Indian blend."

8 A.M. "The family awakens to stockings stuffed with small gifts and fruit at the foot of their beds," says Jobson.

11 A.M. With the queen leading the way, the group walks to the estate's Church of St. Mary Magdalene. George will likely stay behind, says Jobson: "The younger royals didn't go when they were tiny."

Christmas Eve



When the queen kicks off the gift exchange, royals swap gag presents such as tacky aprons and whoopee cushions!

8 P.M. After slipping into black tie (Kate packs up to five outfits for each day), adults descend on the saloon for gin and tonics. Then it's

off to a candlelit meal (think halibut in cream sauce). Meanwhile, George and his cousins lounge in the nursery with nanny Jessie Webb. As former Kensington Palace chef Darren McGrady tells *Us*, "Kids aren't allowed in the dining room until they can conduct themselves!"

10 P.M. All the ladies — including the queen and her corgis — retire, leaving the men to their after-dinner port.

Christmas Day

1 P.M. A buffet is set, complete with two turkeys carved by the head chef. (He's rewarded with a snifter of whiskey by the queen.) For dessert: a flaming Christmas pudding! Upstairs in the nursery,

a second chef carves turkey for Prince Edward's children, Louise, 10, and James, 6.

3 P.M. Attendance in the firelit saloon for the queen's taped TV speech is mandatory.

8 P.M. More food! This time, it's a three-course meal and a chocolate yule log.



For the Royal Who Has Everything

Only a gag gift will do for the ruler and her full-grown heirs. Past doozies addressed to the queen: a casserole dish and slippers featuring her face! Kids, however, get toys galore. William

and Harry once opened water guns, recalls chef McGrady: "They raced into the kitchen to soak us!" This year, a source says, Kate has asked that her son receive clothes. Bah, humbug!



THIS PAGE AND OPPOSITE: FROM LEFT: JASON BULL/CAMERA PRESS; GLENN TERRY/CAMERA PRESS/REDAUX; ALPHAPRESS; SHUTTERSTOCK (8)

8 A.M. Wakey-wakey, eggs and... kippers? Men file into the dining room for a traditional English breakfast, including the salty cured fish, sausage, mushrooms, kidneys and black pudding. "It's hearty food," explains McGrady. Elsewhere, the queen's white-gloved servants bring women, still in their beds, meals on trays.

Boxing Day

10 A.M. The day goes to the birds! Prince Philip, 92, splits interested guests into groups, and they head to the grounds of the 18th-century estate to compete in the annual pheasant shoot. At the house, George plays with his mum.



1 P.M. Nanny Webb takes over at midday



William and Kate bagged some birds at Sandringham in 2008.

so that Kate and the ladies can make the mile-long trek for lunch in Dersingham woods. Says McGrady, "The chefs send a trailer packed with cottage pies and beef stews."

Afternoon After the hunt, William and Kate say their goodbyes, strap George into a car (their newly leased \$408,000 Bentley, perhaps?) and head to the Middletons' Bucklebury home.



Harry (left) said he was "proud" to finish the trek.

Harry's Hot Date!

The queen best set one extra place at the table. Prince Harry — who completed a 208-mile Antarctic trek for the veterans' charity Walking With the Wounded December 13 — has invited girlfriend Cressida Bonas to Boxing Day dinner. "Harry wants to bring her further into the fold," says a source of the 29-year-old, who also asked the aspiring teacher, 24, to join the pheasant hunt. "Harry is keen for the family to get to know Cressida better. They're very serious about each other."

George's Busy Day

Renovation delays forced Will and Kate to scrap plans to host her mom, Carole, 58, and dad, Michael, 64, at their country home, Anmer Hall, on Boxing Day. It's just as well, says a source: Though the Georgian-style 10-bedroom is only 2 miles from Sandringham, "they wouldn't have met with the queen!" Instead, the trio will travel 157 miles to Bucklebury, where aunt Pippa, 30, and uncle James, 26, will be waiting.



Anmer Hall was built in 1802.

George "has spent a lot of time with the Middletons," says a source.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT: DOUG SEEBURG/THE SUN/SPA PRESS; SPLASH NEWS; ALPHA PRESS/LAND OY; ANWAR HUSSEIN COLLECTION/SPA; SHUTTERSTOCK