

Authentik Style



Lifestyle + Decor
Winter 2025-2026

Hello Winter!

Welcome to the Winter Edition of Authentik Style. I always think of winter as the season where our homes ask us to slow down a little — to catch our breath after the holiday rush, settle into the cooler mornings, and enjoy the cozy comfort of being inside a bit more.

Here in Southern California, winter doesn't exactly mean snowstorms and wool coats, but it absolutely comes with its own kind of magic. The light shifts, the air softens, and our homes feel like the perfect place to land. It's a great time to freshen things up, rethink a few spaces, and add those thoughtful touches that make everyday living feel more intentional.

In this edition, you'll find simple ways to get your home guest-ready, ideas for creating a warm lighting scape for the darker months, inspiration for slowing down and savoring the season, a January refresh guide, and even a winter scent recipe (because of course). I've also included a list of fun SoCal winter events — because sometimes the best part of winter is getting out and doing something festive.

I hope these pages inspire you to embrace the beauty of this season and enjoy your home in a whole new way.

Here's to another
magical season!

Andrea



Winter Glow Simmer Pot

Ingredients:

- 1 sliced orange
- 1 small handful of cranberries
- 3 cinnamon sticks
- 1 tsp whole cloves
- 2–3 sprigs fresh rosemary
- Optional: 1–2 drops vanilla extract



Instructions:

Fill a small pot with water, add ingredients, and simmer on low. Add water as needed.

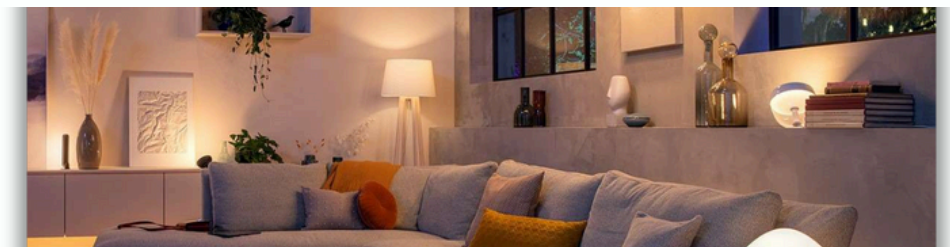
Your home fills with a cozy, citrus-spiced glow that feels festive yet fresh.

Creating a Winter Lighting Scape

As the days get shorter, lighting becomes one of the most important elements in our homes. Winter lighting isn't about making a space brighter—it's about making it warmer, softer, and more inviting. A thoughtful lighting scape can completely change how a room feels, especially during the darker months.

Layer Your Light

The secret to great winter lighting is layers. Instead of relying on overhead lights, think in terms of multiple light sources working together: table lamps, floor lamps, accent lights, and candles. When light comes from different heights and corners of the room, it creates depth and warmth that instantly feels cozy.



Warm Bulbs Make All the Difference

Pay attention to bulb temperature. Warmer bulbs (around 2700K) give off a soft glow that feels comfortable and welcoming—perfect for winter evenings. Cooler bulbs can feel harsh during this time of year, so swapping them out is one of the easiest upgrades you can make.



Accent Lighting Adds Magic

Picture lights, small lamps on shelves, under-cabinet lighting, or even a subtle string light tucked into décor can add just the right amount of glow. These little moments of light create atmosphere without overpowering the space.



Candles Are Part of the Design

Candles aren't just an accessory—they're a lighting tool. Cluster a few together in varying heights or place one intentionally in a space you use every day. The flicker adds movement and warmth that no bulb can replicate.



A winter lighting scape doesn't require new fixtures or a full redesign. It's about being intentional with what you already have and allowing your home to glow a little softer this season.



Winter in SoCal

Winter in Southern California is full of possibilities. From festive holiday traditions to cultural celebrations and fresh-start January events, there's no shortage of ways to get out, gather, and be inspired. With so much happening over the winter months, here's a month-by-month list of seasonal events to enjoy, whether you're looking for something festive, creative, or just a little fun.

December

- Newport Beach Christmas Boat Parade
- Mission Inn Festival of Lights (Riverside)
- Dana Point Holiday Harbor Lights
- Disneyland's Festival of Holidays
- LA Zoo Lights
- Holiday Ice Rinks (LA, Irvine Spectrum)

Late December / New Year's

- *Rose Parade (Pasadena)*
- *LA Chinatown New Year Festival*
- *OC Winter Fest at the OC Fairgrounds*



January

- Long Beach Flea Market (Winter Edition)
- Palm Springs International Film Festival
- SoCal Restaurant Week Events
- Pasadena January Home Décor & Antique Markets

February

- Lunar New Year Festivals (Irvine, Costa Mesa, LA)
- Laguna Beach Art Walks
- Oceanside Museum Winter Exhibits
- South Coast Plaza Lunar New Year Installation
- San Diego Museum Month
- Valentine's Candlelight Concerts (LA & OC)



4 WAYS TO *Slow Down* THIS WINTER

Winter has a way of giving us permission to slow down—something most of us don't do nearly enough. After the rush of the holidays, the quieter weeks that follow can actually feel really comforting. It's the perfect moment to simplify, reset, and create small rituals that help you feel grounded and present. Here are four easy, realistic ways to welcome a slower, more mindful season at home.

1. Create a Cozy Reading Corner

There's something about winter that makes a quiet reading moment feel extra comforting. Choose a chair you love, add a soft throw, a small lamp, and a spot to set a mug or candle. Keep a book or journal nearby so the space naturally invites you to sit for a few minutes. It doesn't have to be fancy—just a dedicated little corner that feels like a personal pause button in your day.



2. Light a Candle With Intention

Instead of saving candles for “special moments,” make lighting one the moment. Start your morning by lighting a simple, comforting candle as you begin your day—even while you make breakfast or answer early emails. It's an easy way to set the tone, breathe for a second, and create a little ritual that brings warmth and calm into the day. A single intentional flame can shift the energy of your whole morning.





3. Make Warm Beverages a Daily Ritual.

A warm drink can be the anchor points of a cozy winter day.
Let each part of the day have its own little ritual:

Morning: Your favorite coffee or an energizing tea.

Afternoon: A slow, grounding cup of herbal or black tea.

Evening: Something comforting—hot cocoa, warm cider, or even a hot toddy if you're feeling festive.

It's not just the drink; it's the pause, the warmth, and the moment to reset before moving on with your day.



4. Take Gentle Winter Walks

Winter walks don't need to be long or perfect—just a breath of fresh air to re-center your mind and shake off the busyness of the day. The cooler air and softer light can be incredibly grounding, whether you walk around the block or wander your neighborhood for ten minutes. It's a simple way to reconnect with yourself and notice the season in a slower, more intentional way.

Getting Your Home Guest-Ready

Creating Warm, Thoughtful Hospitality This Winter
Winter gatherings have a different rhythm — slower, cozier, and more personal. Whether you're hosting overnight guests or inviting friends for a casual evening in, creating a warm, welcoming home is all about thoughtful, intentional moments.

Create a Cozy Landing Zone in the Guest Room *A few thoughtful additions go a long way:*

A small tray with water, a candle, and a handwritten welcome note

Fresh winter-inspired bedding—soft neutrals, flannels, or a light quilt

A throw at the foot of the bed in a calming winter color like deep teal, spruce, or warm cream

Bonus: Add a small vase with winter greenery or eucalyptus for an instant lift.



Stock the Bathroom Like a Boutique Hotel *Keep it simple but intentional:*

Rolled guest towels

A basket with travel-size toiletries

A winter-scented soap or lotion (citrus + cedar, eucalyptus mint, spruce)

Leave a little card that says: “If you forgot anything, it’s probably in this basket.”



Set Out a Simple Breakfast Buffet

If you have guests who wake up earlier than the rest of the house, a small breakfast basket can make them feel instantly at ease. Put it together the night before and place it on the kitchen counter or dining table.

Include a few easy, grab-and-go options like granola bars, small cereal boxes, wrapped pastries, fruit, or trail mix—nothing fancy, just thoughtful. You can also add a small note letting them know coffee or tea is available and to help themselves.

It's a simple gesture that quietly says, make yourself at home.



Offer a Tiny Parting Gift

A small bag of winter potpourri

A handmade sachet

A simple thank-you card

A mini winter-scented candle

It feels elevated, personal, and absolutely memorable

One of my favorites is a box of special tea



“Winter is the time for comfort, for good food and warmth,
for the touch of a friendly hand and for a talk beside the fire.”
— Edith Sitwell



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Home

Curated ,Elevated & Inspired Interiors

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