## The Beach Boy's Christmas Album (2013)

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1. Little Saint Nick 2. The Man With All The Toys 3. Santa's Beard 4. Merry Christmas, Baby 5. Christmas Day 6. Frosty The Snowman 7. We Three Kings Of Orient Are 8. Blue Christmas 9. Santa Claus Is Comin' To Town 10. White Christmas 11. I'll Be Home For Christmas 12. Auld Lang Style 13. Little Saint Nick (Single Version) 14. The Lord's Prayer 15. Little Saint Nick (Alternate Take) 16. Auld Lang Syne (Alternate Take)

Beach Boys' Christmas Album features the Beach Boys performing a variety of holiday favorites. Most of the featured songs are well-known, some of the more popular being "Frosty the Snowman," "White Christmas," "Santa Claus Is Coming to Town," and "I'll Be Home for Christmas," among others. Furthermore, there are four songs composed by the Beach Boys --"Little Saint Nick," "Man With All the Toys," "Santa's Beard," and "Merry Christmas, Baby" -which begin the album. This mix of favorites and originals makes this a balanced holiday album that should please both Beach Boys admirers and those unfamiliar with the group. ---Jason Birchmeier, Rovi

This is the legendary Beach Boys Christmas Album, augmented by a handful of bonus tracks. The album consists of five Brian Wilson originals performed in the classic Beach Boys style, and six older songs featuring the boys singing to an orchestral backing, plus an a capella "Auld Lang Syne". The five original songs are the highlights here, for me. Fun little songs performed the way we expect from the Beach Boys. The orchestral songs take some getting used to. They are well sung by the boys, but they don't have that "Beach Boys" feel to them. Still, they are enjoyable in their own way. "Auld Lang Syne" features a spoken part by Denny, where he wishes us Merry Christmas and whatnot. Something I find amusing about this song is that Denny hap-happens to stammer while reading his lines. Why they didn't record another take

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where he didn't mess up, I'll never know. Now a few words about the bonus tracks. The single version of "Little Saint Nick" is included. This differs from the album version by featuring additional instruments added (glockenspiel, sleigh bells, xylophone, etc.). I like this version better. The original b-side of "Little Saint Nick", "The Lord's Prayer" is included. This is beautifully sung a capella. This is the one track here that is not included on the Ultimate Christmas collection (probably because it is technically not a Christmas song). Then there is an odd track featuring the lyrics to "Little Saint Nick" sung to the backing track to "Drive-In". Just a fun bit with the boys horsing around. The final track here is "Auld Lang Syne" without the spoken part by Denny. This version really lets us hear the beautiful harmonies by the boys. This CD seems to be out of print now, but if you can find a used copy for a reasonable price, it is worth getting. ---Johnny Heering, amazon.com

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