THE GOAL  To Take A Picture of Festive Lights

How To Do It  Aim to take the picture whilst there is still a small amount of daylight left to prevent the whole image being dark - this leaves dark blue sky. Set the White Balance Preset to Tungsten or daylight for warmer image. Use a Tripod or other support, set to Aperture priority mode and set the aperture to f8, ISO to 100, use 2 second timer to take the picture. Use -EV exposure compensation to set the image as dark as you want. Try to include some sky, area of snow or reflection to add some dimension to the image and try to add foreground interest. The small aperture will give small star bursts, but to add extra long ones use the in-camera post processing - creative edit and select star effect.

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