



## The Best YouTube Christmas Village Videos of 2022

2022's Best List is purely "my jive opinion" and covers Christmas village videos posted on YouTube this holiday season. Notably absent this year were John Fitz, Polly Daugherty, Ramon Hoeks of Dutch Mini Landscapes, Don Wolford (master of the Disney village light show), Master Sullivan, Kathryn Riley-Cuglietta, Scott Massey (been a while), and mogas98 (who passed away suddenly last year).

Be sure to check out all the other topnotch and timely columns on TheVillageCollector.com – the always interesting "*Just So You Know (JSYK)*" by David Spears, Brian Vaill's "*The Train Station*," Thea Heyink's "*Creation Station*," "*Phil & Sue's Village*" (from the Adkins in England!), "*From Italy: Villaging in Europe*" by Peppe Apuleo (fascinating!), and Larry Treadwell has returned in "*Larry Treadwell 2023*." **Please keep visiting the Village Videos page and watch, watch, watch.** There will be a new batch of village videos starting on the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month, beginning in March! So many ideas, so little time... and not enough money.

There were well over a hundred villages I watched this season that no doubt were incredible to view **in person**, but your video didn't let us see how good your village actually is. Here is a synopsis of my criteria for being excluded on the list. It doesn't matter how epic, amazing, awesome, unusual, or outstanding the design of your village is. If your video doesn't have a title, **is mostly a flyover or series of flyovers**, has so much snowing that it obscures the details, has too many black bars (not 16:9 aspect ratio) and **doesn't pause for us to see details at villager level**, then your video didn't make it.



Photo by Christine Comeau

Conversely, if you want to know why a video is included on my 2022 best list, it's because it has most of the 11 features I listed in column #24, November 16, 2021, "The Formula for a Successful Village Video." Here is the checklist for a good village video:

- ☐ Does the video look planned?
- ☐ Is there a Title or Intro (and maybe an Outro)?
- ☐ Is the video mostly short clips and stills?
- ☐ Are the video clips steady and/or smooth?
- ☐ Can we see lots of detail?
- ☐ Is each video clip or photo pleasantly composed?
- ☐ Are all the photos and video clips in a 16x9 aspect ratio (no black bars)?
- ☐ Do the scenes take us down into the village (or are we watching detached from above)?
- ☐ Does the music create a feeling, an emotion? Do some scenes follow the music?
- ☐ Do the transitions between scenes, and panning and zooming within each scene seem natural?
- ☐ Is there something never seen before?



This season's videos are listed pretty much chronologically, as they were posted on YouTube. Some folks are early birds who catch many worms in the peak viewing months (October to December) and others struggle to finish their video before Christmas Day – something I know all about. Don't worry about timing your publication. If it's a good video the viewers **will** find you.



CIC from the Arizona Gathering

Victorian Village 2022 (8:09)

Cesare Villa

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UeVqZiJ8gGA>

I've been following Cesare's progress over the years. He has an amazing Magnorail people mover system.

Lemax – Christmas Village 2022 (3:33)

Christmas Dream

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CSlwLfaBwI4>

This video has a different beginning followed by some excellent cinematography.

Madastiville A Christmas Façade 2022 (2:54)

Madasitiville

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jmnNTbAoBxI>

This is a small village display, with great lighting that allows you see the details, engaging scenes, and excellent cinematography.

2022 Christmas Village (12:41)

HPCrazy

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zN\\_NUvvfXhE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zN_NUvvfXhE)

This video and her next one below have good scenes, some excellent videography, and interesting figures. I've been following HPCrazy and this is her best to date.

2022 Disney Christmas Village (12:15)

HPCrazy

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MELA0qWvSZ0&t=2s>



2022 Morizio Christmas Village (3:39)

Mike Morizio

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g4jUEQ9g0lo>



This video has good videography, and lots of customization. Here you can see how his village's details are often obscured by the animated snowing filter screen.

Lemax Christmas Village 2022 (8:25)

Cesare Villa

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5twOc7zYtSk>

Cesare shows us his colorful northern lights, and the rest of the display is Euro design sets.



A European garden center display of Lemax and Luville products

Christmas 2022 – 12 Days of Christmas – Department 56 Dickens Village, Lionel Polar Express (5:48)

It's a Christmas Thing

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KcJz-qoitOI>

These videos by It's a Christmas Thing were produced by Jeffrey Jaglowski, who seemingly came out of nowhere. He has a massive village, extending throughout his house. You are treated to lots of good detail. The videos are almost all photos with Ken Burns effect, and he ends with video clips of trains and an overview of the display set-up. This first one premiered on

November 29<sup>th</sup>, and the last one I listed premiered on December 23<sup>rd</sup>. I listed here five of his videos and still there are more. Click on his YouTube name to find the others. They're worth your time.

Christmas 2022 – A Christmas Carol – Department 56 Dickens Village, Lionel Polar Express (13:41)

It's a Christmas Thing

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tclY5L\\_IyzE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tclY5L_IyzE)

Christmas 2022 – Dickens Harbour – Department 56 Dickens Village, Lionel Polar Express (12:42)

It's a Christmas Thing

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VkMi6NffWFU>

This was a TVC Hall of Fame inductee for 2022!

Christmas 2022 – Dickens Churches – Department 56 Dickens Village, Lionel Polar Express (9:05)

It's a Christmas Thing

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sah94s1NbzY>

Christmas 2022 – A Christmas Story – Department 56 Christmas Story, Lionel Polar Express (7:32)

It's a Christmas Thing

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Jz8cB8yoPA&t=3s>



Photo by Mark Frendo



Villa Navideña (4:51)

Alexander Ulloa

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wFW5R3BdfDU>

Here is a short video comprised of flyover clips, with interesting design, and I would have liked to stop more and check out the details.

Tony's Lemax Christmas Village 2022 (2:21)

Tony Dolman

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A2E3JR9lico>

A short video with no flyovers – O frabjous day! Callooh! Callay! This also has some interesting lighting.

My 2022 CHRISTMAS VILLAGE (7:38)

pammyj100

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BwXw7WXwNMo>

She's the best! Over a thousand subscribers await anxiously for pammyj100 to brighten their Christmas – just read the comments.

Making a Lionel Christmas Village 2022 (17:57)

Dave Hohman

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LbglJaw5laY>

If you like multiple trains and time lapse video, this is for you. God forbid a train gets stuck in one of his many tunnels. Teaches you to build from back to front. If you want detail and close-ups in your video of what's in the rear of the display, you should construct and video/photo simultaneously!

Pamintuan's 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Village 2022 (4:19)

Ryan Pamintuan

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E212VZnCz78>

This is not the best videography, but it's so different and full of family warmth.

Lemax Christmas Village 2022 – Zordan Deborah (2:53)

deborah zordan

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DrEvF3e5LLg>

A village done in classic Euro design, comprised of all short video clips containing motion. It's hard to study any detail but nevertheless well done.



Photo by Ger Bitter

La crèche de Guy a CARRI (8:15)

PROVENCE VIDÉO 13

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FvyV4oIjdk0>

I like different and this one returns to the roots of village displays. It's fascinating to watch despite the videography, but full of ideas.

Madastiville Christmas Village 2022 (5:00)

Madastiville

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oIDfcnz\\_QLc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oIDfcnz_QLc)

Madastiville usually has at least two videos each year, always with the best lighting, interesting scenes, and superb videography.

Presepe Burlando 2022 (4:08)

CuriositasBurlando

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LVAz8mQNWYE>

This goes in the "never seen before" bag. The buildings appear to be home-made, and the figurines are unusual. It's too bad it's a fly-over video, but I watched it a few times.



Christmas Village 2022 – Louisiana Theme (9:11)

ZolaZack08

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HsoWHQEWHM4>

Wow! Oh Wow! This was my favorite video of the year! I found her because Zola commented on my video and mentioned that after 30 years of collecting, she finally posted her first video. I always watch someone's first try, but was I ever surprised. I immediately alerted pammyj100 to this video and she had the same reaction!



Photo by Toshifumi Ogasawara

Frendoville 2022 Christmas in the City (6:38)

Frendoville

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1FeBLSOv4-I>

Mark and Mary Frendo always have a great CIC display, which of course grows each year. The videography is constantly improving, too. All that's missing is much more street level, village people level, scenes. These need to be shot while construction of the rear of the display is happening.



Crimbletown 2022 (7:54)

Cotswold House Photography

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K0wEe1\\_9coQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K0wEe1_9coQ)

This is what a pro photographer can do! I've learned from Robin that you use your video to raise money for a charity of your choice!

2022 Snowfall Valley Christmas Village with Dept. 56, Lemax and Holiday Time buildings and figurines (6:33)

Dolly's Villages

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_PfRPfIGCq8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_PfRPfIGCq8)

Dolly has been publishing videos for some time now, and she always has a good one.

Epic Christmas Village VI (7:58)

TheBigCrabCake

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AAAnoJxnK8pY>

TBCC's last video (Epic V) was published in 2015, and his 2,900 subscribers have been clamoring for the next one ever since. You will see topnotch lighting (bright, really bright!), lots of detail at



street level, unusual figurines, theming, and general overall video excellence. There are a couple landscape shortfalls that will make European villagers cringe, and some of the video clips could use a steadier camera (buy a gimbal). TBCC made us wait until December 20<sup>th</sup> this year, but it was definitely worth the wait!



Photo by Jim Peters

Our Epic Christmas Village 2022 – 2023: Lemax, Dept56

@SantasWhiskers (13:13)

Lizz Dregne

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vtEiXjhcKX4>

Here is good videography, scenes which bring us down to street level, and Lizz used a power word in her YouTube title.

The Christmas Village display 2022. Dickens' Village, Department 56 (3:07)

Anna's Walking Tours

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kQ2LRIDnxac>

This wonderful video shows that a small village can be displayed in detail. It checks all the boxes for a good video, and the animated snow is light enough to not obscure your viewing of details. Disclosure: Anna is an experienced videographer.





Photo by Rosaria Costa

Lemax Christmas village 2022 (2:41)

Jago & Carol Crol – Vos

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1iRtwlI9oxA>

We get to see a Euro landscape-style village, great steady camera for animation clips, short and sweet, very light snow allows details to be seen, and a good title and ending.

Micah's Christmas Village 2022 (12:04)

Micah Melton

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zN7G48dI1FU>

A young Micah takes us down into his village, with narration. He lingers for detail, and his camera is steadier than most. The future of village videos is secure!

Christmas Village 2022 (14:05)

bosmailman

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t4040-1h4iI&t=54s>

Bos is always on my watch list, publishing every two years. This has a great intro, has a postal theme for changing scenes, and his CIC is always so clean and bright. He takes us down into his



city. Who needs animation when we have fishing line? There are black bars on the photos in his scene changes, and occasional shaky short fly-in clips – needs a gimble or camera stabilizer.

In my next column on The Village Collector, I don't know what I'm going to write about. I'm out of words for today and I'll try to do better next time.

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