

Paris New Year's Eve 2015 live stream: Celebrate early watching Eiffel Tower 'la Saint-Sylvestre' By Mary Colurso December 31, 2014

Can't wait to begin your New Year's Eve festivities for this year? Here's one way to kickstart the holiday before 2014 turns into 2015 in Alabama -- or in New York City's Times Square, for that matter.

The celebration in Paris, known as "Le réveillon de la Saint-Sylvestre," starts at 4:30 p.m. CST -- that's 11:30 p.m. in the capital city of France -- and can be viewed online via a live stream. (Thank you, Earthcam.)

Festivities will include a 15-minute video projected on the Arc de Triomphe, highlighting the Parisian lifestyle and environment, followed by a light show at midnight. We're talking about 5 p.m. in Birmingham.

New Year's Eve traditionally is a splashy affair on the Champs-Elysées, as thousands gather to cheer, smooch, feast and make merry. Fireworks at the Eiffel Tower typically are part of the celebration and champagne flows.

This year's hoopla in Paris is a first, however, because it's officially organized and presented by the city. Ooh, la la!

The celebration continues on Jan. 1 with an afternoon parade down the main thoroughfare, with "15 fanfare

bands of 10 different nationalities accompanied by parade floats" and circus performers, according to the Paris Convention and Visitors Bureau.

And yes, Sydney, Australia, already has welcomed the New Year with an official fireworks display, crackling and sparkling from launchpads at Sydney Harbour Bridge.

