TOP 100 EVENTS 2016
IN NORTH AMERICA PRESENTED BY THE AMERICAN BUS ASSOCIATION
A supplement to Destinations magazine
Whether Plymouth’s Mayflower II, Fall River’s USS Massachusetts or America’s Hometown Thanksgiving Parade, south of Boston...

...has it all in the fall!

Call 800.USA.1620 or visit SeePlymouth.com.
Whether Plymouth’s Mayflower II, Fall River’s USS Massachusetts or America’s Hometown Thanksgiving Parade, south of Boston...

... has it all in the fall!
**TOP EVENTS**

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Since its opening in 2007, the Billy Graham Library has welcomed every living former president since Jimmy Carter. Come see why. Explore state-of-the-art exhibits and witness the extraordinary ways God used an ordinary farm boy to influence history.

FREE ADMISSION  Monday to Saturday, 9:30–5:00 • BillyGrahamLibrary.org • 704-401-3200 • Reservations are required for groups of 10 or more; email librarytours@bgea.org or call 704-401-3270 • 4330 Westmont Drive • Charlotte, North Carolina
General Information About the Top 100 Program

ABA’s Top 100 Events in North America is an annual compendium of the best events for group travel in the United States and Canada. Each spring, a committee of ABA member motorcoach and tour operators selects the Top 100 Events for the subsequent year. Winners are chosen from hundreds of celebrations, festivals, fairs, commemorative events, and more that have been nominated by ABA members. From among the winners, ABA names the Number One Event for both the United States and Canada. All current ABA members of all membership categories may submit nominations for the Top 100 Events in North America. Nominations are solicited via email from those eligible to nominate. The nomination process begins in February and ends in May. All ABA members may submit 10 nominations as part of their membership benefits. Non-ABA members may submit one nomination for a nominal fee.

Events to Watch

Events to Watch were added in 2013 as a new part of the Top 100 Events in North America for Group Travel publication. A panel of ABA member bus and tour operators created this section in the publication to highlight events and festivals that were not selected as a Top 100 Event but were great examples of new motorcoach-friendly events or events that have recently become group-friendly and show great potential to become future Top 100 Events.

Information on How to Plan Itineraries for Top 100 Events on GroupConnect

GroupConnect is your online planning tool for Top 100 Events. From departure to return you can build itineraries utilizing ABA and OMCA travel industry members for all your tour components in one place. We make it easy to request and receive quotes and research destinations for all Top 100 Events destinations. For more information, contact GroupConnect today at (866) 644-1664 or info@groupconnect.com.
The 2016 Virginia International Tattoo 20th Anniversary Celebration is the largest, most patriotic performance in the United States. Tattoo welcomes over 1,000 performers from all over the world in a display of military bands, massed pipes and drums, drill teams, Celtic dancers, choirs, and more. A premier opportunity to have your group share a memorable experience they will always cherish.

**THURSDAY, APRIL 21 – SUNDAY, APRIL 24, 2016**  
**SCOPE ARENA, NORFOLK, VA, USA**  

**PLAN YOUR GROUP GETAWAY TODAY! VATATTOO.ORG OR 1-877-741-2787**

**MORE ARTS TO EXPLORE!**

- Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater
- Yo Yo Ma
- Joshua Bell
- Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo
The 2016 tattoo will feature more than 1,500 military and civilian performers from 10 nations who will share their unique music, dance, culture, and pride with the tattoo audience, showcasing their individual excellence, their esprit de corps, and their friendship as nations. The tattoo will inspire you ... when your hand touches your heart during “The Star-Spangled Banner,” when you jump to your feet when your family’s service song is sung, when you rise in solemn prayer as hundreds of pipers, military musicians, and singers join together to perform “Amazing Grace.”

Virginia International Tattoo & Arts Festival
Patriotic pageantry

Norfolk, Va.
April 21–24, 2016

NEARBY ATTRACTIONS:
• Norfolk NATO Festival
• Virginia Garden Week
• Harbor Cruises, including Spirit of Norfolk, American Rover, and Victory Rover
• Virginia Beach Oceanfront
• Historic Williamsburg
• Jamestown
• Yorktown
• Outer Banks of North Carolina

CONTACT:
Dianna Starkey
(757) 282-2819
(877) 741-2787
dstarkey@vafest.org
www.vafest.org
The parish of Notre-Dame de Québec was founded in 1664, the oldest Catholic parish in North America north of the former Spanish colonies. It was erected with courage and passion. To underline the 350th anniversary, the Holy See granted the parish the seventh Holy Door in the world, the only one in America. The six others are located in Europe, four of them in Rome. Crossing the Holy Door is a spiritual undertaking, which can be lived by any person of goodwill. The Holy Door opens on Jubilee Years. The next one, proclaimed by Pope Francis, is 2016.
The EAST
From Maine to Florida, the East Coast’s most spectacular group-friendly events feature bright lights and mouthwatering delights.

New England

9th Annual Garlic Festival in Olde Mistick Village
Mystic, Conn.
Sept. 17-18, 2016
Contact: Jim Holley
(860) 912-6184
jholley56@att.net
www.oldemistickvillage.com/festivals.aspx

Visit beautiful Mystic, Conn., for the ninth annual Garlic Festival, Sept. 17 and 18, 2016. The grounds of Olde Mistick Village become exhibit space for more than 75 restaurants, farmers, artists, and craftspeople. Attendance of more than 20,000 makes this one of Connecticut’s largest events. Like all Olde Mistick Village events, it is free to the public; parking is also free, abundant, and easily accessible for buses.

Nearby Attractions: Mystic Aquarium, Mystic Seaport, Mashantucket Pequot Museum

America’s Hometown Thanksgiving Celebration
Plymouth, Mass.
Nov. 18-20, 2016
Contact: Sharon Liddell
(508) 746-1818
info@usathanksgiving.com
www.usathanksgiving.com

Almost 400 years in the making, this celebration is a link to our nation’s heritage. Enjoy walks along the waterfront and an evening illumination ceremony, free Veterans Memorial Concert, and Historic Parade featuring a walk through the history of our nation via floats, equestrian groups, fife and drum, and renowned drum corps. A food festival, crafters village, live entertainment, outdoor living history village, and farmers market make this event something for everyone.

Nearby Attractions: Plimoth Plantation/Plymouth Rock, Pilgrim Hall Museum, Mayflower Society Hour

Annual Pops by the Sea
Hyannis, Mass.
Contact: Christine Mascott
(508) 362-0066
info@artsfoundation.org
www.artsfoundation.org/pops-by-the-sea

The Citizens Bank Pops by the Sea concert is Cape Cod’s single largest cultural event. For each of the past 30 years we have welcomed one of the nation’s finest and best-loved musical ensembles—the Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra—to the Hyannis Village Green. Conducted by Keith Lockhart, this concert regularly sells out to a live audience of more than 12,000. Bus groups are offered group rates on festival seating to enjoy this magical event, which benefits art and culture on Cape Cod all year long.

Nearby Attractions: Hyline Cruises, JFK Museum, Cape Cod Central Railroad

Celebration of Peonies at Hildene, The Lincoln Family Home
Manchester, Vt.
May 22-June 22, 2016
Contact: Paula Maynard
(802) 362-1788
info@hildene.org
www.hildene.org

American Gardener magazine says, “One of the most notable features is the formal garden, and its ‘Celebration of Peonies’ when thousands of blooms fill the garden with color.” Tour the Georgian Revival home and formal gardens with 20+ varieties of heirloom peonies. Discover more than 1,000 blooms. Learn about this vibrant working landscape, home to three generations of Abraham Lincoln descendants. Experience the Hildene Farm and cheesemaking facility and the Pullman car, Sunbeam, exhibit.

Nearby Attractions: Bennington Potters, Northshire Bookstore, Manchester Designer Outlets

The Big E
West Springfield, Mass.
Contact: Gillian Palmer
(413) 205-5019, (800) 334-2443
gpalmer@thebige.com
www.thebige.com

Visit Eastern States Exposition, home of the largest fair in New England, The Big E! Almost 1.5 million guests enjoy top entertainment, the historic Storrowton Village, an amazing Mardi Gras parade, the world-class Circus Spectacular, and the iconic Avenue of States, plus much more. Celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2016, The Big E is located at the crossroads of New England on a beautiful 175-acre campus and can accommodate any group from across North America and beyond.

Nearby Attractions: Yankee Candle Flagship, Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame, Norman Rockwell Museum
Visit
NORTH of BOSTON
A STORY IN EVERY MILE

What’s Your Story?
Do you enjoy exploring museums & historic places, shopping, dining seaside, for one of a kind treasures, delighting yourself with activities on or off the water, or just relaxing on the beach? Visit our 34 cities and towns. Begin your journey only 30 minutes from Boston. A short drive for a day trip. Take the train or seasonal ferry. Request a Free Travel Guide & Map

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SALEM WITCH MUSEUM
19½ Washington Sq. North • Salem, MA 01970
(978) 744-1692 • salemwitchmuseum.com
MerryW@SalemWitchMuseum.com
Who are witches? What is a witch-hunt? Dispel the myths and separate fact from fiction at Salem’s most visited museum. Open daily year round. For group information contact Merry Ward.

THE HOUSE OF THE SEVEN GABLES
115 Derby Street • Salem, MA 01970
T/ (978) 744-0991 ext. 104 • F/ (978)745-5391
E/ rconary@7gables.org • 7gables.org
Visit a historic treasure! Admission includes a tour through the Gables mansion, a visit to Nathaniel Hawthorne’s Birthplace, spectacular views of Salem Harbor, and our unique Museum Store.

NORTH OF BOSTON CONVENTION & VISITORS CENTER
P.O. Box 5193 • I-95 Southbound, Exit 60
Salisbury, MA 01952
(978) 465-6555 • northofboston.org
Serving conventions, groups and visitors to the North of Boston communities. Contact us and request your free Travel Guide & Map.

SEA LEVEL
94 Wharf Street • Salem MA 01970
(978) 741-0555 • sealeveloysterbar.com
Waterfront & harbor side dining, full bar, and fresh seafood. Sea Level can accommodate groups from 10 to 75 people. Advance reservations are required; group menus are available for adult and student groups. Contact Lexi Lemieux at Lexi@sealeveloysterbar.com

SALEM HAUNTED HAPPENINGS
81 Washington Street, Suite 204
Salem, MA 01970
(978) 741-3252 • hauntedhappenings.org
Don’t miss this ABA Top 100 Event! Salem celebrates Halloween and fall in New England for the entire month of October with ghost tours, theatrical presentations, haunted stories, and historical fun. Contact Kate Fox for Group Tour info, kfox@salem.org.

BEAUPORT PRINCESS CRUISELINES
6 Rowe Square • Gloucester, MA 01930
(978) 865-3210 • beauportprincess.com

Visit
A STORy IN EVERY MILE
Jack-O-Lantern Spectacular
Providence, R.I.
Oct. 3–Nov. 6, 2016
CONTACT: Janet Mariani
(401) 785-3510
jmariani@rwpzoo.org
www.rwpzoo.org/jols
The acclaimed Jack-O-Lantern Spectacular, presented by Citizens Bank, will return to Roger Williams Park Zoo in Providence, R.I., with shows running nightly. This annual event, created by the artists and craftspersons of Passion for Pumpkins, features a breathtaking display of 5,000 illuminated jack-o’-lanterns; more than 125 of them are artistically carved and displayed in scenes to play out the annual theme. Situated on the zoo’s picturesque Wetlands Trail, the event has won praise for its appeal as a unique and family-friendly autumn destination. NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: Culinary Museum, Ghost Tour, TEN 31 Studio Tour

League of New Hampshire Craftsmen’s Fair
Newbury, N.H.
Aug. 6–14, 2016
CONTACT: Susie Lowe-Stockwell
(603) 224-3375
slowstoc@nhcrafts.org
www.nhcrafts.org/craftsmens-fair-overview
The Annual Craftsmen’s Fair is a nationally recognized event showcasing the finest handmade crafts by juried members of the League of NH Craftsmen—known for its high standards. Visitors may watch craft demonstrations in a variety of media, participate in workshops, and shop for one-of-a-kind items for the home or wearables. Family-friendly event for all ages. NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: The Fells Historic Site, Sunapee Harbor, New London Historical Society

Maine Lobster Festival
Rockland, Maine
Aug. 3–7, 2016
CONTACT: Cynthia Powell
(207) 975-0354
cynthiap@diviaruba.com
www.mainelobsterfestival.com
What do you get when you mix nine tents, the world’s largest lobster cooker, a sea goddess, a parade, entertainment, fine art, craftspersons and vendors, U.S. ship tours, free shuttle service, a cooking contest, road races, kids’ events, more than 20,000 pounds of lobster, plus more than 1,000 volunteers and a group of dedicated directors? The Maine Lobster Festival! Five days of fun and feasting on the fabulous coast of Rockland, Maine! NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: Downtown Rockland, Maine Lighthouse Museum, Farnsworth Art Museum, Winery Tours and Tastings, Owls Head Transportation Museum

New Hampshire Highland Games & Festival
Lincoln, N.H.
Sept. 16–18, 2016
CONTACT: Lois Meredith
(603) 229-1975, (800) 358-7268
lois@nhscot.org
www.nhscot.org
The New Hampshire Highland Games & Festival celebrates 41 years with all the heritage and culture of Scotland through competitions in dancing, drumming and pipe bands, fiddle, harp, sheep dogs, and Scottish heavy athletics. Performances feature traditional and modern Scottish music. Seminars, our living history encampment, and more than 70 clans offer history and genealogy information. Learn about and sample single malt whisky and craft beers and shop the more than 30 vendors. NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: Franconia Notch, Cog Railway, North Conway
Salem Haunted Happenings
Salem, Mass.
CONTACT: Kate Fox
(978) 741-3252, (877) 725-3662
kfox@salem.org
www.hauntedhappenings.org

“Gilded: Artful Living” is the theme for the 21st annual New-
port Flower Show, held at one of New-
port, R.I.’s Gilded Age man-
sions, Rosecliff, from June 24 to
26, 2016. During the Gilded Age,
early every aspect of life was
evolved to an art form. Gardens
became stages for nature’s most
brilliant performances, women’s
fashions were created for stylish
parades, and houses became mu-
seums for a lifetime of treasures.
Join us as we celebrate all that is
Gilded! 🌼
NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: Salem Witch
Museum, House of the Seven
Gables, Witch Dungeon Museum

Salem Haunted Happenings is
an annual celebration of Hal-
loween and fall in New England.
Groups will love exploring
Salem, Mass., during its most
bewitching season, featuring
haunted harbor cruises, walking
tours, historic museums, and
haunted culture of all types!
☐ ☐
NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: Heritage
Museum & Gardens, Hyline
Cruises, Coonamessett Farm

Scallop Fest
East Falmouth, Mass.
Sept. 23–25, 2016
CONTACT: Teri Stanley
(508) 759-6000
member@capecodcanal
chamber.org
www.scallopfest.org

A family-oriented event with
great entertainment, profes-
sional arts and crafts show, an
inflatable ride park and obstacle
course, and a home show. Famous
fried scallop and herb-roasted
chicken dinners, plus a food
court offering hamburgers,
hot dogs, lobster rolls, chowder,
salads, raw bar, fried dough, beer,
wine, and so much more!
☐ ☐ ☐
NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: Heritage
Museum & Gardens, Hyline
Cruises, Coonamessett Farm

Windjammer Days Boothbay Festival
Boothbay Harbor, Maine
June 19–25, 2016
CONTACT: Dianne Gimbel
(207) 504-0242
windjammerdays@gmail.com
www.windjammerdays.org

The Windjammer Days Festival
offers visitors the opportunity
to view Windjammers of the late
19th and 20th centuries. In ad-
dition to the Parade of Sail, enjoy
collage concerts in Whale Park, a codfish
race, a lobster-eating contest, a
craft show, Maine State Aquarium
and U.S. Coast Guard tours, a
one-design boat race, a golf tour-
nament, a spectacular fireworks
display, a tug-of-war across the
harbor, a Lighted Boat Parade,
and the Rocky Coast Road Race.
The Windjammer Days Festival is
a free, fun family event.
☐ ☐
NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: Coastal
Maine Botanical Garden, Boothbay
Railway Village, Maine Maritime
Museum

Newport Flower Show
Newport, R.I.
June 24–26, 2016
CONTACT: Dan Fryer
(401) 847-2251
groups@newportmansions.org
www.newportflowershow.org

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Join us as we celebrate all that is
Gilded! 🌼
NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: Green
Animals Topiary Garden, The
Elms, The Breakers

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Join us as we celebrate all that is
Gilded! 🌼
NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: Green
Animals Topiary Garden, The
Elms, The Breakers
See classic plays, vibrant musicals and newly commissioned works in a historic space like no other!

The Guard
A world premiere!
Sept. 25-Oct. 18, 2015

A Christmas Carol
A must-see holiday tradition!
Nov. 19-Dec. 31, 2015

The Glass Menagerie
A masterpiece by Tennessee Williams!
Jan. 22-Feb. 21, 2016

110 in the Shade
A classic American musical!
March 11-May 14, 2016

www.fords.org/groups

She was America’s first native-born saint. We welcome visitors of all backgrounds to tour Elizabeth Ann Seton’s home and basilica, and to learn the story of a woman who changed the world. Throughout this 40th anniversary of her canonization — named one of ABA’s TOP 100 Events for 2016 — our museum features special exhibits about her life, legacy, and path to sainthood.

Bus parking is plentiful. Schedule a tour before this monumental year is over.

Call 301.447.7050 or email bbassler@setonheritage.org
**Mid-Atlantic**

### 40 Years a Saint— 40th Anniversary of Elizabeth Seton’s Canonization

**Emmitsburg, Md.**

**Jan. 1–Dec. 31, 2016**

**Contact:** Scott Dugan  
(301) 447-6606  
scott.dugan@setonheritage.org  
www.setonheritage.org/40years/

“40 Years a Saint” is a special exhibit on display at the National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Emmitsburg, Md. The centerpiece of the exhibit is the large canonization banner, which features an image of Elizabeth Ann Seton that hung in Saint Peter’s Square, the center of the worldwide celebration of Mother Seton’s canonization in 1975.

**Nearby Attractions:** Carriage House Inn, National Museum of Civil War Medicine, Historic District of Downtown Frederick

### Apple-Scrapple Festival

**Bridgeville, Del.**

**Oct. 14–15, 2016**

**Contact:** Karen Johnson  
(302) 245-2038  
kjohnsonasf@yahoo.com  
www.applescrapple.com

A fun event held the second full weekend in October, the Apple-Scrapple Festival is an annual celebration of Delaware’s agricultural community that features live entertainment, carnival rides and games, scrapple chunkin’ and carving, an iron skillet toss, trade and craft shows, a car show, Little Miss Apple Scrapple, the 5K Hog Jogg, and plenty of apples, scrapple, and other tempting treats! More than 25,000 visitors flock to Bridgeville each year; free admission and parking.

**Nearby Attractions:** Harrington Raceway & Casino, Rehoboth Tanger Outlet Centers, Dogfish Head Craft Brewery

### GlassFest 2016

**Corning, N.Y.**

**May 26–29, 2016**

**Contact:** Coleen Fabrizi  
(607) 937-6292  
coleen@gafferdistrict.com  
www.glassfest.org

GlassFest is a four-day celebration of glass and the fire arts in “America’s Crystal City,” Corning, N.Y. The event features outdoor glassmaking demonstrations; world-class museums and galleries; music from a number of nationally known entertainers; an outdoor art show featuring glass, pottery, ceramics, metal, and a variety of fine arts from across the country; and a breathtaking fireworks display. Visitors can soak up the charm of beautiful Historic Market Street and indulge in special shopping and dining promotions. Admission is free!

**Nearby Attractions:** Corning Museum of Glass, Rockwell Museum, Finger Lakes Region

### New York Renaissance Faire

**Tuxedo Park, N.Y.**

**Aug. 6–Sept. 25, 2016**

**Contact:** Barbara Freely  
(845) 351-5171, (877) 435-9849  
customersupport@ticketfly.com  
www.renfair.com/ny

The faire is a rollicking romp through Elizabethan England complete with 16th century games, rides, arts, crafts, food, music, and dance—all within the majestic groves of Tuxedo Park, N.Y.

**Nearby Attractions:** USMA West Point; Pride of the Hudson River Cruise; Brotherhood, America’s Oldest Winery

### Ft. Ligonier Days

**Ligonier, Pa.**

**Oct. 14–16, 2016**

**Contact:** Karen Johnson  
(302) 245-2038  
kjohnsonasf@yahoo.com  
www.applescrapple.com

Join us for Ft. Ligonier Days in charming Ligonier, Pa., in Pennsylvania’s Laurel Highlands. Enjoy more than 180 juried craft vendors, fabulous food, and a grand parade. The French and Indian War comes to life at Ft. Ligonier, as reenactors battle much as they did in George Washington’s day. Enjoy entertainment in a variety of musical styles on our iconic bandstand, and dance Saturday night away at our evening street dance. Wrap up your weekend with our 5K race, a leisurely brunch, or some boutique shopping.

**Nearby Attractions:** Frank Lloyd Wright Homes, Flight 93 National Memorial, Idlewild and SoakZone

### Lucille Ball Comedy Festival

**Jamestown, N.Y.**

**Aug. 4–7, 2016**

**Contact:** Dallas Thurn  
(716) 484-0800, (877) 582-9326  
groupsales@lucy-desi.com  
www.lucycomedyfest.com

The Lucille Ball Comedy Festival takes place in Lucille Ball’s hometown of Jamestown, N.Y. The annual festival, which features more than 60 events and 25 comedians, has showcased past performers that include Jerry Seinfeld, Jay Leno, Ellen DeGeneres, Ray Romano, Lewis Black, and Joan Rivers. Lucy Comedy Fest attracts attendees from 37 states and four countries. Events include dinner shows with I Love Lucy impersonators, grape stomping, chocolate wrapping, and the best in contemporary comedy.

**Nearby Attractions:** Niagara Falls, Chautauqua Institution, Lucy Desi Museum
HELLO ERIE PA!
HELLO TALL SHIPS!

Join the U.S. Brig Niagara during Tall Ships Erie September 8-11, 2016. Ship tours, entertainment, food, Parade of Sails on beautiful Presque Isle Bay. Special group tours are scheduled for:
Friday, September 9, 2016 from 2 to 6 PM.
Call 814.452.2744 x 225 for Tour Info.

2016 TALL SHIPS ERIE
tallshipserie.com

VisitErie.com
800.524.3743

Discover Corning and the Southern Finger Lakes

GLASSFEST CORNING NEW YORK

May 26–29 2016
GlassFest.org
July 15–17 2016
FLWineFest.com

ABA Top 100 Events Again in 2016!

20th Anniversary FINGER LAKES WINE FESTIVAL

DISCOVER

• Four-day celebration of glass in Corning, NY.
• Hot glass demos, artist displays, live music, wine and beer tastings, fireworks!

SAVOR

• 3 days of the largest showcase of wines produced in New York State
• Live music, food, arts & craft vendors, cooking demonstrations, wine seminars

Free Motorcoach Parking
Free Admission
Accessible, Walkable

For planning assistance, call 866-946-3386 or visit DiscoverCorning.com
**Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire**
Manheim, Pa.
**Contact:** Hannah Kiscadden
(717) 665-7021
h.kiscadden@parenfaire.com
www.parenfaire.com

Celebrate the 36th anniversary of the Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire! Thirteen brilliantly themed weekends offer a new experience each visit. The Grand Arrival kicks off faire season as the royal family comes to Mount Hope for an extended stay. Enjoy more than 90 shows daily on 13 stages! Jousting, acrobatics, human chess, magic acts, mud beggars, and more. Demonstrations in glassblowing, falconry, and blacksmithing take place daily. Indulge in delicious foods and shop at more than 100 independently owned merchant booths.

**Nearby Attractions:** Hersheypark, The Amish Experience, Sight & Sound Theatre

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**Tall Ships Erie 2016**
Erie, Pa.
Sept. 8–11, 2016
**Contact:** Shawn Waskiewicz
(814) 452-2744, ext. 202
shawnw@flagshipniagara.org
www.flagshipniagara.org

Tall Ships Erie will take place on Erie’s historic Bayfront Sept. 8–11, 2016. Come tour tall ships from all over the world, listen to live music, partake in historical lectures, shop in the vendor fair, and eat local food. Tickets start as low as $5. Call (814) 452-2744 or visit www.flagshipniagara.org for more details.

**Nearby Attractions:** Lake Erie Wine Country, Presque Isle Downs Casino, Tom Ridge Environmental Center at Presque Isle State Park

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**World War II Weekend**
Reading, Pa.
June 3–5, 2016
**Contact:** Brenda Saylor
(610) 372-7333
maam@maam.org
www.maam.org/maamwwii

World War II Weekend in June is a “don’t miss” event for the entire family and includes 80 aircraft, 200 vehicles, and 1,700 reenactors spread over 10 acres. Also included in the weekend are plane rides by various types of vintage aircraft, including WWII bombers and fighters.

**Nearby Attractions:** VF Outlets, GoggleWorks Center for the Arts, Boyertown Museum of Historic Vehicles

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**Christmas at the Galt House Hotel**
Louisville, Ky.
Nov. 17–Dec. 27, 2016
**Contact:** Kelly Gream
(502) 589-5200
elf@galthouse.com
www.christmasatthegalthouse.com

Christmas at the Galt House Hotel is an event where guests can create holiday memories of magic and wonder. Take in the sights and sounds of Charles Dickens’ *A Christmas Carol* as the story comes alive through larger-than-life handcrafted silk luminaries. Interactive with Santa’s elves, personally selected by Santa himself to perform at the Holly Jolly Holiday Revue. Take a stroll through the Christmas Village. Guests will be able to take Santa’s sleigh for a spin over Louisville.

**Nearby Attractions:** Derby Dinner Playhouse, Kentucky Derby Museum, Louisville Bat Factory & Museum
Christmas Illuminations at Mount Vernon
Mount Vernon, Va.
Contact: Groups Dept.
groups@mountvernon.org
www.mountvernon.org
Step back in time and experience a festive holiday evening at George Washington’s Mount Vernon. Watch as colonial artisans demonstrate the 18th-century process of creating chocolate. Visit a winter encampment and meet reenactors from the First Virginia Regiment. Enjoy cider, cookies, and a bonfire while listening to the harmonious sounds of musicians performing 18th-century tunes. Finally, sip hot chocolate while watching a fireworks show choreographed to holiday music over the Potomac River.

Nearby Attractions: National Christmas Tree, Gaylord National’s Resort ICE, “Christmas as Mount Vernon”

Christmas in Williamsburg
Williamsburg, Va.
Nov. 25–Dec. 31, 2016
Contact: Vivian Bunting
(757) 229-6511, (800) 368-6511
bunting@visitwilliamsburg.com
www.christmasinwilliamsburg.com
Christmas in Williamsburg begins just after Thanksgiving and extends through First Night. The entire community comes together with holiday décor, special programs, and events. Many events are free and suitable for all audiences. Attractions, museums, and theme parks offer group rates and have complimentary policies, which vary by venue. Parking is complimentary in most locations. For more information visit www.ChristmasInWilliamsburg.com.

Nearby Attractions: Busch Gardens, Colonial Williamsburg, Jamestown-Yorktown

Gatlinburg 4th of July Celebration
Gatlinburg, Tenn.
July 3–4, 2016
Contact: Dian Stanfill
(865) 436-0527, (800) 588-1817
dian@gatlinburg.com
www.gatlinburg.com/events
Since 1974, Gatlinburg, Tenn., has saluted the valiant men and women in our military services during the “First July Fourth Parade in the Nation!” Nearly 100,000 people line the parkway for the parade that steps off at the stroke of midnight on July Fourth. More than 100 floats, balloons, and marching bands pay tribute to our country during this mile-long parade. Festivities continue all day long, with free concerts on Ripley’s Aquarium Plaza and a fireworks show after dark.

Nearby Attractions: Ripley’s Aquarium, Ober Gatlinburg, Gatlinburg Sky Lift

Harborfest®
Norfolk, Va.
June 3–5, 2016
Contact: Melissa Hopper
(757) 622-4528, (800) 368-3097
mhopper@visitnorfolktoday.com
www.festevents.org
The Annual Norfolk Harborfest® is in Town Point Park along the Downtown Norfolk Waterfront. The festival is three full days of free, fresh, fun! The Downtown Norfolk Waterfront transforms into an exciting playground for people of all ages. The historic waterfront festival offers a weekend packed with exciting activities on land and sea! Harborfest® includes tall ships and the Parade of Sail; the largest fireworks show on the East Coast; local, regional, and national entertainment; family activities; unique performances; water activities; and much more.

Nearby Attractions: Battleship Wisconsin, Naval Station Norfolk, American Rover

Taste Lab
Create your own virtual ice cream flavor and bring it to life in our hands-on taste lab, design packaging and a “Tea-V” Commercial.

Group Friendly
Unlimited samples and close to all Lancaster, York, Gettysburg and Hershey area attractions.

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301 Linden Street, Columbia, PA 17512
844-VISIT-TH | 844-847-4884
Heroes, Hometowns & Legends/Welcome Home Vietnam
Clarksville, Tenn.
Sept. 13–16, 2016
CONTACT: Frances Manzitto
(931) 245-4345, (800) 530-2487
frances@visitclarksvilletn.com
www.clarksvillecvb.com/visit/group-tours
Heroes, Hometowns and Legends/Welcome Home Vietnam is a package designed with groups in mind. The itinerary is full of variety, including stops like Beachaven Winery, Ft. Defiance Civil War Site, the Customs House Museum, and Ft. Campbell Army Installation. Highlights of the package include the Welcome Home Vietnam Parade, Big Band USO Show with Bob Hope tribute artist, and concert with country music legend Lee Greenwood.

NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: Historic Collinsville, Ft. Campbell, Ft. Defiance

Kentucky Bourbon Festival Inc.
Bardstown, Ky.
Sept. 13–18, 2016
CONTACT: Jill Hawkins
(502) 348-3623, (800) 638-4877
jill.hawkins@kybourbonfestival.com
www.kybourbonfestival.com
The Kentucky Bourbon Festival is a six-day festival, Sept. 13–18, 2016, dedicated to the legendary spirit of Kentucky. There will be fun and activities for all ages. Distillers from across the state of Kentucky will share their bourbons in a variety of events. The 2016 festival will be the 25th annual Kentucky Bourbon Festival in historic Bardstown, Ky., the Bourbon Capital of the World.

NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: Getz Whiskey Museum, Kentucky Bourbon Trail, My Old Kentucky Home

National Cornbread Festival
South Pittsburg, Tenn.
April 23–24, 2016
CONTACT: Carolyn Kellermann Millhiser
(423) 837-8327
ncfmarketing@bellsouth.net
www.nationalcornbread.com
The last full weekend each April, South Pittsburg is an open-air mall where streets are filled with live entertainment, juried arts and crafts, and food. This Southern cuisine festival honors cornbread with the national cornbread cook-off—sponsored by Martha White, Brown Stove, and Lodge Cast iron. Tour the Lodge Foundry to see how Lodge cast iron is made. Visit the residential historic district, and participate in the 5K walk-fun run.

NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: Lodge Cast Iron Foundry, South Pittsburg Heritage Museum, Russell Cave National Monument

Patriotic Festival: A Celebration of Our Military
Virginia Beach, Va.
June 3–5, 2016
CONTACT: Jim Coggin
(757) 385-6642, (800) 700-7702
jcoggin@visitvirginiabeach.com
www.patrioticfestival.com
Coastal Virginia is home to the largest military bases in the USA. Virginia Beach, the largest resort city on the East Coast, is hosting the Patriotic Festival—A Military Celebration to honor our armed forces personnel and their families. The Patriotic Festival celebrates the military at the Virginia Beach Oceanfront for three days of national touring artist concerts, military expos, and displays.

NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Museum, Military Aviation Museum, Cape Henry Lighthouse

Hinton Railroad Days
Hinton, W.Va.
CONTACT: Dorothy Jean Booley
(304) 466-6100
hintonrailroadmuseum@frontier.com
www.hintonwva.com/railroaddays
Hinton Railroad Days is held annually for two weekends in October. The streets are filled with craft and food vendors. Vendors are selling unusual crafts and the food is delicious. The festival coincides with the New River Train Excursions. The New River Train arrives each afternoon of the festival. Each year is different. Come on out and see what this year will bring!

NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: New River Train Excursions, Sandstone Falls, Pipestem State Park

Museum of Appalachia’s Tennessee Fall Homecoming
Norris, Tenn.
Oct. 7–9, 2016
CONTACT: Elaine Meyer
(865) 494-7680
museum@museumofappalachia.org
www.museumofappalachia.org
The 37th anniversary of the Museum of Appalachia’s Tennessee Fall Homecoming will feature local, regional, and nationally acclaimed musicians performing on five scenic stages. Enjoy traditional Appalachian artisans and demonstrators at work, spinning, weaving, blacksmithing, tatting, quilting, and much more. Taste Dutch oven cooking, homemade ice cream, and some of the finest Southern fare found anywhere.

NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: American Museum of Science & Energy; Great Smoky Mountains National Park; Knoxville, Tennessee Historic Tour

Museum of Appalachia’s Tennessee Fall Homecoming
IT’S A SLEEPOVER!

FIREWORKS, PUMPKINS OR ELVES! Now Booking 2015-2017 Overnight Packages

THUNDER OVER LOUISVILLE
Fireworks and Airshow
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October 8 - November 1, 2015
Last 3 weeks of October 2016 & 2017

CHRISTMAS AT THE GALT HOUSE HOTEL
November 19 - December 27, 2015
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Plan your Louisville group trip by contacting our Tour & Travel Sales Team today!

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Kayla Harper
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k.harper@galthotel.com

GaltHouse.com
**Rivers & Spires Festival**  
Clarksville, Tenn.  
April 14–16, 2016  
**CONTACT:** Frances Manzitto  
(931) 245-4345  
frances@visitclarksvilletn.com  
www.riversandspires.com  

The Rivers & Spires Festival transforms Historic Downtown Clarksville into a three-day entertainment paradise, with live music, art, and interactive displays. More than 40,000 people per year are treated to 10 city blocks packed to the brim with free entertainment. Whatever your interest—arts, sports, cars, military, music, gaming, or family activities—it’s all here at Rivers & Spires. The best part is that the event is entirely free! No admission, gate fees, or concert tickets are required.  

**NEARBY ATTRACTIONS:** Beachaven Winery, Ft. Defiance, Customs House Museum

**Brookgreen Gardens Nights of a Thousand Candles**  
Murrells Inlet, S.C.  
Dec. 1-17, 2016  
**CONTACT:** Molly Mercer  
(843) 235-6000, (800) 849-1931  
mmercer@brookgreen.org  
www.brookgreen.org/nights  

Nights of a Thousand Candles is held for nine evenings each December when Brookgreen Gardens comes to life amid the soft glow of more than 5,500 hand-lit candles and hundreds of thousands of sparkling lights as musicians play and carolers sing. Brookgreen’s remarkable gardens are also the site of America’s first public sculpture garden, displaying more than 1,700 works of art on 50 landscaped acres.  

**NEARBY ATTRACTIONS:** Alabama Theatre, Carolina Opry, Ripley’s Aquarium

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**American Bus Association**

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**NEARBY ATTRACTIONS:** Alabama Theatre, Carolina Opry, Ripley’s Aquarium

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**American Bus Association**
Edison Ford Holiday Nights
Ft. Myers, Fla.
Nov. 25–Dec. 31, 2016
CONTACT: Janet Wilson
(239) 334-7419
info@edisonfordwinterestates.org
www.edisonfordwinterestates.org/events/annual-events

Visitors to the Edison & Ford Winter Estates in Ft. Myers will enjoy 20 acres of historical buildings, historic gardens, the Edison Botanic Research Lab, and the Edison Ford Museum. The 1929 historic landscape is throughout the property, including the award-winning Moonlight Garden. The Edison Ford Museum has hundreds of inventions, artifacts, and special exhibits.

NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: Pure Ft. Myers River Cruises, Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre

Holiday FantaSea
Myrtle Beach, S.C.
Nov. 8-15, 2016
CONTACT: Sandy Haines
(843) 916-7248, (800) 488-8998
sandyhaines@visitmyrtlebeach.com
www.coastalnetworkcooperative.com/holiday-fantasea.html

The annual Myrtle Beach Holiday FantaSea serves as a thank-you to our groups for booking at least one night in the Myrtle Beach area. It has become a wonderful value-added attraction for tour operators. The event is held on two days (9:30–11:30 a.m.) over two weeks during the favorable holiday season. It showcases award-winning entertainment, spectacular giveaways, a grand-prize shopping spree, and a ton of Southern hospitality—all at no cost.

NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: The Carolina Opry, Dickens Christmas Festival, Alabama Theatre

Congratulations Railroad Days and Rocket Boys on being chosen as two of the American Bus Association’s Top 100 Events.

For a custom itinerary for your group, call 800-VisitWV or go to VisitWV.com
Be inspired by Biltmore’s grand holiday celebration during our daytime Christmas at Biltmore® celebration. Miles of ribbon and lights, sparkling ornaments, fragrant evergreen swags, and dozens of Christmas trees decorate Biltmore House and the entire estate throughout the holiday season. A Candlelight Christmas Evenings experience will be the highlight of your visit. Imagine the wonder of America’s largest home® after dark, illuminated by sparkling candles and flickering firelight with traditional Christmas carols performed by musicians and choirs.

The Kentucky Derby Festival is a whirlwind of 70 events starting with Thunder over Louisville, the opening ceremonies of the two-week festival. With an estimated average attendance of half a million people, it is the largest annual event in the region, the largest annual pyrotechnics display in North America, and one of the top five air shows in the country. Other highlights include a half and full marathon and live bed racing! The event that started it all, the Pegasus Parade, marches down Broadway the Thursday before the Derby.

Christmas at Biltmore®
Asheville, N.C.
Nov. 4, 2016–Jan. 8, 2017
CONTACT: Group Sales/
Leslie Brewer
(866) 851-4661
groupsales@biltmore.com
www.biltmore.com

Colonial Williamsburg’s Christmas season officially begins with Grand Illumination, a spectacular evening where candles twinkle in the windows of historic area homes and buildings, fatwood crackles in street-side cressets, and the heavens explode with fireworks. Enjoy music, holiday events, hot chocolate and apple cider, and the many more festive activities on the streets of Colonial Williamsburg. Grand Illumination is sure to inspire many holiday traditions to come.
“A Country Christmas” at Gaylord Opryland Resort
CONTACT: Tina Abellanosa (615) 458-2821
tabelanosa@gaylordhotels.com www.christmasatgaylordopryland.com

There’s no better place for the holidays than Nashville’s iconic Gaylord Opryland Resort with its two million twinkling lights, acres of stunning decorations, and exceptional entertainment. There are more than a dozen shows and attractions, including larger-than-life Nativity displays, Christmas dinner shows, and ICE!—a astonishing colorful sculptures hand-carved from two million pounds of ice. The resort’s nine acres of indoor gardens and waterfalls are transformed into a fanciful world of towering Christmas trees, oversized wreaths, and ornate details that provide breathtaking views.

Hampton Beach Seafood Festival
Hampton, N.H. Sept. 11–11, 2016
CONTACT: Ginni McNamara (603) 926-8718
ginni@hamptonchamber.com www.hamptonbeachseafoodfestival.com

The 27th Hampton Beach Seafood Festival presents the largest showcase of wines produced in New York state, with the largest selection of wines presented by Yancey’s Fancy the Finger Lakes Wine Festival.

National Cherry Blossom Festival
Washington, D.C. March 20–April 17, 2016
CONTACT: Diana Mayhew (202) 661-7596
diana@downtownwashington.org www.nationalcherryblossom.com

The National Cherry Blossom Festival is the nation’s greatest springtime celebration. The festival includes spectacular weekends and daily events featuring diverse and creative programming promoting traditional and contemporary arts and culture, natural beauty, and community spirit. Each year, the festival commemorates the anniversary of the gift of the cherry blossom trees and the enduring friendship between the United States and Japan. Events are primarily free and open to the public, and more than 1.5 million people each year take part in this annual rite of spring.

PHS Philadelphia Flower Show
CONTACT: Michelle Ullman, CTIS, CTP (215) 988-8871 mullman@pennhort.org www.theflowershows.com

From Steamy to Petrified, Hot Springs to Arctic and Redwood to Yellowstone, the largest flower show in the USA will present “American Beauty, 100 years of the National Park Service” March 5–13, 2016. The 2016 Flower Show will honor our treasured parks with acres of themed landscape and floral displays, breathtaking imagery, and heart-pounding adventure experiences to expose the vast beauty of our national parks to audiences from around the world.

Finger Lakes Wine Festival 2016
Watkins Glen, N.Y. July 8–10, 2016
CONTACT: Jeff Nelson (607) 535-3354 jnelson@theglen.com www.fiwinefest.com

The Finger Lakes Wine Festival presented by Yancey’s Fancy New York’s Artisan Cheese offers the largest showcase of wines produced in New York State, with more than 90 wineries paired with regional artisans, live music, cooking demonstrations, and wine seminars, all in one beautiful location. The festival kicks off on Friday with the Launch of the Lakes Toga Party. Stop for the day or camp for the weekend. Don’t miss the summer’s biggest party.

Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade
New York, N.Y. Nov. 24, 2016
CONTACT: Kristin Esposito (646) 429-7432 kristin.esposito@macy.com www.nyetc.com

This annual tradition signals the beginning of the Christmas holiday season. The Tom Turkey float leads the parade of more than 200 different elements, with Santa Claus in his sleigh as the grand finale. In between are giant balloons, marching bands, and floats. Performers and marchers include celebrities, clowns, and costumed characters. On Thanksgiving Eve, visitors can watch the parade’s signature giant character and novelty balloons come to life as they are inflated with helium.

Oglebay’s Winter Festival of Lights
CONTACT: David E. Flatley (304)243-4000, (800) 624-6988 dflatley@oglebay-resort.com www.oglebay-resort.com

Seeing is truly believing when you visit Oglebay’s Winter Festival of Lights in beautiful Wheeling, W.Va. Drive your car or ride a bus through six miles of winter wonderland as you take in the sights of more than 300 acres of festive lights. This is truly a wild, wonderful time in West Virginia.

Sea Witch Halloween & Fiddler’s Festival
CONTACT: Carol Everhart (302) 227-2233 rehoboth@beach-fun.com www.beach-fun.com

Enjoy the 27th annual Sea Witch Halloween & Fiddler’s Festival Oct. 28–30, 2016! The fun begins on Friday with the Tyke Bike Race on the Boardwalk, a movie in Grove Park, and a Dewey Beach bonfire. Watch thousands of costumed participants, bands, and decorated cars at Saturday’s parade. Take part in dozens of activities, such as the Sea Witch Hunt, artisan shopping, a Mummers performance, and horse shows on the beach! Don’t miss live entertainment, including top acts: Neon Swing X-perience, Jimi Smooth & HitTime, and the Funsters! Top off this spook-tacular event with a 5K race/walk or costumed pet parade!
Whether it’s reveling in history and culture or celebrating the holidays in style, plenty of incredible events await in the heart of the United States.

**GREAT LAKES**

**100th Running of the Indianapolis 500**

*Indianapolis, Ind.*

**May 29, 2016**

**CONTACT:** Lisa Wallace
(317) 262-8260
lwallace@visitindy.com
www.indianapolismotor
speedway.com

The racing capital of the world will welcome more than 250,000 attendees from around the globe to the iconic Indianapolis Motor Speedway to witness the 100th running of the “Greatest Spectacle in Racing.” Race week features two concerts, celebrity appearances, parades, pressure-packed days of qualifying, and a chance for one driver to stand among legends.

**NEARBY ATTRACTIONS:** Hall of Fame Museum at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, Indianapolis Museum of Art/100 Acres Art and Nature Park, Dallara IndyCar Factory

**Alpenfest**

*Gaylord, Mich.*

**June 12-16, 2016**

**CONTACT:** Kelly Combs
(989) 732-6333
kelly@gaylordmichigan.net
www.gaylordalpenfest.com

Come home to Alpenfest in Gaylord, home of the “World’s Largest Coffee Break” and where our beautiful Alpine Village Main Street magically transforms into the Alpenstrasse. Artists from all over the country display their crafts, and area vendors offer up tasty ethnic treats. The carnival lights up the night sky and fills the air with the sounds of laughter.

**NEARBY ATTRACTIONS:** Golf, Beach, Mackinaw City

**Amish Acres 54th Annual Arts & Crafts Festival**

*Nappanee, Ind.*

**Aug. 4-7, 2016**

**CONTACT:** Janis Logsdon
(574) 773-4188, (800) 800-4942
janislogsdon@amishacres.com
www.amishacres.com/arts _crafts_festival

Wagon rides, marionettes and magic shows, famous family-style Threshers Dinner in the century-old barn restaurant, and guided house and farm tours intertwine the festival’s and farm’s attractions. Continuous free entertainment on four stages is planned, along with festive food concoctions, including kettle corn, pulled-pork sandwiches, steak tips and mushrooms, and breaded Hoosier tenderloins.

**NEARBY ATTRACTIONS:** The Round Barn Theatre, Amish Acres Historic Farm & Heritage Resort, Quilt Gardens Tour

**Baraboo's Big Top Parade & Circus Celebration**

*Baraboo, Wis.*

**July 23, 2016**

**CONTACT:** Debra Bauer
(608) 356-8333
visitus@baraboo.com
www.bigtopparade.com

Clowning around will not only be tolerated, it’ll be encouraged in Baraboo, Wis.—the historic home of the Ringling Bros. Circus—on Saturday, July 23, 2016, when the city commemorates its stupendous circus heritage during the 4th annual Baraboo’s Big Top Parade & Circus Celebration. The festivities’ centerpiece, the Big Top Parade, will feature more than 75 circus and community entries, including antique circus wagons, animals, clowns, and bands.

**NEARBY ATTRACTIONS:** Circus World Museum, Mid-Continent Railway Museum, International Crane Foundation
**Deck the Hall**

**Akron, Ohio**

**Nov. 28, 2016–Jan. 3, 2017**

**CONTACT:** Pamela Courrier  
(330) 836-5533, (888) 836-5533  
pcourrier@stanhywet.org

**www.stanhywet.org**

Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens hosts its annual evening holiday celebration, Deck the Hall, select dates through Jan. 3. The 65-room Tudor Revival Manor House, completed in 1915, is decorated to create a warm and inviting holiday setting. Unique musical performances are held nightly in the Music Room. Festivities on the 72 acres of artistically landscaped grounds include a tree lighting ceremony with Santa, a winter wonderland of more than half a million twinkling holiday lights, hands-on activities, and tasty holiday treats in Molly’s Café.

**NEARBY ATTRACTIONS:**  
Flea Markets, Downtown Shopping, Antique Malls, The Farm at Walnut Creek, Amish Bakeries and Restaurants, Museums

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**International Carillon Festival**

**Springfield, Ill.**

**June 1-5, 2016**

**CONTACT:** Patrick Knox  
(217) 546-3853

**pknox@springfieldparks.org**

**www.carillon-rees.org/events/carillon-festival**

The International Carillon Festival, set in historic Washington Park, features evening concerts by some of the world’s finest carillonneurs. The event is free, and guests can arrive a little early to stroll through the nearby botanical and rose gardens. Bring your lawn chairs or a picnic dinner and relax near the bell tower while listening to the beautiful bells.

**NEARBY ATTRACTIONS:**  
Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, Lincoln Home National Historic Site, Lincoln’s Tomb

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**Mackinac Island Lilac Festival**

**Mackinac Island, Mich.**

**June 3-12, 2016**

**CONTACT:** Alison Abraham  
(906) 847-3783

**info@mackinacisland.org**

**www.mackinacisland.org/mackinacislandlilacfestival**

The 10-day celebration is the first and largest summer event on the island, attracting thousands of visitors each day. A celebration that blends the island’s historic varieties of lilacs—many of which were brought here during the colonial era—distinctive equestrian culture, and fine food, drink, and accommodations, plus a range of other activities, the festival is one of the island’s biggest attractions.

**NEARBY ATTRACTIONS:**  
Ft. Mackinac, Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island Carriage Tours

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**Christmas In The Country Event**

**Walnut Creek, Ohio**

**Nov. 19-Dec. 17, 2016**

**CONTACT:** Jeff Conn  
(888) 988-7469

**info@amishcountrytheater.com**

**www.amishcountrytheater.com/christmas**

There’s something special about celebrating the holiday season in the gorgeous setting of Ohio’s Amish Country. One of the highlights is Christmas In The Country, an elegant, two-hour special event at the Amish Country Theater featuring the music of Nashville recording artist John Schmid. Hosted by the hilarious cast of the Amish Country Theater, Christmas In The Country is a must-see for the whole family.

**NEARBY ATTRACTIONS:**  
Flea Markets, Downtown Shopping, Antique Malls, The Farm at Walnut Creek, Amish Bakeries and Restaurants, Museums

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Like no other destination, Springfield offers the best of Abraham Lincoln, the nostalgia of Route 66 and attractions for everyone to enjoy. Let us build a customized itinerary for your group. From top sites to the best of Midwest hospitality, legendary experiences are waiting for you in Springfield!

**Springfield Convention & Visitors Bureau**  
**Toll Free: 800-545-7300**  
**VisitSpringfieldIllinois.com**
Warrens Cranberry Festival
Warrens, Wis.
Sept. 23–24, 2016
ABOUT: Kim Schroeder
(608) 378-4200
cranfest@cranfest.com
www.cranfest.com
Warrens Cranberry Festival is the world’s largest cranberry festival. There is something for everyone, including shopping, contests, marsh tours, and a parade. The festival will mark its 44th year in 2016. Since the first festival in 1973, attendance has grown from 3,500 to more than 120,000 each year. The Warrens Cranberry Festival boasts 850 arts & crafts booths, 350 flea market & antique booths, and 100 farm market vendors. If you get hungry during all that shopping, head over to one of the 100 food vendors for a tasty treat.

NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: Chippewa Valley Museum, Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, The Rose Chapel

Dodge City Days
Dodge City, Kan.
July 29–Aug. 7, 2016
ABOUT: John Bogner
(620) 227-3119
dcdays@dodgechamber.com
www.dodgecitydays.com
Feel Dodge City’s history come to life during the annual Dodge City Days! This 10-day celebration hosts more than 50 events, including the award-winning PRCA Hall of Fame Dodge City Rodeo. They call it the “Greatest Show On Dirt,” and it’s hard to argue. Other highlights include a classic car show, a carnival, a longhorn cattle drive, an arts & crafts show, a professional BBQ contest, a Western parade, and the crowning of Miss Rodeo Kansas. The festival kicks off on July 29, 2016, with the Boot Hill Bull Fry and Bash.

NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: Boot Hill Museum, Santa Fe Depot & Depot Theater Company, Boot Hill Casino

Medora Musical
Medora, N.D.
June 3–Sept. 10, 2016
ABOUT: Joslyn Reichert
(701) 623-4444, (800) 633-6721
joslynr@medora.com
www.medora.com
At the Medora Musical, every night ends on a high note. With all the singing and dancing and carrying on, it’s so big, it can only happen outdoors! Enjoy the show under the Badlands sky in the 2,900-seat Burning Hill Amphitheatre. You’ll be treated to songs by the Burning Hills Singers, as well as nationally known comedy and variety acts. Dedicated to President Theodore Roosevelt’s time in the Badlands, each year’s Medora Musical is a brand-new production that celebrates the spirit of the West. Family fun with a little bit of gunpowder!

NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: Pitchfork Steak Fondue, TR Salute to Medora, Theodore Roosevelt National Park
June 25, 2016–February 12, 2017 | Free admission

Book your group now!
Contact reserve@mohistory.org
Visit mohistory.org/bookingform

Missouri History Museum
Forest Park | St. Louis | mohistory.org/route66

Here in Dodge City, we look at life a little differently. Out here, you can still witness a gunfight, enjoy a great steak, try your luck at the Boot Hill Casino, or watch a beautiful sunset. Heck, we even enjoy a great rodeo every summer.

Experience the history of Dodge City, where the Marshal still roams the streets.

800-OLD-WEST www.VisitDodgeCity.org
Dodge City Convention and Visitors Bureau
Norsk Høstfest
Minot, N.D.
Sept. 27–Oct. 1, 2016
CONTACT: Pamela Davy
(701) 852-2368
pamdavy@minot.com
www.hostfest.com
Norsk Høstfest has grown into North America’s premier Scandinavian festival, attracting international and North American groups. This festival celebrates the Scandinavian culture and cuisine of five Nordic countries. Delicate handmade linens, clothing, jewelry, hats, and gloves showcase each vendor’s specialty. Come for one day or take in all four days to enjoy eight free stages of rotating entertainment and nine amazing performances in the Great Hall of Vikings and well over 100 vendors.

NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: Pointe of View Winery and Vineyard, Dakota Territory Air Museum, Scandinavian Heritage Park

Route 66: Main Street Through St. Louis
St. Louis, Mo.
June 25, 2016–Feb. 12, 2017
CONTACT: Tami Goldman
(314) 361-9017, (800) 916-8212
tgold@mohistory.org
www.mohistory.org/route66
The Missouri History Museum commemorates 150 years with an engaging look at the Mother Road on its 90th anniversary. Route 66: Main Street Through St. Louis explores the local history of this world-famous highway. Come get your kicks by learning stories about the motels, custard stands, and tourist traps that could be found along the road as it passed through St. Louis. Visitors will see a number of artifacts ranging from gas pumps to roadside signs and will even get a chance to drive the road themselves.

NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: Museum of Transportation, Chain of Rocks Bridge, Ted Drewes Frozen Custard

See the World in Branson Music Fest: American Music & Vintage Arts Fest
Branson, Mo.
April 27–28, 2016
CONTACT: Toyea Youngblood
(417) 348-1434, (800) 339-2216
bransonrouptours@yahoo.com
www.bransontravelplanning.com
Celebrate Branson’s largest springtime event! Sample entertainment from more than 20 top Branson entertainers during two days of matinee performances. Located on festival grounds is the Savor the Flavor stage, featuring cooking demonstrations and celebrity chef cook-offs; character storytelling and entertainer autograph and photo opportunities; and a Vintage Marketplace. Guests have the opportunity to win prizes throughout the event.

NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: Million Dollar Quartet, Showboat Branson Belle, Branson Shows

Tulip Time in Topeka
Topeka, Kan.
April 4–24, 2016
CONTACT: Dave Bartels
(785) 251-2617
dave.bartels@snco.us
www.parks.snco.us/document
center/view/1176
Every spring, more than 100,000 tulips and daffodils bloom around the capital city in Kansas. This two-week event gives visitors an opportunity to tour three picturesque locations: Doran Rock Garden, the Ted Ensley Gardens at Lake Shawnee, and the Botanical Gardens at Old Prairie Town in Ward Meade Historical Park.

NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: Capitol, Brown v. Board of Education, Great Overland Train Station
FLOWER CITY

Topeka, Kansas
Come to Topeka in spring when 100,000 tulips will be blooming in botanical gardens across the city. Stroll among the flowers at beautiful Lake Shawnee, Gage Park and Old Prairie Town during Tulip Time, a Top 100 Event!

Opening in 2016, Topeka will be home to the only official Evel Knievel museum in the world! Meet with Visit Topeka Inc. at ABA Marketplace for details and to plan your Topeka tour.

VisitTopeka.com  800-235-1030
United Tribes International Powwow
Bismarck, N.D.
Sept. 8–11, 2016
CONTACT: Charisse Fandrich
(701) 255-3285
cfandrich@uttc.edu
www.unitedtribespowwow.com

The 47th annual United Tribes International Powwow attracts more than 1,800 dancers and representatives from more than 70 tribes, making this one of the largest gatherings in the North Central States. The incredible collection of dancers, singers, and drummers captivates the audiences as they dance and proudly display their intricate artwork throughout their ceremonial regalia.

NEARBY ATTRACTIONS:
State Museum of North Dakota Heritage Center, Lewis and Clark Riverboat, On-A-Slant Mandan Indian Village

2016 Magic Christmas in Lights
Mobile, Ala.
Nov. 27, 2016–Jan. 2, 2017
CONTACT: Rosemary Judkins
(334) 242-4493, (800) alabama tourism
www.alabama.travel

Bellingrath Gardens and Home’s Magic Christmas in Lights display features three million lights and 1,000 set pieces in 15 scenes throughout 65 acres. The family-friendly event has become a holiday tradition in the region, and thousands of guests attend each year. In 2014, Magic Christmas in Lights was included in USA Today’s list of the “10 Best Public Light Displays in America.”

NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: USS Alabama Battleship, GulfQuest National Maritime Museum, Gulf Coast Exploreum Science Center

Cajun & Creole Mardi Gras
Lafayette, La.
Feb. 5–9, 2016
CONTACT: Eugenie Mitchell
(337) 232-3737, (800) 346-1958
eugenie@lafayettetravel.com
www.lafayettetravel.com/mardigras

Cajun & Creole Mardi Gras promises big-city fun in a family-friendly atmosphere. Parades begin Friday, Feb. 5, and continue through Mardi Gras Day—Tuesday, Feb. 9, rolling from downtown Lafayette to Cajun Field. Le Festival de Mardi Gras à Lafayette offers games, carnival rides, Cajun food, and live music by some of Acadiana’s best talent. A historical African American event featuring a costume contest, live music, dancing, and food occurs at Clark Field Stadium in Upper Lafayette.

NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: Jean Lafitte Acadian Cultural Center, Vermilionville, Bayou Teche Brewing

Carnival on the Coast—Mardi Gras Season
Coastwide
Jan. 6–Feb. 9, 2016
CONTACT: Nancy Rogers
(228) 432-8806
gccamg@aol.com
www.gulfcoastcarnivalassociation.com

Carnival on the Coast is an exciting season. Decorated floats crowded with Krewe members throw beads, stuffed animals, doubloons, and other treasures to eager bystanders. On the Mississippi Gulf Coast, there are 23+ parades; from state line to state line, every town celebrates for several weeks before Fat Tuesday, or Mardi Gras Day. The Mardi Gras Season attracts more than 450,000 people annually and continues to grow in popularity.

NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: Mardi Gras Museums in Biloxi and Bay St. Louis, Downtown Ocean Springs Shopping, Ohr-O’Keefe Museum of Art
APRIL 27-30 2016
SEE THE WORLD IN BRANSON
MUSIC FEST AT THE
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BransonTravelPlanning.com
BransonGroupTours@yahoo.com
The Galaxy of Lights
Huntsville, Ala.
CONTACT: Rosemary Judkins
(334) 242-4493, (800) alabama
rosemary.judkins@tourism.alabama.gov
www.alabama.travel

The Galaxy of Lights is the largest holiday light display in the state of Alabama. More than 170 scenes make up the galaxy displays. Galaxy is a mile-and-a-half-long drive-through tour that features larger-than-life displays, including scenes from the holidays, beautiful botanicals, and animals.

NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: Huntsville Space Center, Constitution Village, Burritt on the Mountain

Louisiana Seafood Festival
New Orleans, La.
Sept. 2–4, 2016
CONTACT: Jennifer Kelley
(504) 913-5980
jen@louisianahospitality.org
www.louisianaseafoodfestival.com

From our waters to your plate, the Louisiana Seafood Festival is a celebration of all the fresh and flavorful seafood that makes our state great. New Orleans is world renowned for the taste and quality of its seafood, much of which comes from the nearby Gulf of Mexico. The festival features live entertainment, celebrity chef cooking demonstrations, local arts and crafts, and world-famous cuisine from top New Orleans restaurants and caterers.

NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: French Market, National WWII Museum, Audubon Zoo

Mardi Gras
New Orleans, La.
Feb. 9, 2016
CONTACT: Thu Tran
(800) 748-8695
ttran@neworleanscvb.com
www.neworleanscvb.com

In a city noted for jazz, Cajun and Creole cooking, and the French Quarter, Mardi Gras eclipses all as New Orleans’ most famous centerpiece. It has, arguably, the greatest economic and cultural impact of any event in the city. Fat Tuesday this year will be Feb. 9, but the festivities begin weeks in advance. A time of revelry, fraternity, festivity, and unabashed indulgence, Mardi Gras reflects New Orleanians’ rich heritage, unleashes the joyous soul of the city, and invites everyone to join in the fun.

NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: Audubon Aquarium & Insectarium, Harrah’s Casino, French Market

National Shrimp Festival
Gulf Shores, Ala.
Oct. 8–11, 2016
CONTACT: Rosemary Judkins
(334) 242-4493, (800) alabama
rosemary.judkins@tourism.alabama.gov
www.alabama.travel

The National Shrimp Festival is one of the nation’s premier outdoor festivals, featuring live entertainment, more than 300 vendors that offer fine art, arts and crafts, and a retail marketplace and wonderful fresh-from-the-Gulf Coast seafood, especially shrimp.

NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: Annual Mullet Toss, Hangout Music Festival, Annual Balloon Festival
LIVE THE BAYOU LIFE

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Just 45 minutes from New Orleans. Visit Bayou Lafourche and experience a different kind of life, filled with Cajun culture, food and fishing.

Please contact Willma Harvey, Tourism Sales Manager for more information about visiting the Bayou Lafourche region, assistance with setting up a tour, and media and image requests.

877.537.5800
wharvey@visitlafourche.com
VISITLAFOURCHE.COM

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Cruisin’ The Coast®
Coastwide: Pascagoula, Biloxi, Gulfport, Long Beach, Bay St. Louis, D’Iberville, Ocean Springs, Diamondhead, Pass Christian
Oct. 2–9, 2016
CONTACT: Woody Bailey
(228) 385-3847, (888) 808-1188
cruisinthecoast@cableone.net
www.cruisinthecoast.com

Welcome to America’s largest block party. Join us for a week of bobby socks, poodle skirts, “Greasers,” and fun. Cruisin’ The Coast® began in 1996 as a festival to celebrate antique, classic, and hot rod vehicles; nostalgic music; and related events and has become one of the most popular events on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Car enthusiasts nationwide and from Canada and Sweden come to the Mississippi Gulf Coast to showcase their “rides” and to cruise our beautiful 30-mile stretch of beachside highway. Come enjoy the fun!

Holland Tulip Time Festival
Holland, Mich.
May 7–14, 2016
CONTACT: Hannah Rogers
(616) 396-4221, ext. 112
hannah@tuliptime.com
www.tuliptime.com

The Tulip Time Festival in Holland, Mich., began in 1929 to beautify the city with tulips and celebrate Holland’s Dutch heritage. Enjoy the performances of more than 1,000 Dutch dancers dressed in authentic costumes and wooden shoes, high-kicking their way through traditional dances. You won’t want to miss our premier parades, including the Volksparade, Kinderparade, and Muziekparade. In addition, enjoy a wide selection of superb local and world-class national entertainment. Stroll through our Dutch marketplace, or shop our award-winning Downtown Holland. All this while enjoying the stars of the show: our millions of tulips.

Ozark Mountain Christmas
Branson, Mo.
Nov. 1–Dec. 31, 2016
CONTACT: Lynn Berry
(877) BRANSON
lberry@bransoncvb.com
www.explorebranson.com

Just like the ending of a fantastic show, this nationally acclaimed holiday destination, with its broad mix of world-class entertainment and Christmas spirit, creates a grand finale for the year. See the decorations, lights, and lots of Christmas shows! Silver Dollar City, the award-winning 1880s theme park, has its Old Time Christmas featuring Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer. The legacy continues with the Andy Williams Christmas Show, featuring the Osmonds and the Lennon Sisters. With excitement for everyone during Ozark Mountain Christmas, it’s all smiles in Branson!

St. Paul Winter Carnival
St. Paul, Minn.
CONTACT: Allison Ryan
(651) 265-4905
aryan@visitsaintpaul.com
www.wintercarnival.com

The Saint Paul Winter Carnival is an 11-day winter festival that fosters a sense of community, pride, belonging, and connectedness by celebrating Saint Paul’s unique history and emerging heritage through fun and educational experiences. The carnival welcomes more than 400,000 people to Saint Paul and creates $3.5 million to $5 million in economic activity. The Saint Paul Festival & Heritage Foundation maintains an ongoing administration. This year-round management provides the volunteer support, programming continuity, and fiscal administration necessary to assure the continued growth and success of the Saint Paul Winter Carnival.
**The Rockies**

**Donkey Derby Days**
Cripple Creek, Colo.
June 25–26, 2016

**Contact:** Pat Martin
(719) 689-3461
pmartin@cripple-creek.co.us
www.visitcripplecreek.com

In its 85th year, Donkey Derby Days tops the list of crowd-pleasing Cripple Creek events. People from all over the world descend on our mountain town, drawn by a chance to watch a race inspired by the town’s free-roaming donkey herd. They’re thought to be descendants of the original donkeys from the town’s 1900s gold rush. Families can watch or participate in the donkey races. This free, two-day event includes heritage competitions, live entertainment, children’s activities, vendors, and much more.

**Nearby Attractions:** Garden of the Gods, Air Force Academy, Pikes Peak Cog Railroad

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**Eastern Shoshone Indian Days**
Ft. Washakie, Wyo.
June 24–26, 2016

**Contact:** Wayland Large
(307) 349-7290
www.easternshoshonetribe.org/calendar

Eastern Shoshone Indian Days is a traditional Indian powwow located near Ft. Washakie on Wyoming’s Wind River Indian Reservation. Enjoy three days of drum group music and dancing, traditional Indian games, feasts, and a powwow parade. Surrounding the powwow is an all-Indian rodeo, as well as softball, basketball, horseshoe, and volleyball tournaments and a fun run. Interesting tourist attractions are close by in Lander, Riverton, and Dubois, Wyo.

**Nearby Attractions:** Wind River Casino and Northern Arapaho Experience, Oregon/Mormon/Gold Rush Trails, Sinks Canyon State Park

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**Lewis & Clark Festival**
Great Falls, Mont.
June 17–19, 2016

**Contact:** Jay Russell
(406) 452-5661
jrussell@lewisandclarkfoundation.org
www.lewisandclarkfoundation.org

Experience an incredible journey through the pages of the daily journals kept by Lewis and Clark, shared through demonstrations, exhibits, and other events as the history of this 200-year-old adventure unfolds. Observe reenactors in historic dress, taste foods the expedition ate, smell burning campfires, and understand the adventure in beautiful Gibson Park, near the Missouri River. Featured are a native lodge encampment, games and activities for children, crafts, Native dancers and drummers, and live music. Free admission.

**Nearby Attractions:** Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center, Giant Springs State Park

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**Longmire Days**
Buffalo, Wyo.
July 15–17, 2016

**Contact:** Angela Fox
(307) 684-5544
angela@buffalowyo.com
www.buffalowyo.com

A three-day festival entertaining thousands of people worldwide who come to celebrate Longmire, a book series written by Craig Johnson now turned into a television series. Celebrities attend in true Longmire fashion, giving fans multiple opportunities to mix and mingle. Longmire Days are packed with events, celebrity meet and greets, games, dances, and more. Plan your trip around Longmire Days in Beautiful Buffalo, Wyo.

**Nearby Attractions:** Devils Tower, Outlaw Caves, Hole In The Wall Country, Ft. Phil Kearney, Occidental Hotel

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With events ranging from folk and food festivals to rodeos, there’s something for everyone in the West.
San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo
San Antonio, Texas
Feb. 11–28, 2016
CONTACT: Patti Martin
(210) 225-5851
patti@sarodeo.com
www.sarodeo.com
The San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo, held Feb. 11–28, is an 18-day extravaganza that features a top-notch PRCA Rodeo with world-famous entertainment. The history, tradition, and family-friendly atmosphere are other reasons the San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo is a must-see. It hosts one of the world’s largest junior livestock shows and a prestigious horse show. The event is attended by more than 1.6 million people and features shopping, Western art, a carnival, food, live music, agricultural learning centers, and more.
NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: The Alamo, San Antonio Riverwalk, Spanish Colonial Missions

THE WEST
The Lights of Christmas Festival
Stanwood, Wash.
CONTACT: Warm Beach Camp and Conference Center
(360) 652-7575, (800) 228-6724
registration@warmbeach.com
www.warmbeachlights.com
The Lights of Christmas is the largest holiday festival in the Pacific Northwest, a spectacle spread over 15 acres at Warm Beach Camp in Stanwood, Wash. It combines one million lights in dazzling displays, live entertainment, children’s activities, food, and more. Attendees can sip lattes around a warming fire; visit Bruce the Spruce, the talking Christmas tree; or shop for gifts made by local artists.
NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: Tulalip Resort Casino, Boeing Tour at Future of Flight, Seattle Premium Outlets

Mendocino County Mushroom, Wine & Beer Festival
Mendocino County, Calif.
Nov. 1–30, 2016
CONTACT: Richard Strom
(707) 964-9010
richard@visitmendocino.com
www.visitmendocino.com/mushroom-wine-and-beer-festival
Join us in November for our annual Mushroom, Wine & Beer Festival, a celebration of the mushroom, our county’s favorite fungi. Mushrooms flourish in Mendocino County, which is home to more than 3,000 types. It’s the perfect place to sample some of the 500 types of delicious edible mushrooms, such as chanterelles, porcini, morels, hedgehogs, and even the extremely rare candy cap mushroom, which grows only along the northern coast of California.
NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: Skunk Train, Stornetta National Monument, Glass Beach

THE SOUTHWEST
Christmas Capital of Texas
Grapevine, Texas
CONTACT: Heather Boehm
(817) 410-3185, (800) 457-6338
hboehm@grapevinetexasusa.com
www.grapevinetexasusa.com
See Grapevine as the city becomes blanketed with millions of lights, enormous decorations, animated characters, and more! Festivities include ICE! at the Gaylord Texan Resort; Christmas on Main; North Pole Express®; and the largest lighted Christmas parade in North Texas. Entertainment includes musical performances, Main Street Live, family movies, Murder Mystery Dinner Theater, and Lone Star Christmas at the Gaylord Texan.
NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: ICE! at the Gaylord Texan Resort, Live Christmas Musicals and Entertainment, Parade of Lights

San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo
Butte, Mont.
July 8–10, 2016
CONTACT: George Everett
(406) 497-6464
geverett@montanafolkfestival.com
www.montanafolkfestival.com
The Montana Folk Festival is one of the Northwest’s largest free outdoor music festivals. It features performances and demonstrations by more than 250 of the nation’s finest musicians, dancers, and craftspersons. All this is presented in the spectacular setting of Butte, Mont., surrounded by iconic headframes that evoke Butte’s underground copper mining heritage, tall buildings from the late 19th century and early 20th century, and spectacular views of the Northern Rockies in every direction.
NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: World Museum of Mining, Berkeley Pit Viewing Area, Granite Mountain Overlook

Montana Folk Festival
Butte, Mont.
July 8–10, 2016
CONTACT: George Everett
(406) 497-6464
geverett@montanafolkfestival.com
www.montanafolkfestival.com
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NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: World Museum of Mining, Berkeley Pit Viewing Area, Granite Mountain Overlook
History in Action!

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Labor Day Weekend
Friday - Big Band Dinner Dance
Saturday - Flying Festival
Sunday - BBQ, Ride & Formation Flights

Aircraft flybys | WWII re-enactors | Live music
Hands-on demonstrations | ‘Big Band’ Dinner Dance
Military vehicle encampment | Gourmet street food

www.historicflight.org | 425.348.3200
Midnight Sun Festival  
Fairbanks, Alaska  
June 19, 2016  
CONTACT: Jeremia Schrock  
(907) 452-8671  
jschrock@downtownfairbanks.com  
www.downtownfairbanks.com  
Celebrate the summer solstice in downtown Fairbanks, Alaska—basking in 24-hour daylight just 200 miles from the Arctic Circle. The Midnight Sun Festival is Alaska’s largest single-day event, with a 35-year history of celebrating sunshine in the Golden Heart City. The 12-hour street fair is marked by 30,000 attendees perusing hundreds of vendors and 33 live performances, and is host to gold panning, break dancing, and a climbing wall. Musical guests, tasty treats, and a family-friendly atmosphere make this a “don’t miss.”  
NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: The Midnight Sun Baseball Game, Riverboat Discovery, Gold Dredge 8

Spokane Lilac Festival & Armed Forces Torchlight Parade  
Spokane, Wash.  
May 21, 2016  
CONTACT: Lon Gibby  
(509) 535-4554  
lon@gibbymedia.com  
www.spokanelilacfestival.org  
Since 1938 the Spokane Lilac Festival has been celebrating the Spokane community as ambassadors to the Northwest and the world. With its Cruzin’ the Falls Car Show benefiting the SLP Youth Scholarship Program, Toys for Tots drive, Royal Tea Party, Queens Luncheon, several scholarship opportunities through the Spokane Lilac Royalty Program, and our main event, the annual Armed Forces Torchlight Parade, the Spokane Lilac Festival offers fun for all ages.  
NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: Manito Park and Duncan Gardens, Riverfront Park, Heils Canyon River of No Return Jet Boating

World Eskimo-Indian Olympics  
Fairbanks, Alaska  
July 20–23, 2016  
CONTACT: Nicole Johnston  
(907) 452-6646  
weio@weio.org  
www.weio.org  
From time immemorial, Native peoples of the Far North have gathered to participate in games of strength, endurance, balance, and agility, along with dancing and storytelling. Learn about Alaska Native culture and witness the incredible athleticism of Alaska’s Native people; feel the beat of the drums and be carried away by the timeless song and motion of traditional dance; and appreciate the skills of carving, beading, weaving, and sewing handed down for generations.  
NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: Morris Thompson Cultural and Visitors Center, University of Alaska Museum of the North, Riverboat Discovery
125th Annual Fiesta San Antonio
San Antonio, Texas
April 14–24, 2016
CONTACT: Shannon Houghtaling
(210) 227-5191
shannon@fiesta-sa.org
www.fiesta-sa.org

Fiesta San Antonio celebrates the Alamo City’s diverse history and culture with more than 100 events over 11 days. Fiesta includes parades, parties, coronations, fashion shows, athletic events, art exhibits, and much more. Fiesta is the party with a purpose because every official event is produced by a local nonprofit that uses the proceeds from its event to fund programs year-round in the community.

Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta
Albuquerque, N.M.
Oct. 1–9, 2016
CONTACT: Linda Ryan
(800) 733-9918
trade@itsatrip.org
www.balloonfiesta.com
www.balloonfiesta.com

For nine days in October, the New Mexico skies are painted as hundreds of balloons lift off from Albuquerque’s Balloon Fiesta Park. For ballooning fans worldwide, the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta is a pilgrimage. There is something for everyone to enjoy — whimsical special shapes filled with equal parts hot air and wonder, and Balloon Glows that create a magical night landscape for spectators to wander. No matter who you are, the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta will leave you awestruck and wanting more.

Annual Buffalo Roundup & Arts Festival
Custer, S.D.
Sept. 29–Oct. 1, 2016
CONTACT: Matt Snyder
(605) 255-4515, (888) 875-0001
info@custerresorts.com
www.gfp.sd.gov/state-parks/directory/custer/events/buffalo-roundup

Awarded top US Event for 2015. More than 14,000 spectators attend the Annual Buffalo Roundup and Arts Festival each year to experience true Old West action as Custer State Park’s herd of 1,300 bison is rounded up by cowboys on horseback. Special bus parking. Free admission, open seating. Featured on ABC’s Born to Explore. Named to Lonely Planet’s “Best in the US” destinations for 2015 and Frommer’s “Best Places to Go in 2015.”

Cheyenne Frontier Days
Cheyenne, Wyo.
July 22–31, 2016
CONTACT: Nicole Gamst
(307) 778-7200
nicole@cfdrides.com
www.cfdrodeo.com

Since 1897, Cheyenne has celebrated its Old West roots with this eye-popping festival. Central to this Western celebration is the world’s largest outdoor rodeo. Complementing the daily rodeo action are behind-the-chutes tours, trick riding, and a wild-horse race. A Native American Village, an Old West town, a chuck wagon cook-off, pancake breakfasts, and an art show carry through the frontier theme. Rounding out the program are a carnival midway, an air show, top-name entertainment, professional bull riding shows, and several parades that include antique carriages and automobiles.
GrapeFest
Grapevine, Texas
Sept. 15-18, 2016
CONTACT: Heather Boehm
(817) 410-3185, (800) 457-6338
hboehm@grapevinetexasusa.com
www.grapevinetexasusa.com

GrapeFest, the largest wine festival in the Southwest, celebrates Texas as a leader and trendsetter in the wine industry. The perfect spot for culinary and wine enthusiasts, festivities include Culinary Pavilion; GrapeStomp, the People’s Choice Wine Tasting Classic, the largest consumer-judged wine competition in the nation; and much more! Traditional fun will delight all festival guests throughout the weekend, including nonstop entertainment featuring a variety of music, from jazz and country to rock. GrapeFest also features several wine pavilions featuring Grapevine, Texas, and international wines. Enjoy arts and crafts, carnival rides, and the Grapevine Vintage Railroad.

Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race
Anchorage, Alaska (start) and Willow, Alaska (restart)
March 5, 2016
CONTACT: (907) 376-5155
www.iditarod.com

You can’t compare it to any other competitive event in the world! It’s a race through approximately 1,000 miles of the roughest, most beautiful terrain Mother Nature has to offer. She throws jagged mountain ranges, frozen rivers, dense forests, desolate tundra, and miles of windswept coast at the mushers and their dog teams. Add to that temperatures far below zero, winds that can cause a complete loss of visibility, the hazards of overflow, long hours of darkness, and treacherous climbs and side hills, and you have the Iditarod. A race extraordinaire, a race only possible in Alaska.

Pasadena Tournament of Roses
Pasadena, Calif.
Jan. 1, 2016
CONTACT: Jeff Allen
(626) 449-4100
jallen@tournamentofroses.com
www.tournamentofroses.com

The Pasadena Tournament of Roses is a volunteer organization that annually hosts the Rose Parade® presented by Honda, the Rose Bowl Game® presented by Northwestern Mutual, and various associated events. The 127th Rose Parade, themed Find your Adventure, will take place Friday, Jan. 1, 2016, at 8 a.m. (PST), featuring majestic floral floats, high-stepping equestrian units, and spirited marching bands. Following the Rose Parade, the Tournament will host the 102nd Rose Bowl Game, which will kick off at 2:10 p.m. and feature an exciting matchup between representatives from the Pac-12 Conference and the Big Ten Conference.

Portland Rose Festival
Portland, Ore.
May 27–June 12, 2016
CONTACT: Carol Ross
(503) 227-2681
carolr@rosefestival.org
www.rosefestival.org

The Portland Rose Festival has been making memories since 1907 and is finding contemporary ways to connect with the community and visitors alike, drawing more than two million people annually to the world-class events for which the festival is famous. Portland’s Official Festival features the Grand Floral Parade as its centerpiece on Saturday, June 11, 2016.
From cultural celebrations to great music, Canada’s top events bring out the beauty and the arts of a vast nation.

**2016 Western Canadian Agribition**
Regina, Saskatchewan
Nov. 21-26, 2016
**CONTACT:** Sarah Novak
(306) 565-0565
cwaquestions@agribition.com
www.agribition.com
Canadian Western Agribition (CWA) is the best beef show on the continent and the largest livestock show in Canada. It is anchored by beef cattle and features horses, bison, sheep, goats, and an extensive agribusiness trade show. CWA is a blend of agriculture, First Nations, and festive entertainment. The show also hosts five nights of action-packed rodeo entertainment. The event is an international hub of agriculture excellence, hosting more than 800 guests from more than 70 countries.
**NEARBY ATTRACTIONS:**
Saskatchewan Science Centre, Royal Saskatchewan Museum, Mackenzie Art Gallery

**2016 Craven Country Jamboree**
Craven, Saskatchewan
July 7-10, 2016
**CONTACT:** Kim Blevins
(306) 757-0007, (800) 388-0007
info@cravencountryjamboree.com
www.cravencountryjamboree.com
The Craven Country Jamboree is the longest-running multiday music festival in Canada. Set in the beautiful Qu’Appelle Valley, only 25 minutes from the capital city of Regina, the Craven Country Jamboree hosts the biggest and the best country music artists. Past artists include Keith Urban, George Strait, Luke Bryan, Kenny Chesney, and Reba Mcentire. In addition to the incredible music, the festival offers scenic camping, a large beer garden, and activities like a bull riding demonstration, hypnotist shows, and a daily songwriters’ circle.
**NEARBY ATTRACTIONS:**
Long Lake, Deer Valley Golf Course, RCMP Museum

**The 2016 Charlottetown Festival**
Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island
June 1–Oct. 1, 2016
**CONTACT:** Ashley Peck
(902) 566-1267, (800) 565-0278
info@confederationcentre.com
www.confederationcentre.com
The Charlottetown Festival features the finest performers, designers, playwrights, composers, choreographers, and directors in a professional showcase of musical theatre, comedy, and drama. The most popular and successful of the festival’s musicals remains *Anne of Green Gables—The Musical™*, now in its 51st year. The Charlottetown Festival continues to be one of Canada’s premier live theatre festivals, featuring shows in five different performance venues.
**NEARBY ATTRACTIONS:** Red Shores Racetrack & Casino, PEI Brewing Company, Peake’s Wharf Historic Waterfront
The Canadian Badlands Passion Play
Drumheller, Alberta
July 8–24, 2016
CONTACT: Vance Neudorf
(888) 763-2043
info@canadianpassionplay.com
www.canadianpassionplay.com
Since its first performance in 1994, the Canadian Badlands Passion Play has gained a provincial, national, and international reputation as one of North America’s top must-see cultural and tourism events. Located in Drumheller, approximately 90 miles northeast of Calgary, the annual Theatre in the Badlands attraction provides a dramatic retelling of the life of Jesus Christ. The play of 200+ performers supported by 400 volunteers is presented in a 30-acre natural badlands canyon bowl.
NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: Royal Tyrrell Museum of Palaeontology, World’s Largest Dinosaur, Atlas Coal Mine

GlobalFest
Calgary, Alberta
Aug. 18–27, 2016
CONTACT: Ken Goosen
(403) 569-9679
tactus@globalfest.ca
www.globalfest.ca
Be a part of “Alberta’s Most Explosive Festival!” A friends and family-oriented multi-cultural affair, GlobalFest at Elliston Park runs Aug. 18–27. Cultural pavilions, ethnic food, performance stages, a night market, an international bar, children’s activities, a Tipi Village, and so much more—there’s something for everyone! To end each evening, a beautifully choreographed 22-minute pyromusical (fireworks display specially choreographed to music) will mesmerize patrons. Don’t miss out!
NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: Calgary Zoo, Heritage Park, Royal Tyrrell Museum

Ice Magic Festival
Lake Louise, Alberta
Jan. 15–24, 2016
CONTACT: Elizabeth Armstrong
(403) 763-2043
earmstrong@banfflake Louise.com
www.banfflake Louise.com
Ice Magic Festival is a world-class event where each year becomes more outstanding than the last. This internationally renowned festival showcases an extremely high calibre of ice carvers creating ice masterpieces for all to enjoy. The setting in beautiful Lake Louise is perfect for creating lasting memories in the heart of the scenic Rocky Mountains. During the festival weekend, visitors can watch in amazement as the ice carvers balance precision artistry with grueling physical labour in a 24-hour Ice Carving Competition.
NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: Lake Louise Ski Resort, Banff Gondola, Ice Skating

Icelandic Festival of Manitoba
Gimli, Manitoba
July 29–Aug. 1, 2016
CONTACT: Cameron Arnason
(204) 642-7417
icefest@mts.net
www.icelandicfestival.com
Visit the heart of New Iceland in Gimli, Manitoba, to celebrate family, friends, and Icelandic heritage and culture at North America’s second-longest-running cultural festival, Islandsingadagurinn, or the Icelandic Festival of Manitoba. See Viking warfare tactics in action at the Viking Village or sign up for the Fris-nok Tournament. This homegrown sport combines a Frisbee, a post, and an empty beer bottle. Enjoy traditional treats at Amma’s Kitchen and visit the cultural pavilion to take home a piece of New Icelandic art.
NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: New Iceland Heritage Museum, Lake Winnipeg Visitor Centre, H.P. Tergesen & Sons Store

Canada’s National Ukrainian Festival
Dauphin, Manitoba
July 29–31, 2016
CONTACT: Livia Johnson
(204) 622-4600, (877) 474-2683
www.cnuf.ca
In this celebration of Ukraine’s vibrant history, experience the flavor of old traditions and culture through song, dance, costume, and delectable Ukrainian cuisine. Paint a Ukrainian Easter egg, tour the Selo Ukraina Heritage, learn how to weave braiding bread. Don’t miss out!
NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: Riding Mountain National Park, Ft. Dauphin Museum, Watson Art Centre

38th Annual Spring Celebration Pow-Wow
Regina, Saskatchewan
April 2–3, 2016
CONTACT: Racelle Kooy
(306) 790-5950
2016powwow@firstnations university.ca
www.fnuniv.ca/powwow
The First Nations University of Canada will welcome 700+ dancers, 20 drum groups, and 7,000 spectators to Regina for its 38th annual Spring Celebration Pow-Wow, one of the largest indoor pow-wows in Western Canada. A family-friendly come-and-go event with food and artisan booths, there is plenty to see, taste, and browse through. The tiny tots steal the show each year as more than 100 little ones dance in adorable mini-me versions of their parents’ regalia.
NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: RCMP Heritage Centre, Government House, Royal Saskatchewan Museum
Le Festif! de Baie-Saint-Paul
Baie-St-Paul, Québec
July 21–24, 2016
CONTACT: Clément Turgeon Thériault
(418) 633-6194
president.coordonateur@lefestif.ca
www.lefestif.ca

Le Festif! de Baie-St-Paul is a music and circus festival held in the picturesque downtown of Baie-Saint-Paul, the birthplace of Cirque du Soleil. With 55 acts performing in 65 shows at 17 sites, Le Festif! will keep you moving. Come and delight your senses with 100 percent local food and beer from La MicroBrasserie Charlevoix. Witness the magic where the mountains meet the Saint Lawrence River at Le Festif!, the biggest of small festivals!

NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: Kayak Tours, Contemporary Art Museum of Baie-St-Paul, Mountain Trekking

Manitoba Highland Gathering
East Selkirk, Manitoba
June 25, 2016
CONTACT: Joyce Neyedly
(204) 794-6587
joyce@manitobahighland gathering.org
www.manitobahighland gathering.org

The Manitoba Highland Gathering celebrates Scottish heritage with dance, pipe and drum competitions, heavy games of brawn, canoe and kayak races, clan booths, a Scottish market, a Red Lion Scottish food booth, the Wee Willies Pub, a Wee Folks area, regional historical and tartan displays, the MB Genealogical Society, and much more. The gathering happens every June in East Selkirk, Manitoba. Come and put your Scottish on.

NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: Manitoba Marine Museum, Lower Ft. Garry/Oak Hammock Marsh, Grand Beach

New Brunswick Highland Games Festival
Fredericton, New Brunswick
July 22-24, 2016
CONTACT: Chris Gallant
(506) 452-9244, (888) 368-4444
highlandgames@nb.aibn.com
www.highlandgames.ca

The New Brunswick Highland Games Festival is a Celtic infusion of music, bagpipes, dance, traditional Scottish athletics, Scottish foods, whiskies, crafts, and more. One of the largest events of its kind in Atlantic Canada, it is a pageant of music, colour, and Scottish culture and has two aspects: the Highland Games and the Scottish Festival. The festival takes place on the grounds of Government House, a national historic site overlooking the Saint John River.

NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: Kings Landing Historical Settlement, Fredericton Region Museum, Government House

Niagara Icewine Festival
Across Niagara Region, Ontario
Jan. 15–31, 2016
CONTACT: Kimberly Hundertmark
(905) 688-0212
kimberlyh@niagarawinefestival.com
www.niagarawinefestival.com

Niagara is pleased to invite everyone to raise a glass of one of Canada’s most cherished products, Ontario icewine. People from far and wide will make the Niagara region their winter getaway this year to participate in a number of amazing wine and culinary events. This festival is a uniquely Canadian winter experience for all. From gala evening toasts to chestnut roasts, ornate ice bars, and winery tours, the festival offers plenty for every taste.

NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: Winery Tours and Tastings, Niagara Falls, Theatres
The Fall Flavours Festival, a month-long culinary celebration highlighting authentic Island tastes and traditions, takes place during September in communities across Prince Edward Island. The festival features a variety of acclaimed guest chefs hosting a wide range of unique culinary experiences. Our signature events feature the very best PEI has to offer and have been created exclusively for Fall Flavours. Some are small and intimate; others will draw a crowd... all will delight.

**NEARBY ATTRACTIONS:**
Confederation Centre of the Arts, Canadian Potato Museum, Roma at Three Rivers National Historic Site

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**RCMP Sunset Retreat Ceremonies 2016**

**Prince Edward Island**

**Regina, Saskatchewan**

**July 1-Aug. 9, 2016**

**CONTACT:** Depot Division Communications and Events
(306) 780-5900

depot_communications@rcmp-grc.gc.ca

www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/depot/visitors-visitants/sunset-crepuscule-eng

The RCMP Academy, “Depot” Division, is pleased to present the Sunset Retreat Ceremony. The colourful event lasts approximately 45 minutes and includes a troop drill display performed by cadets dressed in the famous scarlet tunic, military music, the lowering of the Canadian flag, and the March Past. Guests are also invited to meet our mounted riders, horses, and Safety Bear following the ceremony.

**NEARBY ATTRACTIONS:**
RCMP Heritage Centre, Government House, Wascana Centre Attractions

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**Special Exhibition—Air War, 1914–1918**

**Ottawa, Ontario**

**May 20, 2016—Jan. 29, 2017**

**CONTACT:** Stephanie Fortin
(819) 776-8600, (800) 555-5621
information@warmuseum.ca

www.warmuseum.ca

Explore the human experience of First World War aviation in Air War, 1914–1918. This exhibition follows the stories of 12 people, from both sides, as they trained, gathered intelligence, fought battles in the sky, dropped bombs, and grappled with the stresses of this brand-new form of warfare.

**NEARBY ATTRACTIONS:**
Parliament Hill, Canadian Museum of History, Rideau Canal

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**Stratford Festival**

**Stratford, Ontario**

**April 1–Oct. 31, 2016**

**CONTACT:** Heather Martin
(800) 567-1600
groups@stratfordfestival.ca

www.stratfordfestival.ca

With William Shakespeare as its foundation, the Stratford Festival is North America’s destination of choice for classical and contemporary theatre. With four venues housing plays and musicals for every taste, it presents a dozen or more productions—as many as seven performances a day!—in a season that runs from late April until mid-October. Visitors can also enjoy tours of the backstage, costume warehouse, archives, and gardens, and watch set changeovers between shows. Meanwhile, the “Forum” series expands the Stratford experience with more than 200 events.

**NEARBY ATTRACTIONS:**
The Village of St. Jacobs, St. Jacobs Farmers’ Market
Canadian Tulip Festival
Ottawa-Gatineau, Ontario
May 13–23, 2016
**CONTACT:** The Canadian Tulip Festival Inc.
(613) 567-5757, (800) 668-8547
info@tulipfestival.ca
www.tulipfestival.ca

In 1945, Princess Juliana of the Netherlands presented Ottawa with 100,000 tulip bulbs in appreciation of Canada’s role in aiding her country during World War II. Since 1953, this symbol of international friendship and the beauty of spring are celebrated annually. Each May, Ottawa and Canada’s Capital Region are ablaze with more than one million tulips. The nine-mile Tulip Route winds throughout Ottawa and Gatineau, highlighting major tulip beds and attractions, including three spectacular nights of fireworks, live music, and attractions for all ages. This festival is the largest tulip festival in the world.

Festival du Voyageur
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Feb. 12–21, 2016
**CONTACT:** Irina Ivanov Bissonnette
(204) 237-7692
iivanov@heho.ca
www.heho.ca

The Festival du Voyageur is held in Saint-Boniface, Winnipeg's French Quarter, in the month of February and was once a three-day event. The largest winter festival in Western Canada has evolved into a 10-day province-wide celebration of sights, sounds, snow, culture, history, and spirit. It is a celebration of the fur traders who established the Red River Colony and the joie de vivre of the ever-growing French Canadian community in Western Canada. The spirit and culture of the Voyageur are present in the vibrant community that comes together to celebrate with numerous historical, educational, and entertaining activities.

Calgary Stampede
Calgary, Alberta
July 8–17, 2016
**CONTACT:** Lindsay Jardine
(403) 261-0366
ljardine@calgarystampede.com
www.calgarystampede.com

The Calgary Stampede is called “The Greatest Outdoor Show on Earth” for good reason. For 10 days every July we welcome the world to a spectacular celebration of Western hospitality. Stampede Park, located in downtown Calgary, is the world’s greatest gathering of cowboy culture. Each year, more than 1.2 million visitors from across North America and around the world come to Calgary to experience the heart-stopping action of the world’s roughest and richest rodeo, featuring bull riding, barrel racing, and more. The GMC Rangeland Derby is the world’s top Chuckwagon Races. Every night is capped off with the Grandstand Show and fireworks finale that lights up the sky.

Festival International de Jazz de Montréal
Montréal, Québec
June 30–July 9, 2016
**CONTACT:** Normand Paquette
(514) 525-7732
normand.paquette@equipespectra.ca
www.montrealjazzfest.com

The gigantic summer music celebration features 11 days of nonstop entertainment, from noon to midnight, right in the heart of downtown Montréal. Several city blocks are closed to traffic, creating a festive and secure spot with cafés and bistros, an art gallery, street performers, and a musical park for children. It’s the summer celebration par excellence for people of all ages and origins, a cultural breath of fresh air, and a place for incredible musical discoveries, with influences such as jazz, blues, Latin-jazz, Brazilian, Cuban, African, reggae, contemporary, and electronica.
**Folklorama—The Largest Multicultural Festival of Its Kind in the World**

**Winnipeg, Manitoba**  
**July 31–Aug. 13, 2016**

**CONTACT:** Hart Jacob  
(800) 665-0234  
jacobh@folklorama.ca  
www.folklorama.ca

The Folklorama festival is an annual 14-day celebration of more than 40 global cultures. Partnering with several diverse cultural communities that host pavilions throughout Winnipeg, Folklorama attracts more than 400,000 visitors every year, who experience firsthand a wide variety of rich and vibrant cultures through authentic song, dance, food, drink, and cultural displays. Group tours can experience Folklorama in style with air-conditioned transportation, reserved seating, and a progressive cultural meal through a variety of VIP group tour options.

**Québec Winter Carnival**

**Québec City, Québec**  
**Jan. 29–Feb. 14, 2016**

**CONTACT:** Patrick Lemaire  
(866) 4CARNIVAL  
patrick.lemaire@carnaval.qc.ca  
www.carnaval.qc.ca;  
www.quebecregion.com

For its 62nd edition, the Québec Winter Carnival will provide amazing new activities and reinvented classics that will dazzle everyone! Visitors from around the world will not soon forget this memorable experience. The city will vibrate with family activities, nightlife fun, and extreme sports competitions. Canada’s premier winter event promises a festive atmosphere with bustling commercial streets and a ton of new activities. This is a time of real celebration for families, young adults, and winter lovers, who will be thrilled with the urban, sports, and outdoor experiences made available to them.

**Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo**

**Halifax, Nova Scotia**  
**July 1–8, 2016**

**CONTACT:** Ann Montague  
(902) 420-4624  
amontague@nstattoo.ca  
www.nstattoo.ca

Only Halifax could hold the world’s largest annual indoor show! It is two and a half hours of pure entertainment and features more than 2,000 performers from all over the world. It takes place in an air-conditioned arena located within walking distance of major hotels and restaurants. The Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo will stir your heart with traditional pipes and drums, while breathtaking feats by gymnasts will have you on the edge of your seat. Also featuring military and civilian bands, dancing, comedy, drama, and so much more—there really is something for everyone!
KeplinFest
Belcourt, N.D.
Aug. 6–7, 2016
CONTACT: Mike Keplin
(701) 550-0159
keplinfest@yahoo.com
www.keplinfest.com

Immerse yourself and your group in the beauty of the Turtle Mountains and listen to the traditional music of the Métis and Native American culture at KeplinFest. The fun and fast-dancing “jiggers” step dancers will have you clapping your hands to keep the beat. The fiddlers and bands will keep the upbeat entertainment going throughout the two-day festival. Enjoy the hospitality and traditional foods while listening to these talented performers. You may want to even ... get up and dance.

NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: Ober Gatlinburg, Sweet Fanny Adams Theater

New England Brewfest
Lincoln, N.H.
June 24–26, 2016
CONTACT: Mark LaClair
(603) 745-6621
mark@lincolnwoodstock.com
www.nebrewfest.com

The New England Brewfest Ultimate Craft Beer Weekend is a unique blend of beer-infused social and educational workshops and signature tasting events. Friday starts with a White Mountains Brewery Bus tour and concludes with dinner aboard the Cafe Lafayette Dinner Train or a farm-to-table beer dinner at the Woodstock Inn Station & Brewery. Saturday is filled with craft beer education sessions. At Saturday Night: ON TAP, attendees sample from over 30 different breweries, enjoy live entertainment, and peruse dozens of beer-related vendors.

NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: Loon Mountain Resort, Clark’s Trading Post, Lost River Gorge

Prairie Rose Western Days
Benton, Kan.
May 7–8, 2016
CONTACT: Orin Friesen
(316) 778-2121
orin@prairierosechuckwagon.com
www.prwesterndays.com

The Prairie Rose Ranch, home of the famous Prairie Rose Chuckwagon Supper, will present its seventh Western Days festival. Activities include the mountain man encampment, Native American dancers, reenactors, and everything cowboy. There will be demonstrations on rope making, chuckwagon cooking, bee-keeping, and “sodbusting” (horse-drawn plowing). Visitors can shoot a black-powder rifle or throw a tomahawk. Other activities include wagon and pony rides, music, and crafts.

NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: Karg Art Glass in Kechi, Old Cowtown Museum and Museum of World Treasures in Wichita
**Waterfowl Festival**
Easton, Md.
Nov. 11–13, 2016
**CONTACT:** Cassandra Vanhooser
(410) 770-8000
cvanhooser@talbotcountymd.gov
www.waterfowlfestival.org

Waterfowl Festival Inc. has a multifaceted mission in that it is dedicated to the promotion of wildlife art, wildlife conservation, and the celebration of life on Maryland’s Eastern Shore. This key annual fund-raising event is the longest-running event of its kind in the nation, offering adults and children an exploration into nature, folk, and traditional artworks that exemplify the cultural heritage of the Chesapeake region.

**NEARBY ATTRACTIONS:** Biking, Boating and Fishing, Antiquing

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**Working Waterfront Festival**
New Bedford, Mass.
**CONTACT:** Laura Orleans
(508) 993-8894
info@workingwaterfrontfestival.org
www.workingwaterfrontfestival.org

The Working Waterfront Festival is an award-winning, family-friendly event celebrating the history and culture of New England’s commercial fishing industry. The *free* festival takes place on the working piers of New Bedford’s historic waterfront and presents all that goes into bringing seafood from the ocean to the table in a way that is hands-on, educational, and fun, featuring fishermen’s contests, music, cooking demonstrations, vessel and harbor tours, children’s activities, and more.

**NEARBY ATTRACTIONS:** New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park, Buttonwood Park Zoo, Ft. Tabor/ Ft. Rodman Military Museum

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**Yuma Lettuce Days**
Yuma, Ariz.
Feb. 27–28, 2016
**CONTACT:** Linda Morgan
(928) 376-0100
linda@visityuma.com
www.yumalettucdays.com

Lettuce Days at home “down on the farm.” Our “feastival,” Yuma Lettuce Days, has taken root in its new home. For 2016, the annual “feastival” that celebrates the area’s agricultural abundance will take place at the University of Arizona’s Yuma Agricultural Center, a working research farm in the Yuma Valley just west of town, on Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 27 and 28, 2016. The Lettuce Days location is part of an expanded partnership between Yuma Visitors Bureau and the University of Arizona.

**NEARBY ATTRACTIONS:** Field to Feast Tour, History Museums, Military Tour
## 2016 Top 100 Events, Annual Events, Events to Watch

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<th>No. 1 Event in the United States</th>
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- **Special Exhibition—We Call Them Vikings**
  Gatineau, Québec

- **Basilique-Cathédrale Notre-Dame de Québec Holy Door**
  Québec City, Québec

- **Pasadena Tournament of Roses**
  Pasadena, Calif.
  1/1/2016

- **40 Years a Saint—40th Anniversary of Elizabeth Seton’s Canonization**
  Emmitsburg, Md.
  1/1/2016–12/31/2016

- **Carnival on the Coast—Mardi Gras Season**
  Coastwide

- **Ice Magic Festival**
  Lake Louise, Alberta
  1/15/2016–1/24/2016

- **Niagara Icewine Festival**
  Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario
  1/15/2016–1/31/2016

- **St. Paul Winter Carnival**
  St. Paul, Minn.
  1/28/2016–2/7/2016

- **Québec Winter Carnival**
  Québec City, Québec
  1/29/2016–2/14/2016

- **Cajun & Creole Mardi Gras**
  Lafayette, La.

- **Mardi Gras**
  New Orleans, La.
  2/9/2016

- **San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo**
  San Antonio, Texas

- **Festival du Voyageur**
  Winnipeg, Manitoba
  2/12/2016–2/21/2016

- **Daytona 500**
  Daytona Beach, Fla.
  2/21/2016

- **Yuma Lettuce Days**
  Yuma, Ariz.

- **Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race**
  Anchorage and Willow, Alaska
  3/5/2016

- **PHS Philadelphia Flower Show**

- **National Cherry Blossom Festival**
  Washington, D.C.

- **Stratford Festival**
  Stratford, Ontario
  4/1/2016–10/31/2016

- **38th Annual Spring Celebration Pow-Wow**
  Regina, Saskatchewan

- **Tulip Time in Topeka**
  Topeka, Kan.

- **Rivers & Spires Festival**
  Clarksville, Tenn.
  4/14/2016–4/16/2016

- **125th Annual Fiesta San Antonio**
  San Antonio, Texas
  4/14/2016–4/24/2016

- **Virginia International Tattoo & Arts Festival**
  Norfolk, Va.

- **National Cornbread Festival**
  South Pittsburg, Tenn.

- **61st Kentucky Derby Festival & 142nd Kentucky Derby**
  Louisville, Ky.

- **See the World in Branson Music Fest: American Music & Vintage Arts Fest**
  Branson, Mo.

- **Prairie Rose Western Days**
  Benton, Kan.

- **Gatlinburg Beans & Cornbread Festival**
  Gatlinburg, Tenn.
  5/12/2016

- **Canadian Tulip Festival**
  Ottawa-Gatineau, Ontario

- **Harborfest®**
  Norfolk, Va.

- **The 2016 Charlottetown Festival**
  Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island
  6/1/2016–10/1/2016

- **Medora Musical**
  Medora, N.D.

- **Mackinac Island Lilac Festival**
  Mackinac Island, Mich.

- **100th Running of the Indianapolis 500**
  Indianapolis, Ind.
  5/29/2016

- **International Carillon Festival**
  Springfield, Ill.

- **Patriotic Festival: A Celebration of Our Military**
  Virginia Beach, Va.

- **World War II Weekend**
  Reading, Pa.

- **Special Exhibition—Air War, 1914–1918**
  Ottawa, Ontario
  5/20/2016–1/29/2017

- **Spokane Lilac Festival & Armed Forces Torchlight Parade**
  Spokane, Wash.
  5/21/2016
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<tr>
<td>Route 66: Main Street Through St. Louis</td>
<td>St. Louis, Mo.</td>
<td>6/25/2016–2/12/2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Festival International de Jazz de Montréal</td>
<td>Montréal, Québec</td>
<td>6/30/2016–7/9/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RCMP Sunset Retreat Ceremonies 2016</td>
<td>Regina, Saskatchewan</td>
<td>7/1/2016–8/9/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montana Folk Festival</td>
<td>Butte, Mont.</td>
<td>7/8/2016–7/10/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Longmire Days</td>
<td>Buffalo, Wyo.</td>
<td>7/15/2016–7/17/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Le Festiv! de Baie-Saint-Paul</td>
<td>Baie-St-Paul, Québec</td>
<td>7/21/2016–7/24/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Brunswick Highland Games Festival</td>
<td>Fredericton, New Brunswick</td>
<td>7/22/2016–7/24/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheyenne Frontier Days</td>
<td>Cheyenne, Wyo.</td>
<td>7/22/2016–7/31/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baraboo’s Big Top Parade &amp; Circus Celebration</td>
<td>Baraboo, Wis.</td>
<td>7/23/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada’s National Ukrainian Festival</td>
<td>Dauphin, Manitoba</td>
<td>7/29/2016–7/31/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Icelandic Festival of Manitoba</td>
<td>Gimli, Manitoba</td>
<td>7/29/2016–8/1/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dodge City Days</td>
<td>Dodge City, Kan.</td>
<td>7/29/2016–8/7/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folklorama</td>
<td>Winnipeg, Manitoba</td>
<td>7/31/2016–8/13/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amish Acres 54th Annual Arts &amp; Crafts Festival</td>
<td>Nappanee, Ind.</td>
<td>8/4/2016–8/7/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lucille Ball Comedy Festival</td>
<td>Jamestown, N.Y.</td>
<td>8/4/2016–8/7/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KeplinFest</td>
<td>Belcourt, N.D.</td>
<td>8/6/2016–8/7/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Pops by the Sea</td>
<td>Hyannis, Mass.</td>
<td>8/14/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PEI Fall Flavours Festival</td>
<td>Prince Edward Island</td>
<td>9/9/2016–9/26/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heroes, Hometowns &amp; Legends/Welcome Home Vietnam</td>
<td>Clarksville, Tenn.</td>
<td>9/13/2016–9/16/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kentucky Bourbon Festival Inc.</td>
<td>Bardstown, Ky.</td>
<td>9/13/2016–9/18/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event Name</td>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Dates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<td>----------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GrapeFest</strong></td>
<td>Grapevine, Texas</td>
<td>9/15/2016–9/18/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>New Hampshire Highland Games &amp; Festival</strong></td>
<td>Lincoln, N.H.</td>
<td>9/16/2016–9/18/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The Big E</strong></td>
<td>West Springfield, Mass.</td>
<td>9/16/2016–10/2/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 NAS Oceana Air Show</td>
<td>Virginia Beach, Va.</td>
<td>9/17/2016–9/18/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9th Annual Garlic Festival in Olde Mistick Village</td>
<td>Mystic, Conn.</td>
<td>9/17/2016–9/18/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Warren's Cranberry Festival</strong></td>
<td>Warrens, Wis.</td>
<td>9/23/2016–9/24/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Scallop Festival</strong></td>
<td>East Falmouth, Mass.</td>
<td>9/23/2016–9/25/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Annual Buffalo Roundup &amp; Arts Festival</strong></td>
<td>Custer, S.D.</td>
<td>9/29/2016–10/1/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta</strong></td>
<td>Albuquerque, N.M.</td>
<td>10/1/2016–10/9/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Salem Haunted Happenings</strong></td>
<td>Salem, Mass.</td>
<td>10/1/2016–10/31/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cruisin' The Coast</strong></td>
<td>Coastwide: Pascagoula, Biloxi, Gulfport, Long Beach, Bay St. Louis, D’Iberville</td>
<td>10/2/2016–10/9/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Museum of Appalachia's Tennessee Fall Homecoming</strong></td>
<td>Norris, Tenn.</td>
<td>10/7/2016–10/9/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>National Shrimp Festival</strong></td>
<td>Gulf Shores, Ala.</td>
<td>10/8/2016–10/11/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Apple-Scrapple Festival</strong></td>
<td>Bridgeville, Del.</td>
<td>10/14/2016–10/15/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lt. Ligonier Days</strong></td>
<td>Ligonier, Pa.</td>
<td>10/14/2016–10/16/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sea Witch Halloween &amp; Fiddler's Festival</strong></td>
<td>Rehoboth Beach, Del.</td>
<td>10/28/2016–10/30/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mendocino County Mushroom, Wine &amp; Beer Festival</strong></td>
<td>Mendocino County, Calif.</td>
<td>11/1/2016–11/30/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ozark Mountain Christmas</strong></td>
<td>Branson, Mo.</td>
<td>11/1/2016–12/31/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Christmas at Biltmore</strong></td>
<td>Asheville, N.C.</td>
<td>11/4/2016–1/8/2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pigeon Forge Winterfest</strong></td>
<td>Pigeon Forge, Tenn.</td>
<td>11/8/2016–2/28/2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Waterfowl Festival</strong></td>
<td>Easton, Md.</td>
<td>11/11/2016–11/13/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Christmas at the Galt House</strong></td>
<td>Louisville, Ky.</td>
<td>11/17/2016–12/27/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>America's Hometown Thanksgiving Celebration</strong></td>
<td>Plymouth, Mass.</td>
<td>11/18/2016–11/20/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Christmas in The Country Event</strong></td>
<td>Walnut Creek, Ohio</td>
<td>11/19/2016–12/17/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Christmas Capital of Texas</strong></td>
<td>Grapevine, Texas</td>
<td>11/19/2016–1/3/2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>“A Country Christmas” at Gaylord Opryland Resort</strong></td>
<td>Nashville, Tenn.</td>
<td>11/20/2016–1/3/2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Christmas Illuminations at Mount Vernon</strong></td>
<td>Mount Vernon, Va.</td>
<td>12/1/2016–12/31/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>35th Annual Boston Harborfest 2016</strong></td>
<td>Boston, Mass.</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Additional Events:**

- **Cruisin' The Coast®**
  - Gulfport, Long Beach, Bay St. Louis, D’Iberville
  - 10/2/2016–10/9/2016

- **The Galaxy of Lights**
  - Huntsville, Ala.

- **Christmas in Williamsburg**
  - Williamsburg, Va.

- **Edison Ford Holiday Nights**
  - Fort Myers, Fla.

- **2016 Magic Christmas In Lights**
  - Mobile, Ala.
  - 11/27/2016–1/2/2017

- **Deck the Hall**
  - Akron, Ohio
  - 11/28/2016–1/3/2017

- **Brookgreen Gardens Nights of a Thousand Candles**
  - Murrells Inlet, S.C.
  - 12/1/2016–12/17/2016

- **Christmas at the Library**
  - Charlotte, N.C.
  - 12/1/2016–12/23/2016

- **The Lights of Christmas Festival**
  - Stanwood, Wash.
  - 12/1/2016–12/29/2016

- **Christmas Illuminations at Mount Vernon**
  - Mount Vernon, Va.
  - 12/1/2016–12/31/2016

- **35th Annual Boston Harborfest 2016**
  - Boston, Mass.
  - TBA
Committee Meeting
Sponsors

ABA would like to thank Greater Birmingham CVB for their hospitality in hosting the 2016 Top 100 Selection Committee meeting and FAM. Additionally, we would like to thank the following partners:

- Alabama Theatre
- Barber Vintage Motorsports Museum
- Botanical Gardens
- Cline Tours Inc.
- Good People Brewing Company
- Negro Southern League Museum
- Vulcan Park and Museum

The 2016 Top 100 Selection Committee met in June in Birmingham, Ala., for the judging and selection of the events published for 2016 from hundreds of nominations.

American Bus Association

The American Bus Association is the North American trade organization representing the intercity bus industry. Its members include bus companies that offer tours, charters, and scheduled service; travel members representing virtually every segment of the travel and tourism industry; and associate members who supply the industry with goods and services.

The Group Travel Family

In partnership with ABA, The Group Travel Family promotes ABA’s Top 100 Events. These promotions result in leads for the winning members and events, which are distributed to the nominating member and the winning event/festival contacts.

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Alice Riggins
All In One Tour Services

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Tripod Vacations

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Historic winter homes and gardens of the Thomas Edison and Henry Ford families beautifully trimmed with lights and holiday decorations.

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