

Major USA Events & Festivals in October 2025



October in the United States is a season of change and celebration. Crisp autumn air, colorful foliage, and lively festivals make it one of the best months to travel. From state fairs filled with deep-fried favorites to balloon-filled skies in New Mexico, October has something for everyone.

Travelers can explore cultural fairs in the South, music festivals in Texas, food traditions in North Carolina, or comic fandom gatherings in New York. It is the perfect time to combine seasonal sightseeing with authentic American experiences.

Here are the [*major USA events and festivals*](#) happening in October 2025 that you won't want to miss.

USA Events & Festivals in October 2025

Here's a chronological guide to the top events and fairs this October.

Mississippi State Fair

Date: October 2 - October 13, 2025

Venue: Mississippi State Fairgrounds, Jackson, MS

Tickets: [Buy Tickets Online](#)

Details: One of the South's oldest and largest fairs, the Mississippi State Fair features midway rides, livestock shows, concerts, and plenty of Southern comfort food. Visitors can expect rodeos, cooking contests, and a lively family-friendly atmosphere.

Georgia National Fair

Date: October 2 - October 12, 2025

Venue: Georgia National Fairgrounds & Agricenter, Perry, GA

Tickets: [Buy Tickets Online](#)

Details: A beloved fall tradition in Georgia, this fair brings together agricultural exhibitions, carnival rides, live music, fireworks, and food stalls. It's also a showcase for local youth programs and crafts, making it a community favorite.

Alabama National Fair

Date: October 3 - October 13, 2025

Venue: Garrett Coliseum Fairgrounds, Montgomery, AL

Tickets: [Buy Tickets Online](#)

Details: The Alabama National Fair offers ten days of concerts, livestock events, carnival rides, and food booths. Known for its blend of entertainment and agriculture, it also supports local charities, making it both fun and impactful.

Topsfield Fair

Date: October 3 - October 13, 2025

Venue: Topsfield Fairgrounds, Topsfield, MA

Tickets: [Buy Tickets Online](#)

Details: Known as America's oldest agricultural fair, the Topsfield Fair in Massachusetts dates back to 1818. It's famous for giant pumpkin contests, agricultural displays, carnival rides, and traditional New England food, attracting visitors from across the region.

Austin City Limits Music Festival (Weekend 1)

Date: October 3 - October 5, 2025

Venue: Zilker Park, Austin, TX

Tickets: [Buy Tickets Online](#)

Details: A premier music event featuring top international acts across multiple stages. Beyond the music, ACL offers art installations, food from Austin's best eateries, and a vibrant city backdrop. Weekend two follows the next week.

Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta

Date: October 4 - October 12, 2025

Venue: Balloon Fiesta Park, Albuquerque, NM

Tickets: [Buy Tickets Online](#)

Details: The world's largest hot air balloon event, drawing hundreds of balloons and visitors from around the globe. Mornings begin with mass ascensions while

evenings glow with illuminated balloons. It's one of the most photographed events in the U.S.

South Carolina State Fair

Date: October 8 - October 19, 2025

Venue: State Fairgrounds, Columbia, SC

Tickets: [Buy Tickets Online](#)

Details: Combining Southern tradition with modern entertainment, the South Carolina State Fair features agricultural exhibits, concerts, rides, and local food specialties. It is a highlight of fall in the Palmetto State.

New York Comic Con (NYCC)

Date: October 9 - October 12, 2025

Venue: Javits Center, New York, NY

Tickets: [Buy Tickets Online](#)

Details: The largest pop culture convention on the East Coast. Expect celebrity panels, exclusive previews, cosplay competitions, and a huge show floor packed with comics, games, and collectibles. A must for fans of entertainment and fantasy.

Austin City Limits Music Festival (Weekend 2)

Date: October 10 - October 12, 2025

Venue: Zilker Park, Austin, TX

Tickets: [Buy Tickets Online](#)

Details: The second weekend of ACL offers the same iconic lineup and experiences, giving travelers another chance to catch their favorite bands and explore Austin's creative energy.

Arizona State Fair

Date: September 19 - October 26, 2025

Venue: Arizona State Fairgrounds, Phoenix, AZ

Tickets: [Buy Tickets Online](#)

Details: A staple of the Southwest, the Arizona State Fair mixes thrilling rides, live concerts, livestock competitions, and multicultural food vendors. Its long run in October makes it a must-visit for travelers heading west.

North Carolina State Fair

Date: October 16 - October 26, 2025

Venue: State Fairgrounds, Raleigh, NC

Tickets: [Buy Tickets Online](#)

Details: This large fair attracts over a million visitors annually. Highlights include agricultural competitions, carnival rides, fireworks, and beloved Southern fair foods like fried Oreos and turkey legs.

Final Thought

October 2025 is full of diverse events across the U.S. Whether you want to taste authentic barbecue in North Carolina, watch the skies fill with balloons in New Mexico, or enjoy music in Texas, this month offers experiences you'll never forget. Pair your autumn travels with these fairs and festivals to make the most of the season.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the top festivals in the U.S. in October 2025?

Major events include the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta, Austin City Limits Music Festival, New York Comic Con, and multiple state fairs such as North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia.

Which U.S. state fairs are in October 2025?

October state fairs include Mississippi, Georgia, Alabama, Topsfield (MA), Arizona, South Carolina, and North Carolina.

Where is the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta held?

It takes place at Balloon Fiesta Park in Albuquerque, New Mexico, from October 4 to 12, 2025.

When is the Austin City Limits Music Festival in 2025?

ACL runs across two weekends: October 3–5 and October 10–12, 2025.

What food festivals are happening in October 2025?

The Lexington Barbecue Festival in North Carolina is one of the top food-focused events, offering authentic Southern barbecue and live entertainment.

Is New York Comic Con worth visiting for travelers?

Yes. NYCC is the largest pop culture convention on the East Coast, with celebrity appearances, exclusive releases, and immersive fan experiences.
