

State Fairs in the USA 2026: Dates, Tickets, & Insider Travel Tips



State fairs in the United States are more than just seasonal [*US events and festivals*](#). They are a deep-rooted tradition that blends local culture, food innovation, agriculture, and entertainment into one unforgettable experience. From the massive crowds at Texas to the charming, community-driven fairs in smaller states like Idaho or Delaware, each fair offers something completely different.

If you are planning to explore the best state fairs in the USA in 2026, timing and preparation matter more than most travelers realize. Dates for all fairs vary by state and ticket pricing can change based on demand. However, knowing what to expect, from iconic fair foods to live events, can make the difference between an average visit and a truly memorable one.

In this complete guide, we have broken down everything you need to know in one place. You will find a state-by-state fair calendar, estimated dates, ticket insights, and practical travel tips based on how these events actually operate across the

country. Whether you are targeting the biggest fairs like Texas and Minnesota or looking for less crowded, underrated experiences, this guide is designed to help you plan smarter and avoid common mistakes.

List of Complete State Fairs in the USA in 2026

State fairs in the USA 2026 bring together agriculture, food, entertainment, and local culture from all 50 states. This section provides a complete, state-by-state overview of major fairs, including expected dates, venues, and key highlights. It helps travelers quickly understand when and where each fair takes place so they can plan visits easily and make the most of the fair season across the United States.

01. Alabama National Fair

- **Date:** October 8 - October 18, 2026
- **Venue:** Montgomery, Alabama
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The Alabama National Fair is one of the biggest annual events in the state. It runs for about 11 days. The fair focuses on agriculture, family entertainment, and local culture. Visitors can explore livestock shows, farm exhibits, and community competitions. These displays reflect Alabama's agricultural roots.

The fair also features carnival rides and midway games. Families enjoy food stalls serving classic fair items like fried snacks and barbecue. Live music and local performances are part of the daily schedule. You will also find educational exhibits for kids and adults. The fair is known for its relaxed atmosphere compared to larger state fairs. It is a good choice if you want a less crowded experience with authentic local vibes. If you are going to explore Alabama this year, [read out our complete Alabama Travel Guide](#) to discover more things to do across the state.

02. Alaska State Fair

- **Date:** August 21 - September 7, 2026
- **Venue:** Palmer, Alaska
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The Alaska State Fair offers a unique experience you will not find in other states. It is set near the Chugach Mountains, which creates a scenic backdrop. The fair is famous for giant vegetables. Alaska's long daylight hours help grow record-breaking crops. This fair blends nature with entertainment. You can enjoy rides, games, and live shows.

There are also hundreds of vendors selling food and crafts. Local seafood and Alaskan specialties stand out. The fair includes competitions in farming, arts, and home skills. Families can explore petting zoos and exhibitions. The event feels more open and less commercial than big-city fairs. It is ideal for travelers who want something different and authentic. If you are travelling to Alaska this year, read out our complete [Alaska Travel Guide](#) to know everything about Alaska before landing there.

03. Arizona State Fair

- **Date:** October 1 - November 1, 2026
- **Venue:** Arizona State Fairgrounds, Phoenix, Arizona
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The Arizona State Fair is one of the largest fairs in the country. It attracts over a million visitors every year. The event is known for its scale and variety. It usually runs throughout October. You will find over 70 rides and hundreds of food stalls. The fair offers everything from thrill rides to family attractions. Live concerts and performances are held daily.

Agricultural exhibits are still a core part of the fair. You can see livestock shows and competitions. The fair also hosts trade shows and exhibitions. It feels more like a festival mixed with a theme park. If you enjoy big crowds and high energy, this

fair is a top choice. Before traveling to Arizona, read out our [Arizona Travel Guide](#) to discover more about Arizona.

04. Arkansas State Fair

- **Date:** October 16 - October 25, 2026
- **Venue:** Little Rock, Arkansas
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The Arkansas State Fair is a classic Southern fair. It combines agriculture, entertainment, and local traditions. The fair usually lasts about 10 days. It attracts visitors from across the state. Livestock shows are a major highlight. Farmers showcase animals and compete for awards. There are also educational exhibits focused on agriculture.

The midway offers rides and games for all ages. Food vendors serve Southern favorites and fried treats. Live music and events are scheduled daily. The fair also hosts competitions in arts and crafts. It is a balanced fair with both fun and educational value. It is ideal for families and first-time visitors. To know more about Arkansas state, go through our [Arkansas Travel Guide](#) - showing you everything about the state.

05. California State Fair

- **Date:** July 17 - August 2, 2026
- **Venue:** Cal Expo, Sacramento, California
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The California State Fair is one of the most diverse fairs in the USA. It reflects the culture and industries of California. The event runs for about 17 days. You will find everything from agriculture to technology displays. Food is a major attraction. The fair features international cuisines and creative dishes. There are live concerts, fireworks, and large-scale shows.

Visitors can explore wine tastings and culinary competitions. The fair also includes animal exhibits and farming displays. Attendance is high, with thousands visiting daily. This fair offers a complete experience. It is ideal for travelers who want variety and entertainment in one place. If you are visiting California for the first time, check out our [California Travel Guide](#) to know everything about the state.

06. Colorado State Fair

- **Date:** August 28 - September 7, 2026 (Expected)
- **Venue:** Pueblo, Colorado
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The Colorado State Fair is one of the oldest in the country. It dates back to the 19th century. The fair focuses strongly on agriculture and heritage. It usually takes place in late August. Visitors can enjoy rodeos, livestock shows, and horse events. These are key highlights of the fair.

There are also concerts and entertainment shows. The midway includes rides and games for families. Food stalls offer classic American fair food. Competitions in arts and crafts are also popular. The fair has a strong local feel. It is less commercial than major fairs. It is a great option if you want an authentic Western-style fair experience. Do you want to know more about the state, read out our complete [Colorado Travel Guide](#) to discover more things to explore in Colorado.

07. Connecticut County Fairs (Alternatives to State Fair)

- **Fairs Details:** [Get Details Here](#)

Connecticut does not have an official state fair. Instead, the state is known for its traditional county and town fairs that represent local agriculture, food, and community culture. Some of the most popular fairs include the Durham Fair, which is one of the oldest and largest agricultural fairs in the state.

The fair features livestock shows, farm exhibits, carnival rides, and live entertainment. Visitors also enjoy local food stalls and family-friendly activities. Other smaller fairs across Connecticut highlight rural traditions, handmade crafts, and seasonal harvest celebrations. These events collectively serve as the state's fair system and offer a strong local cultural experience. Are you eager to know more about the state, read and download our [Connecticut Travel Guide](#) to discover what adventures are offered by the state.

08. Delaware State Fair

- **Date:** July 23 - August 1, 2026
- **Venue:** Harrington, Delaware
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The Delaware State Fair is known for its community feel. It runs for about 10 days in summer. The fair attracts both locals and visitors. Agriculture is at the center of the event. You will find livestock shows and farming exhibits. There are also competitions in arts and crafts.

The fair hosts concerts and live shows. The midway offers rides and games for all ages. Food vendors serve classic fair favorites. The fairgrounds are easy to explore. It is less crowded than major fairs. This makes it a good choice for families. It offers a relaxed and enjoyable experience. Read out our [Delaware Travel Guide](#) to know more about the state before you land there.

09. Florida State Fair

- **Date:** February 5 - February 16, 2026
- **Venue:** Florida State Fairgrounds, Tampa, Florida
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The Florida State Fair is one of the first major fairs of the year. It takes place in February. The fair lasts about 11 to 12 days. This fair focuses on agriculture and

entertainment. Visitors can explore exhibits on farming, livestock, and local industries. There are also indoor and outdoor displays. The midway features rides and games.

Food is a major attraction, with creative and unusual items. The fair includes competitions, concerts, and live shows. It also features themed areas like historical exhibits. The weather is pleasant during this time. This makes it one of the best fairs for early-year travel. For further travel information regarding the state, read out and download our [Florida Travel Guide](#), curated for travelers who are going to land in Florida for the first time.

10. Georgia National Fair

- **Date:** October 8 - October 18, 2026
- **Venue:** Georgia National Fairgrounds, Perry, Georgia
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The Georgia National Fair is the official state-sponsored fair. It runs for about 10 days. The fair attracts over half a million visitors each year. This fair offers a mix of agriculture and entertainment. You will find livestock shows, horse events, and competitions.

Youth programs like 4-H and FFA are a big part of the fair. The midway includes rides and games. There are also concerts and fireworks shows. Food vendors offer classic fair items and Southern dishes. The fairgrounds are large and well organized. It is a family-friendly event with something for everyone. If you are traveling to Georgia for the first time, do not forget to check out our [Georgia Travel Guide](#), to know more about the state before landing there.

11. Hawaii State Farm Fair (Hawaii State Agricultural Fair)

- **Date:** May - June 2026 (Exact dates vary yearly)
- **Venue:** Kualoa Ranch, Oahu, Hawaii

- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The Hawaii State Farm Fair is a unique agricultural event. It is different from traditional mainland state fairs. It focuses heavily on local farming, sustainability, and Hawaiian culture. The fair is held at scenic Kualoa Ranch. The location adds a strong natural backdrop. Visitors can explore livestock displays, farming exhibits, and local food stalls. The fair highlights Hawaii's tropical agriculture, including taro, fruits, and local produce.

You will also find family-friendly activities. These include petting zoos, craft areas, and educational exhibits. Cultural performances often showcase Hawaiian traditions. The event is smaller compared to other state fairs. However, it offers a more authentic and educational experience. It is ideal for travelers who want a local cultural event instead of a large commercial fair. A complete [Hawaii Travel Guide](#) is curated for the travelers visiting for the first time to Hawaii.

12. Idaho State Fairs (Regional Fair System)

- **Date:** Varies by fair (August - September 2026)
- **Venue:** Multiple locations across Idaho
- **Tickets:** Check Tickets

Idaho does not have a single official state fair. Instead, it hosts multiple regional fairs that serve different parts of the state. These fairs represent Idaho's agriculture, local culture, and community traditions. Each fair offers a slightly different experience based on its location. Together, they provide a complete state fair experience across Idaho. If you are visiting Idaho for the first time and eager to know more about the state, must read our [Idaho Travel Guide](#) before you land there.

12.1. Eastern Idaho State Fair

- **Date:** September 4 - September 12, 2026
- **Venue:** Blackfoot, Idaho Fairgrounds

- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The Eastern Idaho State Fair is the most agriculture-focused fair in the state. It is often considered the closest to a traditional state fair experience in Idaho. The fair highlights farming, livestock, and rural life.

Visitors can explore livestock shows, crop exhibits, and youth competitions like 4-H. These events reflect Idaho's strong agricultural roots. The fair also includes carnival rides and midway games for families.

Food vendors offer classic fair food along with local specialties. Live concerts and stage shows are held throughout the event. The fair has a balanced mix of education and entertainment. It is ideal for visitors who want an authentic and traditional fair experience.

12.2. Western Idaho Fair

- **Date:** August 21 - August 30, 2026
- **Venue:** Boise, Idaho Expo Fairgrounds
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The Western Idaho Fair is the largest and most entertainment-focused fair in the state. It takes place in Boise and attracts large crowds every year.

The fair includes carnival rides, games, and large exhibition areas. Entertainment is a major highlight, with concerts, shows, and special events held daily. It offers a more modern and urban fair experience.

Agriculture is still part of the fair, with livestock exhibits and competitions. However, the main focus is on entertainment and visitor activities. Food options are wide, including classic fair dishes and new food trends. It is the best choice for visitors looking for a lively and high-energy fair.

12.3. Northern Idaho State Fair

- **Date:** August 21 - 30, 2026

- **Venue:** Kootenai County Fairgrounds, Coeur d’Alene, Idaho
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The Northern Idaho State Fair is a smaller and more community-focused event. It serves the northern region of the state and offers a relaxed fair experience.

The fair includes livestock shows, local competitions, and agricultural exhibits. It highlights rural traditions and community participation. Visitors can also enjoy carnival rides and family-friendly games.

Food vendors offer traditional fair meals and local flavors. Live music and small performances are part of the schedule. The fair is less crowded compared to other Idaho fairs. It is ideal for visitors who prefer a simple and local atmosphere.

13. Illinois State Fair

- **Date:** August 13 - August 23, 2026
- **Venue:** Springfield, Illinois State Fairgrounds
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The Illinois State Fair is one of the most historic fairs in the United States. It has been running for over a century. The fair lasts about 10 to 11 days every summer. Agriculture is the core focus. Visitors can explore livestock shows, farm machinery displays, and competitions. The fair also highlights Illinois farming traditions.

Entertainment is a major part of the experience. There are concerts, stunt shows, and racing events. The famous “Butter Cow” sculpture is a popular attraction. The fair also includes a large midway with rides and games. Food vendors offer a wide variety of options. The event is large, busy, and highly organized. It is one of the most important fairs in the Midwest.

14. Indiana State Fair

- **Date:** August 7 - 23, 2026
- **Venue:** Indiana State Fairgrounds, Indianapolis
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The Indiana State Fair is one of the most popular summer events in the state. It usually runs for about two weeks. The fair has a strong agricultural foundation. Visitors can see livestock competitions, farm exhibits, and 4-H programs. These educational elements are a key part of the fair.

Entertainment is also a big attraction. There are live concerts, stunt shows, and family performances. The midway includes rides, games, and attractions for all ages. Food is a major highlight, including fried specialties and local dishes. The fair is well-organized and family-friendly. It offers a mix of education, culture, and entertainment.

15. Iowa State Fair

- **Date:** August 13 - August 23, 2026
- **Venue:** Des Moines, Iowa State Fairgrounds
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The Iowa State Fair is one of the most famous state fairs in America. It is widely known for its large crowds and strong agricultural identity. Livestock competitions are a key feature. Farmers from across the state participate. The fair is also known for creative food innovations. Many famous “deep-fried” foods originated here.

Entertainment includes concerts, rides, and shows. The fair is also home to the famous butter sculptures. Educational exhibits highlight farming and rural life. The event has a strong cultural presence in Iowa. It is often considered a benchmark for other state fairs in the USA.

16. Kansas State Fair

- **Date:** September 11 - 20, 2026

- **Venue:** Hutchinson, Kansas State Fairgrounds
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The Kansas State Fair is a major annual event in the Midwest. It lasts around 10 days. The fair focuses strongly on agriculture and rural traditions. Livestock shows and farm competitions are central attractions. Visitors can see cattle, horses, and agricultural displays. The fair also includes educational programs for youth.

Entertainment includes concerts, carnival rides, and racing events. Food vendors offer traditional fair food and Kansas-style specialties. The fair is known for its friendly and community-focused environment. It is less commercial compared to larger fairs. It is a good destination for families and agricultural enthusiasts.

17. Kentucky State Fair

- **Date:** August 20 - August 30, 2026
- **Venue:** Kentucky Exposition Center, Louisville
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The Kentucky State Fair is one of the largest indoor-outdoor fairs in the USA. It runs for about 10 days. Agriculture plays a major role. Visitors can explore livestock competitions, farming exhibits, and craft showcases. The fair also highlights Kentucky's rural traditions.

Entertainment is a major attraction. There are concerts, stunt shows, and family performances. The midway includes rides and games. Food vendors serve regional specialties and classic fair food. The event is highly organized and attracts large crowds. It is one of the most important summer events in Kentucky.

18. Louisiana State Fair

- **Date:** October 29 - November 15, 2026
- **Venue:** Shreveport, Louisiana State Fairgrounds
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The Louisiana State Fair is a vibrant cultural event. It blends agriculture, music, food, and entertainment. It usually takes place in late October. The fair is known for its lively atmosphere. Visitors can enjoy carnival rides, live music, and cultural shows. Food is a major highlight, especially Cajun and Creole flavors.

Agricultural exhibits are also included. These feature livestock shows and competitions. The fair has a strong Southern identity. It is more entertainment-focused compared to some Midwest fairs. It is ideal for visitors who enjoy food, music, and festivals.

19. Fairs in Maine 2026 (Agricultural Fair System)

- **Date:** Dates are vary (Different for Each Fair)
- **Venue:** Different regional Areas of Maine
- **Fair Tickets:** [Explore Fairs](#)

Maine does not have a single large centralized state fair like some states. Instead, it hosts regional fairs and agricultural exhibitions. These fairs focus on farming, livestock, and rural traditions. Visitors can explore local crafts, food, and agricultural displays. The events are smaller in scale but highly community-driven.

Entertainment includes rides, music, and local performances. Food vendors offer traditional New England-style fair food. The experience is more personal and less crowded. It is ideal for travelers who prefer quiet and authentic rural fairs.

20. Maryland State Fair

- **Date:** August 27 - 30 | September 3 - 7 | September 10 - 13
- **Venue:** Timonium Fairgrounds, Maryland
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The Maryland State Fair is a long-running annual event. It takes place near Baltimore and runs for several weeks. Agriculture is a key focus. Visitors can

explore livestock shows, farm exhibits, and competitions. The fair also includes 4-H and youth programs.

Entertainment includes concerts, rides, and horse racing events. Food is a major attraction, with seafood and regional specialties. The fair has a strong community feel. It is well-organized and family-friendly. It offers a balanced mix of education, culture, and entertainment.

21. Massachusetts State Fair (The Big E - New England State Fair)

- **Date:** September 18 - October 4, 2026
- **Venue:** The Big E, West Springfield, Massachusetts
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

Massachusetts does not operate a single traditional state fair. Instead, it participates in The Big E, also known as the Eastern States Exposition. This is the official New England regional fair.

It represents all six New England states in one place. Massachusetts has its own dedicated building inside the fairgrounds. Visitors can explore food, crafts, and cultural exhibits from the state.

The fair is one of the largest in the USA. It combines agriculture, entertainment, and regional tourism. You will find rides, concerts, livestock shows, and large food courts. Each state building showcases local identity. Massachusetts highlights seafood, baked goods, and local products. It is a must-visit regional fair with high tourist value and strong cultural representation.

22. Michigan State Fair

- **Date:** September 3 - 7, 2026
- **Venue:** Suburban Collection Showplace, Novi, Michigan
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The Michigan State Fair is a revived modern fair. It is smaller than historic versions but growing in popularity. It focuses on agriculture, family entertainment, and local businesses. Visitors can see livestock exhibits and farming competitions. Youth programs like 4-H are a major part of the fair. The event also includes carnival rides and live shows.

Food vendors offer Michigan specialties and classic fair items. The fair is more community-focused than commercial. It provides a relaxed and family-friendly experience. It is ideal for visitors who want a simple and educational state fair atmosphere.

23. Minnesota State Fair

- **Date:** August 27 - September 7, 2026
- **Venue:** Falcon Heights, Minnesota State Fairgrounds
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The Minnesota State Fair is one of the largest and most famous fairs in the United States. It attracts millions of visitors every year. Agriculture is at the core of the event. There are livestock shows, crop competitions, and educational exhibits. The fair is also famous for its food innovation. Many unique food items are introduced every year.

Entertainment is a major highlight. There are concerts, rides, and large exhibition halls. The fair includes science, art, and cultural displays. It is highly organized and extremely popular. It is considered one of the best state fairs in the country for first-time visitors.

24. Mississippi State Fair

- **Date:** October 8 - 18, 2026
- **Venue:** Mississippi State Fairgrounds, Jackson, Mississippi
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The Mississippi State Fair is a traditional Southern fair. It usually takes place in October. The event lasts around 10 days. Agricultural exhibitions are a key part of the fair. Visitors can explore livestock shows and farming displays. There are also youth competitions and educational programs.

Entertainment includes carnival rides, concerts, and live performances. Food vendors serve classic Southern dishes. The fair has a strong community and cultural feel. It is less crowded compared to larger national fairs. It is ideal for families and local tourism.

25. Missouri State Fair

- **Date:** August 13 - August 23, 2026
- **Venue:** Sedalia, Missouri State Fairgrounds
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The Missouri State Fair is one of the most important agricultural fairs in the Midwest. It runs for about 10 days each August. Agriculture is the main focus. There are livestock competitions, horse shows, and farm exhibitions. The fair highlights Missouri's farming heritage.

Entertainment includes concerts, rodeos, and carnival rides. The food section is very popular, with classic fair items and local flavors. The fair also includes educational programs for children and youth. It is a balanced mix of tradition, entertainment, and agriculture.

26. Montana State Fair

- **Date:** July 24 - August 1, 2026
- **Venue:** Montana ExpoPark, Great Falls, Montana
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The Montana State Fair is a mid-sized but highly community-driven event. It usually takes place in July. Agricultural exhibitions are central to the fair. Visitors

can see livestock shows, farming competitions, and rural displays. Rodeo events are also a key attraction.

Entertainment includes rides, games, and live music. Food vendors offer traditional fair food and regional specialties. The fair has a strong Western identity. It is less commercial and more local in nature. It is ideal for visitors who want an authentic Montana experience.

27. Nebraska State Fair

- **Date:** August 28 - September 7, 2026
- **Venue:** Grand Island, Nebraska State Fairgrounds
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The Nebraska State Fair is a major agricultural event in the Midwest. It runs for about 10-11 days. Agriculture is the foundation of the fair. There are livestock shows, crop displays, and educational programs. The fair strongly supports youth agriculture groups like 4-H and FFA.

Entertainment includes concerts, rodeo events, and carnival rides. Food vendors offer both classic and regional dishes. The fair is well-organized and family-friendly. It is one of the most important annual events in Nebraska.

28. Nevada State Fair

- **Date:** June 11 - 14, 2026
- **Venue:** Carson City, Nevada (Fairgrounds)
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The Nevada State Fair is a smaller regional-style fair. It has changed locations and formats over the years. It focuses on agriculture, crafts, and local community activities. Visitors can explore exhibits from local farmers and artisans. There are also food stalls and entertainment shows.

Carnival rides and family activities are included. The fair is less commercial compared to larger states. It offers a simple and community-focused experience. It is best for travelers looking for local culture rather than large crowds.

29. New Hampshire State Fair (Hopkinton State Fair)

- **Date:** September 3 - 7, 2026
- **Venue:** Contoocook / Hopkinton Fairgrounds, New Hampshire
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

New Hampshire does not have a large centralized state fair. Instead, it hosts the Hopkinton State Fair, which serves as the main state fair event. The fair focuses on agriculture and rural traditions. Visitors can see livestock shows, horse pulls, and farming exhibitions. It has a strong local identity.

Entertainment includes rides, games, and live music. Food vendors offer traditional New England fair food. The event is family-friendly and community-based. It is smaller but highly authentic. It reflects New Hampshire's rural culture and heritage.

30. New Jersey State Fair (Sussex County Farm & Horse Show)

- **Date:** July 31 - August 8, 2026
- **Venue:** Augusta, New Jersey Fairgrounds
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The New Jersey State Fair is officially known as the Sussex County Farm and Horse Show. It is one of the most popular summer events in the state. Agriculture is a major focus. Visitors can see livestock competitions, horse shows, and farm exhibits. Youth programs are also an important part of the fair.

Entertainment includes carnival rides, live music, and food vendors. The fair is well-organized and family-friendly. It offers a mix of rural traditions and modern entertainment. It is one of the most important community events in New Jersey.

31. New Mexico State Fair

- **Date:** September 10 - September 20, 2026 (typical schedule pattern)
- **Venue:** Expo New Mexico, Albuquerque, New Mexico
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The New Mexico State Fair is one of the most culturally rich fairs in the Southwest. It runs for about 10 days each September. Agriculture is an important part of the event. Visitors can see livestock shows, farming exhibits, and youth competitions. The fair also highlights New Mexico's cultural diversity.

Entertainment includes live music, carnival rides, and rodeo events. Food is a major attraction, especially Southwestern and Mexican-inspired flavors. The fair also features art exhibits and cultural showcases. It has a strong local identity and feels different from many Midwest fairs. It is ideal for visitors who want culture, food, and entertainment in one place.

32. New York State Fair

- **Date:** August 26 - September 7, 2026
- **Venue:** Syracuse, New York State Fairgrounds
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The New York State Fair is one of the oldest and largest fairs in the United States. It runs for about 13 days. Agriculture remains a core focus. Visitors can explore livestock competitions, farm exhibits, and educational displays. The fair also showcases New York's agricultural industry.

Entertainment is a major highlight. There are concerts, large rides, and international food vendors. The fair attracts millions of visitors every year. It is highly diverse and well-organized. It is one of the most important state fairs in the country.

33. North Carolina State Fair

- **Date:** October 15 - 25, 2026
- **Venue:** Raleigh, North Carolina State Fairgrounds
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The North Carolina State Fair is a major fall event. It lasts around 10 days and attracts large crowds. Agriculture is strongly represented. Visitors can explore livestock shows, crop exhibits, and youth competitions. The fair also highlights North Carolina farming traditions.

Entertainment includes carnival rides, concerts, and shows. Food is a major attraction, especially fried and creative fair dishes. The fair is well-known for its family-friendly atmosphere. It is one of the most popular events in the state.

34. North Dakota State Fair

- **Date:** July 17 - 25, 2026
- **Venue:** Minot, North Dakota State Fairgrounds
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The North Dakota State Fair is the largest annual event in the state. It runs for about one week. Agriculture is the foundation of the fair. Visitors can see livestock competitions, farm machinery, and rural exhibits. The fair reflects North Dakota's farming culture.

Entertainment includes rodeos, concerts, and carnival rides. Food vendors offer classic fair food. The fair is community-focused and less commercial. It provides a simple and traditional fair experience.

35. Ohio State Fair

- **Date:** July 29 - August 9, 2026
- **Venue:** Columbus, Ohio State Fairgrounds

- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The Ohio State Fair is one of the largest fairs in the Midwest. It runs for about 12 days. Agriculture plays a central role. Visitors can explore livestock shows, farming exhibits, and youth programs like 4-H. The fair also includes educational displays.

Entertainment includes concerts, rides, and shows. The fair is known for its butter sculptures and food innovations. It is highly organized and attracts large crowds. It is one of the top-ranked state fairs in the USA.

36. Oklahoma State Fair

- **Date:** September 17 - September 27, 2026
- **Venue:** Oklahoma City, Oklahoma State Fair Park
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The Oklahoma State Fair is a major annual event. It runs for about 10 days in September. Agriculture is strongly featured. Visitors can see livestock shows, rodeos, and farm exhibits. The fair highlights Oklahoma's rural heritage.

Entertainment includes concerts, rides, and competitions. Food is a major attraction with Southern-style and fried dishes. The fair is family-friendly and well-organized. It is one of the most important cultural events in the state.

37. Oregon State Fair

- **Date:** August 28 - September 7, 2026
- **Venue:** Salem, Oregon State Fairgrounds
- **Tickets:** Will Be Updated Soon

The Oregon State Fair is a long-running annual event. It focuses on agriculture, entertainment, and local culture. Visitors can explore livestock exhibits, farm

displays, and craft competitions. The fair also includes floral and garden showcases.

Entertainment includes concerts, rides, and live shows. Food vendors offer a mix of traditional and modern fair food. The fair is relaxed and family-friendly. It is popular among both locals and tourists.

38. Pennsylvania State Fair System (Harrisburg Farm Show)

- **Date:** January 2026
- **Venue:** Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex, Harrisburg
- **Tickets:** No Info Available

Pennsylvania does not rely on a single traditional state fair. Instead, it has the **Pennsylvania Farm Show** and many county fairs. The Farm Show is the largest indoor agricultural event in the USA. It focuses on livestock, dairy, and farming technology.

Visitors can explore exhibitions, competitions, and educational displays. Food plays a big role, especially dairy-based products. Throughout the year, county fairs operate across the state. These fairs offer rides, entertainment, and local food. Pennsylvania has one of the strongest agricultural fair systems in the country.

39. Rhode Island State Fair (The Washington County Fair)

- **Date:** August 12 - 16, 2026
- **Venue:** Cumberland, Rhode Island State Fairgrounds
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

Rhode Island does not have an official statewide fair. The Washington County Fair serves as the main agricultural fair for the state and is widely considered its state fair equivalent. The fair has a strong focus on agriculture and rural traditions. Visitors can explore livestock shows, farm exhibits, and local competitions. These events highlight Rhode Island's farming heritage and community involvement.

In addition to agriculture, the fair offers carnival rides, games, and live entertainment. Food vendors serve classic fair items along with regional specialties. The event is family-friendly and easy to explore. Compared to larger state fairs, it has a more relaxed and community-driven atmosphere. It is a great option for visitors who want a traditional fair experience in a smaller setting.

40. South Carolina State Fair

- **Date:** October 15 - 25, 2026
- **Venue:** Columbia, South Carolina State Fairgrounds
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The South Carolina State Fair is one of the most popular fall events in the state. It runs for about 12 days. Agriculture is a key feature. Visitors can explore livestock shows, farm exhibits, and youth competitions. The fair highlights South Carolina's rural culture.

Entertainment includes rides, concerts, and live shows. Food is a major attraction, especially Southern-style dishes. The fair is family-friendly and highly organized. It is one of the most important cultural events in South Carolina.

41. South Dakota State Fair

- **Date:** September 2 - 7, 2026
- **Venue:** Huron, South Dakota State Fairgrounds
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The South Dakota State Fair is the biggest annual event in the state. It runs for about 5 to 6 days over Labor Day weekend. Agriculture is the main focus. Visitors can explore livestock shows, crop exhibits, and farming competitions. The fair strongly represents rural life in South Dakota.

Entertainment includes rodeos, concerts, and carnival rides. Food vendors offer classic fair food and regional specialties. The fair is family-friendly and community-driven. It is one of the most important cultural events in the state.

42. Tennessee State Fair

- **Date:** August 13 - 22, 2026
- **Venue:** 945 E. Baddour Parkway, Lebanon, TN
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The Tennessee State Fair is a popular annual event held in Lebanon. It runs for around 10 days. Agriculture plays an important role. Visitors can see livestock shows, farm exhibits, and youth competitions. The fair highlights Tennessee's rural traditions.

Entertainment includes live music, rides, and shows. Food is a major attraction, especially Southern-style dishes. The fair has a strong cultural and musical identity. It is family-friendly and well-attended each year.

43. Texas State Fair

- **Date:** September 25 - October 18, 2026
- **Venue:** Fair Park, Dallas, Texas
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The Texas State Fair is the largest state fair in the United States. It runs for about 24 days and attracts millions of visitors. Agriculture is a core part of the fair. Visitors can explore livestock shows, competitions, and educational exhibits. However, entertainment is equally important.

The fair is famous for its food innovation. Deep-fried creations are a major highlight. There are also concerts, auto shows, and large exhibitions. The iconic "Big Tex" statue is the symbol of the fair. It is one of the most important annual events in America.

44. Utah State Fair

- **Date:** September 10 - 20, 2026
- **Venue:** Utah State Fairpark, Salt Lake City
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The Utah State Fair is a traditional Western-style fair. It usually runs for about 10 days. Agriculture is a key focus. Visitors can explore livestock shows, farm exhibits, and craft competitions. The fair highlights Utah's farming and rural culture.

Entertainment includes rodeos, concerts, and carnival rides. Food vendors offer classic fair food. The fair is family-friendly and easy to navigate. It provides a relaxed and cultural experience.

45. Vermont State Fair

- **Date:** August 18 - 22, 2026
- **Venue:** Rutland, Vermont State Fairgrounds
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The Vermont State Fair is one of the oldest fairs in the United States. It has a strong agricultural heritage. Visitors can explore livestock shows, farming competitions, and rural exhibits. The fair also includes craft displays and local products.

Entertainment includes rides, music, and food stalls. The fair is small but very traditional. It offers a peaceful and community-focused experience. It reflects Vermont's rural lifestyle and agricultural history.

46. Virginia State Fair

- **Date:** September 25 - October 4, 2026

- **Venue:** Doswell, Meadow Event Park, Virginia
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The Virginia State Fair is a major fall event. It runs for about 10 days. Agriculture is strongly represented. Visitors can explore livestock shows, competitions, and educational exhibits. The fair also highlights Virginia's farming culture.

Entertainment includes concerts, rides, and shows. Food is a major attraction, especially regional Southern dishes. The fair is family-friendly and well-organized. It is one of the most important events in the state calendar.

47. Washington State Fair

- **Date:** September 4 - 27, 2026 (Closed Tuesdays & September 9)
- **Venue:** Puyallup, Washington State Fairgrounds
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The Washington State Fair is one of the largest fairs in the USA. It runs for nearly a month. Agriculture is a key part of the event. Visitors can see livestock shows, farm exhibits, and competitions. The fair also includes flower and garden displays.

Entertainment is a major highlight. There are concerts, rides, and large food courts. The fair is very popular and attracts huge crowds. It is one of the most important events in the Pacific Northwest.

48. West Virginia State Fair

- **Date:** August 13 - August 22, 2026 (typical schedule pattern)
- **Venue:** Lewisburg, West Virginia State Fairgrounds
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The West Virginia State Fair is a traditional and community-focused event. It runs for about 10 days in August. Agriculture is the foundation of the fair. Visitors can explore livestock shows, farming exhibits, and youth programs.

Entertainment includes concerts, rides, and competitions. Food vendors offer classic fair and Southern-style dishes. The fair is friendly, relaxed, and family-oriented. It is one of the most important cultural events in the state.

49. Wisconsin State Fair

- **Date:** August 6 - 16, 2026 (typical schedule pattern)
- **Venue:** West Allis, Wisconsin State Fair Park
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The Wisconsin State Fair is one of the most popular fairs in the Midwest. It runs for about 11 days. Agriculture is strongly represented. Visitors can see livestock shows, dairy exhibits, and farming competitions. Wisconsin is famous for dairy, which plays a major role in the fair.

Entertainment includes concerts, rides, and shows. Food is a major highlight, especially cheese-based products. The fair is well-organized and attracts large crowds. It is one of the top state fairs in the USA.

50. Wyoming State Fair

- **Date:** August 11 - August 15, 2026
- **Venue:** Douglas, Wyoming State Fairgrounds
- **Tickets:** [Check Tickets](#)

The Wyoming State Fair is a small but important agricultural event. It runs for about 5 days in August. Agriculture is the main focus. Visitors can see livestock shows, rodeo events, and farming competitions. The fair reflects Wyoming's strong ranching culture.

Entertainment includes rodeos, rides, and live music. Food vendors offer traditional fair food. The fair is small, community-based, and easy to explore. It provides an authentic Western experience.

Travel Tips to Visit State Fairs in the USA

Visiting a state fair in the USA is not just a simple day trip. It is a full experience that includes crowds, food, walking, and long hours outdoors. Good planning can completely change your visit. Below are practical, real-world travel tips to help you enjoy state fairs in a smarter and more comfortable way.



Buy Tickets Online in Advance

Most major state fairs sell tickets online. This is always the better option. It saves time at the gate. It also helps you avoid long entry queues. Some fairs also offer early-bird discounts. In many cases, ride passes are cheaper online than on-site.

Visit on Weekdays for Smaller Crowds

Timing matters a lot. Weekends are extremely crowded at almost every state fair. If possible, visit on a weekday. Morning hours are also better. You will enjoy shorter lines, easier parking, and more space to explore.

Wear Comfortable Shoes

State fairs involve a lot of walking. Some fairs are spread across very large grounds. You may walk several miles in one visit. Wear breathable and comfortable shoes. Avoid sandals or formal footwear. This small choice can make your entire day easier.

Check Weather Before You Go

Most state fairs in the USA happen during summer or early fall. Weather can change quickly. Always check the forecast before visiting. Carry sunscreen during hot days. Bring a light jacket for evening events. Some fairs continue even in rain, so plan accordingly.

Carry Both Cash and Card

Although most vendors accept cards, some food stalls and small vendors still prefer cash. Carry both for safety. Cash is also faster for small purchases like games, drinks, or parking.

Plan Your Food Budget Early

Food is one of the biggest attractions at state fairs. But it can get expensive quickly. Set a food budget before you enter. Try one or two signature items instead of buying everything. Each state fair has unique food specialties, so choose wisely.

Arrive Early to Avoid Long Lines

Early arrival gives you a big advantage. Parking is easier. Entry is faster. Rides and food stalls have shorter lines. You also get more time to explore before peak crowd hours start in the afternoon.

Prioritize Must-See Attractions

State fairs are large and overwhelming. You cannot see everything in one visit. Make a short plan before entering. Prioritize top attractions like:

- Main rides area

- Food zones
- Livestock shows
- Concerts or live events

Plan Parking or Transport in Advance

Parking can be a major challenge at popular fairs like Texas, Minnesota, or California. Always check official parking areas before visiting. If available, use shuttle services or public transport. This saves time and reduces stress.

Stay Connected and Share Location

State fairgrounds are often crowded. Mobile signals can be weak in some areas. Keep your phone charged. Use location sharing if you are with family or friends. Agree on a meeting point in case you get separated.

Give Yourself Enough Time

A state fair is not a 1-hour visit. Plan at least half a day. Ideally, spend 4 to 8 hours depending on the fair size. Larger fairs like Texas or Minnesota may require a full day.

Go with Family or Friends if Possible

State fairs are designed for group enjoyment. Sharing food, rides, and activities makes the experience better. It also helps with navigation and safety in crowded areas.

Conclusion

State fairs in the USA are more than just seasonal events. They reflect the culture, agriculture, and traditions of each state. From large-scale experiences like the Texas State Fair to regional fair systems in states like Maine and Idaho, all the [US destinations](#) offer something different.

This guide brings together all 50 states in one place. It helps you understand when each fair takes place, what to expect, and how to plan your visit. Whether you are looking for food, entertainment, or local culture, state fairs offer a complete experience for every type of traveler.

Save or Download This State Fair Guide

Planning to visit one or more state fairs this year? Save this guide so you can access it anytime. Bookmark this page or download the complete **State Fairs in the USA 2026 list** for quick reference while planning your trips.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are state fairs in the USA?

State fairs in the USA are large annual public events held in each state. They celebrate agriculture, food, entertainment, and local culture. Most fairs include rides, concerts, food stalls, and livestock exhibitions.

When are state fairs held in the United States?

State fairs in the United States are usually held between June and October. Summer and early fall are the most common seasons. A few states also host fairs in winter depending on weather conditions.

Which is the biggest state fair in the USA?

The Texas State Fair is the biggest state fair in the USA. It attracts millions of visitors every year. It is famous for its size, food variety, entertainment shows, and long duration.

How much does it cost to go to a state fair in the USA?

The cost to visit a state fair in the USA usually ranges from 10 to 25 dollars per person. Ride passes, food, and parking are extra. Some fairs offer discounts for children, seniors, and online tickets.

What kind of food do you get at state fairs?

State fairs in the USA are famous for unique and creative food. You can find fried snacks, corn dogs, BBQ, burgers, and local specialties. Many fairs also offer experimental foods like deep-fried desserts.

Are state fairs good for families?

Yes, state fairs are very family-friendly. They include kids' rides, animal shows, games, concerts, and educational exhibits. They are designed for visitors of all ages.

Should I buy state fair tickets online?

Yes, it is better to buy state fair tickets online. It saves time at entry and helps avoid long queues. Online tickets may also offer discounts compared to on-site purchases.

Why are livestock shows part of state fairs?

Livestock shows are part of state fairs because they showcase farming and agriculture. Farmers present animals like cows, horses, and sheep. These shows also include competitions and awards.

Do state fairs have concerts and live shows?

Yes, most large state fairs include concerts and live entertainment. These may feature local artists, national performers, and cultural shows. Some concerts are included in entry tickets, while others require separate tickets.

How long should I spend at a state fair?

You should spend at least 4 to 8 hours at a state fair. Larger fairs like Texas or Minnesota may take a full day to explore properly due to their size.

Are all state fairs in the USA the same?

No, each state fair is different. Some focus more on agriculture, while others focus on food, rides, or concerts. Every state fair reflects the culture and lifestyle of its state.

What is the best time of day to visit a state fair?

The best time to visit a state fair is in the morning or early afternoon. Crowds are smaller, lines are shorter, and the weather is usually more comfortable.

Is parking available at state fairs?

Yes, most state fairs offer parking near the fairgrounds. However, parking can be crowded during peak hours. It is best to arrive early or use shuttle services if available.