



The **Oklahoma State Fair 2026** returns to Oklahoma City from **September 17 through September 27, 2026**, bringing 11 days of carnival rides, live music, food, livestock, competitions, family entertainment, and classic fair traditions to OKC Fair Park.

The fair is one of Oklahoma's biggest annual events and a major September attraction for families and travelers visiting the state. Agriculture remains an important part of the experience, but the Oklahoma State Fair also offers a huge carnival, creative exhibits, concerts, special shows, and food from vendors across the fairgrounds.

The 2026 edition adds an extra reason to visit. The official theme is “**The Midway of the Mother Road**,” celebrating Oklahoma's connection to historic Route 66 during the highway's 100th anniversary.

From fried food and Ferris wheels to Disney On Ice, live concerts, livestock competitions, and Oklahoma-made products, the **Oklahoma State Fair 2026** offers enough to fill an entire day or several visits.

Oklahoma State Fair 2026 Dates & Location

Here are the essential details for planning your visit.

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

The 2026 Oklahoma State Fair runs for **11 days**, beginning on Thursday, September 17, and ending on Sunday, September 27.

The fair takes place at **OKC Fair Park**, located northwest of downtown Oklahoma City. Its central location makes it easy to combine a visit to the fair with other attractions around the city.

What Is the Oklahoma State Fair?

The Oklahoma State Fair is an annual celebration of the state's **agriculture, manufacturing, commerce, food, entertainment, and communities**.

Agriculture remains an important foundation of the event. Visitors can see livestock, horses, agricultural exhibits, youth competitions, and demonstrations while learning more about Oklahoma's farming and ranching traditions.

At the same time, the fair has grown into a major entertainment destination.

Visitors can enjoy carnival rides, live concerts, creative arts, family shows, special events, food vendors, and attractions spread throughout the large fairgrounds.

This combination of Oklahoma's agricultural heritage and modern entertainment is what makes the event appealing to both local families and travelers.

What to Expect at the Oklahoma State Fair 2026

The Oklahoma State Fairgrounds are large, with attractions spread across indoor buildings and outdoor areas.

The Midway of the Mother Road

The 2026 Oklahoma State Fair celebrates the **100th anniversary of Route 66** with the theme “**The Midway of the Mother Road.**”

Route 66 has a particularly strong connection to Oklahoma, which contains one of the longest stretches of the historic highway.

The 2026 theme gives the fair an additional travel and cultural angle beyond the traditional rides and food. Visitors exploring Oklahoma's Route 66 attractions can combine their trip with one of the state's biggest annual events.

Agriculture and Livestock

Agriculture is at the heart of the Oklahoma State Fair.

Visitors can explore livestock competitions and exhibits featuring animals from across the state. Equine events are also an important part of the program, reflecting Oklahoma's strong ranching and horse traditions.

Youth agricultural programs give young participants opportunities to showcase their projects and skills.

For families, the livestock barns provide one of the most educational and memorable parts of a visit.

Take time to explore these areas rather than spending your entire day on the midway. They offer a closer look at the agricultural traditions that helped shape the fair.

Creative Arts and Competitions

The Oklahoma State Fair hosts a wide range of competitions and exhibits.

Visitors can see entries in categories such as art, photography, crafts, needlework, baking, cooking, and other creative skills.

The Oklahoma Arts Building also hosts demonstrations, live contests, and special events throughout the fair.

These exhibits provide a quieter experience away from the busiest parts of the midway and are worth visiting if you want to see the work of artists, makers, and competitors from across Oklahoma.

Carnival Rides and Games

The carnival is one of the biggest attractions at the Oklahoma State Fair.

Visitors can enjoy family rides, thrill rides, games, and classic carnival attractions.

The midway is especially popular in the evening when the lights come on and the fairgrounds take on their busiest and most energetic atmosphere.

If rides are one of your main priorities, set aside enough time to explore the carnival rather than trying to squeeze everything into a short visit.

The America 250 Wheel

One of the biggest new attractions for 2026 is the **America 250 Wheel**.

Standing approximately **230 feet tall**, it is promoted as the world's largest portable observation wheel and will tower above the fairgrounds.

The wheel gives riders an opportunity to see the fair and Oklahoma City from above, making it one of the most distinctive attractions of the 2026 fair.

Freedom 250 Mobile Touring Museum

The 2026 fair will also host the **Freedom 250 Mobile Touring Museum** during part of the event.

The free attraction explores the story of American independence and gives visitors an interactive experience connected with the nation's 250th anniversary celebrations.

It provides a different kind of experience from the carnival and is a good option for families interested in history.

Chickasaw Country Entertainment Stage

Live music is a major part of the Oklahoma State Fair experience.

The **Chickasaw Country Entertainment Stage** hosts concerts every night of the fair, with performances included with regular fair admission.

The 2026 lineup includes artists and performances such as:

- Aaron Watson with Alex Miller
- Sebastian Bach with Great White
- Route 66 Red Dirt Music Festival
- Let's Sing Taylor
- Ben Fuller
- Le Freak
- Jimmy Holmes, a tribute to Elvis
- Cooper Alan
- Ginuwine
- Hairball
- La Furia del Bravo and La Reunion Nortena

Seating is generally available on a first-come basis, so arrive early if you want to see a popular performer.

The wide range of country, rock, R&B, Red Dirt, tribute, and regional music gives visitors plenty of options throughout the 11-day fair.

Disney On Ice

Families visiting during the opening weekend can enjoy **Disney On Ice** at the OG&E Coliseum.

The 2026 production includes favorite Disney stories and characters, making it a major attraction for families traveling with children.

Disney On Ice performances are scheduled from **September 17 through September 20**, with multiple showtimes available during the weekend.

Because this is a special ticketed event, visitors should check the official schedule and availability before planning their trip.

Family Shows and Entertainment

The Oklahoma State Fair offers more than rides and concerts.

The 2026 entertainment program includes family-oriented shows and attractions, including:

- Piccolo Zoppé Circus
- YO HO HO! Hypnosis Show
- Jurassic Bark Live
- All Star Pro Live Wrestling
- Additional demonstrations and performances

These shows are spread across different areas of the fairgrounds, making it easy to mix entertainment into a full day of exploring.

Western Sports and Special Events

Oklahoma's Western culture is also represented through equine competitions and special events.

The fair has also announced the return of the **Wildcatters PBR Teams Challenge**, bringing professional bull riding and high-energy competition to the OG&E Coliseum.

If Western sports are one of your interests, check the official schedule before choosing your fair date because event times and ticket requirements can vary.

Discover More From Roam 50 States!

Oklahoma State Fair Food 2026

Food is one of the biggest reasons to visit the Oklahoma State Fair.

The fair's official Food Finder makes it easier to search through the large selection of vendors and discover both traditional favorites and unusual new creations.

Classic Fair Food

Visitors can expect plenty of familiar favorites, including:

- Corn dogs
- Funnel cakes
- Turkey legs
- Ribbon fries
- Kettle corn
- Lemonade
- Burgers
- Barbecue
- Fried desserts
- Ice cream and sweet treats

Oklahoma and Regional Flavors

The food experience also includes dishes with a stronger Oklahoma and Southern influence.

Visitors can find barbecue, Frito chili pies, country-style cooking, fried catfish, sausage, brisket, and other regional favorites.

The fair is also known for creative and sometimes unusual food options.

The official 2026 Food Finder includes everything from deep-fried mac and cheese and fried pickles to specialty pies, Hatch green chile sausage, alligator dishes, and inventive carnival sandwiches.

Taste of the Fair Tuesday

Food lovers should consider visiting on **Taste of the Fair Tuesday**, when participating vendors offer special deals on selected menu items.

It can be a good opportunity to try more than one food item without spending as much as you might on a busy weekend visit.

Before arriving, check the Food Finder to see which vendors and specials are available during your visit.

Best Time to Visit the Oklahoma State Fair

The best time to visit depends on what you want to experience.

For Smaller Crowds

Weekday mornings are generally a good choice for visitors looking for a more relaxed experience.

This is a good time to explore the livestock barns, creative arts exhibits, educational attractions, and food vendors before the largest crowds arrive.

For Families

Families with younger children may prefer daytime visits.

Arriving earlier gives you more time to explore the animals, enjoy family attractions, see shows, and visit the carnival before the fairgrounds become busier in the evening.

For Food

Taste of the Fair Tuesday can be a smart choice for visitors focused on food deals.

Otherwise, arrive hungry and allow plenty of time to explore the grounds. With so many vendors, walking around before choosing your first meal is often a good strategy.

For Concerts

Plan your visit around the Chickasaw Country Entertainment Stage lineup if live music is one of your priorities.

Popular performers can attract larger crowds, so arrive early for the best chance of finding a good viewing location.

For the Full Fair Experience

Friday and Saturday evenings offer the liveliest atmosphere.

The carnival lights are on, concerts are underway, and the food and entertainment areas are at their busiest.

Expect larger crowds during these periods.

Oklahoma State Fair 2026 Hours

Public activities generally begin at **10 AM daily**, although specific attractions and areas have different operating schedules.

Current fair hours include:

- **Buildings, Sunday through Thursday:** 10 AM to 9 PM
- **Buildings, Friday and Saturday:** 10 AM to 10 PM
- **Outside vendors, Sunday through Thursday:** 10 AM to 9:30 PM
- **Outside vendors, Friday and Saturday:** 10 AM to 10:30 PM

Carnival opening times also vary by day.

Because individual attractions can have different schedules, check the official Oklahoma State Fair website before your visit.

Travel Tips for Attending the Oklahoma State Fair

A little planning can make your visit much easier.

- **Check the official schedule:** Concerts, competitions, shows, and special events vary by day.
 - **Wear comfortable shoes:** The OKC Fair Park grounds are large, and you will do plenty of walking.
 - **Arrive early on weekends:** Parking and popular attractions can become busier later in the day.
 - **Plan around the entertainment you want to see:** Use concerts or special events as the starting point for your itinerary.
 - **Explore the Food Finder before visiting:** It can help you find specific dishes and vendors.
 - **Stay hydrated:** Oklahoma can still be warm in September.
 - **Bring a light layer:** Evenings may become cooler.
 - **Explore the agricultural exhibits:** They are an important part of the Oklahoma State Fair experience.
 - **Check the map:** The fairgrounds are large, and planning your route can save time.
 - **Review accessibility and transportation information before traveling:** Services and arrangements can vary during the event.
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Getting to the Oklahoma State Fair

The Oklahoma State Fair takes place at **OKC Fair Park at 3001 General Pershing Boulevard in Oklahoma City.**

The fairgrounds are accessible from major roads around Oklahoma City and are located a short drive from downtown.

Visitors flying into the region can use **Will Rogers World Airport**, which provides convenient access to Oklahoma City and the fairgrounds.

Traffic can become heavier during popular weekend periods, so allow extra travel time.

Parking and Transportation

Parking and traffic arrangements can vary during the Oklahoma State Fair.

Visitors should check the official parking map and transportation information before leaving for the fairgrounds.

Arriving early is one of the easiest ways to reduce stress, especially on weekends and evenings when concerts or major events are scheduled.

Rideshare services can also be useful for visitors staying in downtown Oklahoma City or nearby neighborhoods.

Things to Do Near the Oklahoma State Fair

Oklahoma City's location makes it easy to turn a fair visit into a longer city trip.

Explore Bricktown

Bricktown is one of Oklahoma City's most popular entertainment districts.

Visitors can explore restaurants, bars, entertainment venues, the Bricktown Canal, and other attractions.

It is a great place to visit after a day at the fair.

Visit the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum

The **National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum** is one of the best attractions in Oklahoma City for travelers interested in Western history and culture.

It makes an excellent addition to the Oklahoma State Fair, especially for visitors interested in ranching, rodeo, horses, and the history of the American West.

Visit the Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum

The **Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum** provides an important and moving look at one of the defining events in the city's history.

It is a meaningful stop for visitors exploring downtown Oklahoma City.

Explore Route 66 Attractions

The 2026 Route 66 theme provides another reason to explore Oklahoma's historic highway.

Oklahoma has one of the longest stretches of the original Route 66, with classic diners, roadside attractions, historic buildings, and small towns located within easy reach of Oklahoma City.

Explore Scissortail Park

Visitors looking for a quieter outdoor experience can explore **Scissortail Park** near downtown Oklahoma City.

The large urban park offers open green space, walking paths, and a relaxing contrast to the busy fairgrounds.

Where to Stay for the Oklahoma State Fair

Oklahoma City offers accommodation options for every type of traveler.

For convenient access to the fairgrounds, consider hotels near **downtown Oklahoma City, the Bricktown area, or northwest Oklahoma City**.

Downtown and Bricktown are particularly good choices for travelers who want to combine the fair with restaurants and other city attractions.

Visitors planning to attend Disney On Ice, a major concert, or a busy weekend should consider booking accommodation early.

Plan Your USA Trip Budget!

Estimate your travel costs before you go. Use our free **USA Travel Budget Calculator** to plan your accommodation, food, transportation, activities, and other trip expenses.

Use USA Travel Budget Calculator

Is the Oklahoma State Fair Worth Visiting?

The **Oklahoma State Fair 2026** is worth visiting for travelers looking for a large, classic state fair with a strong Oklahoma identity.

The fair combines agriculture, livestock, creative arts, Western traditions, carnival rides, concerts, family shows, and an enormous selection of food.

The 2026 Route 66 theme adds another reason for travelers to visit, especially for anyone exploring the historic Mother Road during its 100th anniversary.

You can spend the morning exploring livestock and agricultural exhibits, try Oklahoma-inspired food in the afternoon, ride the America 250 Wheel, and finish the evening with a concert.

For families, food lovers, music fans, and travelers visiting Oklahoma City in September, the Oklahoma State Fair is one of the state's biggest annual experiences.

Explore More State Fairs!

Discover the best state fairs across the USA, from iconic attractions and signature fair foods to travel tips, entertainment, and family-friendly experiences.

Explore US State Fairs in 2026

Conclusion

The **Oklahoma State Fair 2026** takes place from **September 17 through September 27, 2026**, at OKC Fair Park in Oklahoma City.

From the carnival and the new America 250 Wheel to Route 66 celebrations, live concerts, Disney On Ice, livestock competitions, creative arts, and unforgettable fair food, the event offers a complete Oklahoma experience for visitors of all ages.

Before traveling, check the official Oklahoma State Fair website for the latest **tickets, daily schedules, attractions, concerts, parking information, and visitor updates**.

Download your free Oklahoma State Fair 2026 Guide and keep the essential dates, attractions, food highlights, entertainment, and travel tips handy.

Frequently Asked Questions

When is the Oklahoma State Fair 2026?

The **Oklahoma State Fair 2026** takes place from **September 17 through September 27, 2026**, in Oklahoma City.

Where is the Oklahoma State Fair held?

The fair is held at **OKC Fair Park, located at 3001 General Pershing Boulevard in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma**.

How long does the Oklahoma State Fair last?

The 2026 Oklahoma State Fair runs for **11 days**, including two full weekends.

What is the Oklahoma State Fair known for?

The fair is known for **agriculture, livestock, carnival rides, creative food, live concerts, family shows, competitions, Western events, and educational exhibits.**

What is special about the Oklahoma State Fair 2026?

The 2026 fair celebrates the **100th anniversary of Route 66** with the theme “**The Midway of the Mother Road.**” Visitors can also experience new attractions such as the **America 250 Wheel and Freedom 250 Mobile Touring Museum.**

Is the Oklahoma State Fair family-friendly?

Yes. Families can enjoy carnival rides, farm animals, agricultural exhibits, Disney On Ice, family shows, food vendors, competitions, and entertainment for visitors of different ages.