

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

FESTIVALS AND EVENTS FOR ALL AGES

No other mid-sized city in America packs as much into a single year as Chattanooga. Each year, the city is alive with diverse and exciting events for all ages, from seasonal celebrations to world-class art and music festivals to family-friendly events at area attractions. Recognized by RelocateAmerica.com as one of the best places to live in the U.S., Chattanooga offers something for everyone.

Nationally acclaimed events include the nine-day Riverbend Festival in June, a music festival showcasing some of the biggest names in entertainment on numerous outdoor stages along the Tennessee River, and the 10-day RiverRocks Festival in October, a festival celebrating the natural resources of the area through outdoor recreation opportunities for enthusiasts of all ages and abilities.

Holiday events in Chattanooga include the Armed Forces Day Parade in May, Pops on the River in July, the Hamilton County Fair each September, the Grand Illumination and Breakfast with Santa in late November.

Celebrating the local foodscape, events such as the Southern Brewers Festival in September bring visitors to sample local brews and culinary delights while taking in panoramic vistas of the Chattanooga area.

Chattanooga's arts community has a busy schedule of events celebrating the city's artistic and musical cultures. Art events include the 4 Bridges Art Festival in April, the Downtown Gallery Hop in September and the Whofest in May. Music events include the Riverbend Festival in June, the Nightfall Concert Series throughout the summer and the 3 Sisters Music Festival in October.

Mainstays of the Chattanooga area's tourism industry such as Rock City Gardens, Ruby Falls, the Tennessee Aquarium and the IMAX Theater celebrate the seasons with family-friendly events, while the Southern Belle Riverboat and Blue Moon Cruises offer seasonal cruises throughout the year. From late April through December, the weekly Chattanooga Market hosts open-air venues featuring produce and goods from area farmers, artists and vendors.

DID YOU KNOW?

Boasting five stages with over 100 bands, the Riverbend Festival draws over 650,000 patrons annually.

PHOTO BY DOUG SMITH - ONFIREPHOTO.COM



SCAN FOR SECTION

YEAR-ROUND EVENTS:

BLUE MOON CRUISES

(888) 993-2583
www.bluemooncruises.org

Blue Moon Cruises offers naturalist guided tours from March through mid-December, while evening cruises into the Tennessee River Gorge are offered during the spring, summer and fall. Popular Fall Color Cruises begin in October. To celebrate the Holiday season, a special evening cruise is offered for guests through the annual Grand Illumination Parade.

THE CHATTANOOGA MARKET

First Tennessee Pavilion
Late April through early December
(423) 648-2496
www.chattanoogamarket.com

The region's largest outdoor market features produce from regional farms and local food manufacturers, as well as handmade artistry at small-town prices. Throughout the year, each Sunday Market features a theme in keeping with the season.

ROCK CITY GARDENS

Events Year-Round
(706) 820-2531
(800) 854-0675
www.seerockcity.com

March features Shamrock City, celebrating Irish, Celtic and Highlands culture, while April brings the eco-friendly Earth Dayz. May hosts the Southern Blossoms Festival, while the summer at Rock City brings Rock City Raptor shows and Summer Music Weekends. October at Rock City features Rocktoberfest celebrating German heritage, and in mid-November through January, Rock City transforms into the Enchanted Garden of Lights.

RUBY FALLS

Events Year-Round
(423) 821-2544
www.rubyfalls.com

Ruby Falls celebrates Romance at Ruby in February with an intimate night-time lantern tour. In May, the venue hosts Racin' at Ruby, a tribute to NASCAR. Guests are invited to celebrate Football at the Falls in September with multiple flat screen TVs, and the Haunted Cavern in October. Other holiday events include Deck the Falls and Ruby Red Christmas.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CHATTANOOGA MARKET

SOUTHERN BELLE AT PIER 2 SEASONAL CRUISES

Events Year-Round
(423) 266-4488
(800) 766-2784
www.chattanoogariverboat.com

Events on the Southern Belle include the Thanksgiving Cruise, Thanksgiving on the Pier, Christmas carol dinner cruises, Breakfast with Santa on Pier 2 at the Landing, 'Tis the Season luncheon, Early Bird New Year's Eve Dinner Cruise, New Year's Eve on the River, Valentine's Sweetheart Luncheon, a Valentine's Day dinner cruise, Pier 2's Grand Chandelier Valentine's Dinner, the Easter Bunny Cruise and Easter Lunch on the River. Seasonal fall cruises are also available.

TENNESSEE AQUARIUM

Events Year-Round
(423) 265-0695
(800) 262-0695
www.tnaqua.org

In March and April at the Tennessee Aquarium, kids enjoy Spring Break Keeper Kids Activities and the Party For The Planet Earth Day Celebration. August features Shark Week activities while October features the month-long Celebration Thrills, Gills & Chills and the family-friendly Aqua-Scarium Halloween Party. In December, visitors are invited to enjoy a Tropical Holiday Adventure.

TV RAILROAD MUSEUM

Events Year-Round
(423) 894-8028
www.tvrail.com

In addition to regular train rides, the Tennessee Valley Railroad Museum features several seasonal train rides including Valentine's Day

Dinner Trains in February, the Eerie Express in October and the North Pole Limited during the holiday season.

SPRING EVENTS:

4 BRIDGES ARTS FESTIVAL

First Tennessee Pavilion
April 14th and 15th
(423) 265-4282
www.4bridgesartsfestival.org

This open-air market features local, regional and national artists representing almost every type of art and fine craft medium, as well as live music and food from some of Chattanooga's finest restaurants.

ARMED FORCES DAY PARADE

Downtown Chattanooga
May
(423) 697-7986

Chattanooga Area Veterans Council

The annual Armed Forces Day Parade features participants from military service units, area veterans groups, high school bands, patriotic organizations and many others.

SUMMER EVENTS:

CHATTANOOGA RIVER MARKET

Tennessee Aquarium Plaza
March 21st-September 1st
(423) 648-2496
www.chattanoogamarket.com/markets/river

The River Market features local artists, craftsmen and entrepreneurs who are directly involved in the creation of their products, as well as musical performances by local and touring artists.

Rock City will amaze you!

"One of America's Top 101 places to visit"
National Geographic, USA 101

A "Best Scenic View"
Southern Living, Reader's Choice Awards

Listed as one of the "Natural Wonders Across America"
AOL Travel

Chosen as one of "America's Top Ten Great Pastimes"
USA TODAY



Get your Rock City Annual Pass for less than the cost of two 1-day general admission tickets. Explore the Enchanted Trail and enjoy seasonal special events as often as you like for a full year. Each season there's a new reason to visit Rock City! Passes also provide special discounts and privileges for all See Rock City attractions!

REHABILITATE ADOPT! RE-HOME

Recycle a Pet!

- Adoption center
- Educational outreach programs
- Lost & found services
- ID your pet for life!
 - Microchipping, collars & ID tags
- Cat-A-Neuter program
 - Spay-A-Stray
 - Trap, Neuter, Release (TNR)
- City Licensing
- Pet food bank

Protecting Animals & Saving Lives in Chattanooga!

McKAMEY ANIMAL CENTER

4500 North Access Rd. Chattanooga, TN 37415
PH 423.305.6500 FAX 423.305.6505

Follow Us On &

www.McKameyAnimalCenter.org



NIGHTFALL CONCERT SERIES

Miller Plaza

May 11th-September 7th

(423) 265-0771

www.nightfallchattanooga.com

This free summer concert series features an eclectic mix of music by national and international talent with local opening acts. Food, beer and concessions are available during the event.

RIVERBEND FESTIVAL

Downtown Waterfront

June 8th-16th

(423) 756-2211

www.riverbendfestival.com

This award-winning nine-day music festival features five stages and more than 100 bands ranging in musical styles. Each year, event pins can be purchased online or at area convenience stores.

POPS ON THE RIVER

Coolidge Park

July 3rd

(423) 265-0771

www.chattanoogaapresents.com

Celebrate Independence Day under the stars at Coolidge Park while enjoying the Chattanooga Symphony & Opera's annual patriotic concert and fireworks.

SOUTHERN BREWERS FESTIVAL

Ross's Landing

Saturday, August 25th

(423) 424-2000

www.southernbrewersfestival.com

Each year Big River Grille & Brewing Works

presents the Southern Brewers Festival, an annual event benefitting Chattanooga's Kids on the Block. Over 30 regional breweries come together on the downtown Chattanooga riverfront for an evening of local brews, food, music and fun.

FALL EVENTS:

HAMILTON COUNTY FAIR

Chester Frost Park

September 29th and 30th

(423) 209-6030

www.hamiltontn.gov/fair

The residents of Hamilton County host a county fair in the grandest tradition. The fair features music, games, country crafts, livestock, rides and more at Dallas Island in Chester Frost Park.

AEC CULTURE FEST

First Tennessee Pavilion

October 7th

(423) 267-1218

www.artscouncil.org

Celebrate Chattanooga's rich cultural diversity at Culture Fest, a free event featuring performances, colorful booths, kids activities and food representing cultures from around the world.

DOWNTOWN CHATTANOOGA GALLERY HOP

Various Art Galleries, Downtown Chattanooga

September

(423) 265-4282

www.avarts.org

Art enthusiasts can discover intriguing artwork and meet local artists during this free gallery tour

of downtown Chattanooga. An event brochure outlines participating galleries, directions and activities for easy touring.

3 SISTERS MUSIC FESTIVAL

Ross's Landing

October 5th and 6th

(423) 265-0771

www.3sistersbluegrass.com

This free two-day event features bluegrass music performed by local, regional and national bluegrass artists on a stage overlooking the Tennessee River.

RIVERROCKS

Events held throughout Chattanooga area

October 5th-14th

(423) 265-0771

www.riverrockschattanooga.com

RiverRocks celebrates the natural resources of the Chattanooga area with 10 days of outdoor recreation opportunities for enthusiasts of all ages and skill levels.

HEAD OF THE HOCH ROWING REGATTA

The Tennessee River

November 3rd and 4th

(678) 732-0365

www.headofthehoch.org

The Head of the Hooch is the second largest regatta in the country. Chattanooga is now home to this event in which 1,500+ crews race down the Tennessee River, drawing 10,000 spectators annually.

WINTER EVENTS:

SOUTHSIDE MAINX24

Main Street, Downtown Chattanooga

December

(423) 757-0000

www.mainx24.com

The Southside hosts its annual Mainx24, a 24-hour-long festival along the Main Street corridor showcasing local businesses and featuring neighborhood parties, music and cultural programming.