

DESTINATION FLORIDA

Florida's #1 Visitors' Guide

WHAT'S UP

Holiday-Winter 2024

Daily

Sunsets at Pier 60 Festival

Clearwater: Experience Clearwater's world-famous vibrant sunsets (weather permitting) along with artisans, festive street performers, live music and more adding to the nightly fun! Free. Takes place two hours before and two hours after sunset (approx. 5-9:30 pm) at 1 Causeway Blvd. Info: sunsetsatpier60.com/

Weekly

Grove Street Farmer's Market (*Mon*)

Gainesville: Start the week with fresh from Florida featuring farm fresh eggs, organic fruits and veggies, free-range beef and chicken, honey, cow and goat's milk, cheeses, organic coffee and artisan-crafted foods and gifts. Free. 4-7pm. Takes place at 1001 NW 4th St. Info: www.grovestreetfarmersmarket.com/

Gulfport Fresh Market

Gulfport: Shop more than 70 open-air vendors offering locally-grown and organic fruits and veggies, plants, fine arts & crafts, baked goods and more. Free clothing swap 1st Tues. monthly. May-Dec: 9am-2pm; Jan-Apr: 9am-3pm. Takes place at 3101 Beach Blvd. Info: <https://visitgulfportflorida.com/>

Downtown St Pete Food & Wine Tour (*Tues*)

St Pete: Bring your appetite, camera and comfortable shoes for an intimate, informative wine and walking tour of Beach Drive featuring art galleries, food and wine pairings at up to 5 exciting waterfront restaurants and a glimpse of some of the city's most iconic locations. Takes place 5:30-8:30pm at 204 Beach Dr NE. Ages 21+. Info: <https://tampabayfoodtours.com>

Downtown Tampa Food Tour (*Tues*)

Tampa: This intimate walking tour features a unique blend of authentic food and wine from 4-5 amazing restaurants, from downtown to the Riverfront, plus cultural Cigar City gems mingled with authentic history -- the perfect backdrop for this culinary adventure. Takes place 5:30-8:30pm at 400 N Ashley Dr. Ages 21+. Info: <https://tampabayfoodtours.com>

Art on the House (*Thurs*)

Tampa: Each week, celebrate 100 years of ancient, modern and contemporary art – all at a pay-what-you-will price! Bring the family and enjoy current exhibitions on display featuring American and international artists at a price you choose! Takes place 4-8pm at 120 W Gasparilla Plaza. Info: <https://tampamuseum.org>

Dunedin Food Tour (*Sat & Sun*)

Dunedin: Discover the fresh tastes of the Gulf, from a hog fish slider to the chef's creation of the day on this unique wine and walking tour, all specially prepared by 5-6 family-owned, independent eateries and craft breweries located along the Pinellas Trail in this charming Scottish coastal community. Takes place 5:30-8:30pm at 941 Huntley Ave. Ages 21+. Info: <https://tampabayfoodtours.com>

Sarasota Farmers Market (*Sat*)

Sarasota: Shop more than 80 vendors offering fresh and prepared meats, cheeses, organic veggies, flowers, coffee, cigars and unique handcrafted items year-round in a picturesque downtown marketplace. Live music and entertainment, international foods and more! Free. 7am-1pm. Takes place at 1 N Lemon Ave. Info: www.sarasotafarmersmarket.org

Saturday Morning Market (*Oct-May*)

St. Pete: Your weekend outdoor go-to for fresh and organic produce, meats and cheeses, flowers, plants, unique gifts, live entertainment and more from your favorite vendors, including the largest selection of prepared ethnic foods in the US for tasty meals on the go. Takes place Oct. 5- May 31. 9am-2pm at 230 1st St. SE. Info: <https://saturdaymorningmarket.com/>

Downtown Market (*Sat*)

Ocala: Shop 80+ vendors and local farmers offering organic produce, goat and dairy products, meats, honey, preserves, seafood, soaps, handcrafted gifts, jewelry, fresh flowers, food trucks and so much more at this family and pet-friendly open-air market. Free. 9am-2pm. Takes place on SE 3rd St and SE 3rd Ave. Info: <https://ocaladowntownmarket.com/>

Ocala Polo (*Sat., through Oct. 26*)

Ocala: Bring a picnic dinner or enjoy a Saturday tailgate from onsite food trucks followed by a night of amazing equine speed and agility as ponies and riders compete for prizes in one of the world's oldest known sports. Don't miss your chance for a halftime divot stomp "Pretty Woman" style! Tickets. Takes place 6pm at 11008 S Hwy 475. Info: <https://www.ocalapolo.com/>

Pinellas Farmers and Flea Market *(Sat & Sun)*

Clearwater: Discover locally grown fresh and tropical fruit, veggies and prepared foods alongside a collector's paradise of fine arts and crafts, antiques, jewelry, tools and garage sale items and fresh-prepared ethnic dishes from the food court. Takes place Sat & Sun: 7am-2pm at 13600 Icot Blvd. Info: <https://pinellas-farmers-and-flea-market.ueniweb.com/>

Farmers' Market at Lakewood Ranch *(Sun)*

Lakewood Ranch: Start your Sunday Funday with farm-fresh produce, delicious prepared foods, specialty items, jewelry and gifts from 100+ vendors, find your center with free yoga or bring the kids for creative workshops at this weekly market tradition. Free. Takes place 10am-2pm at 1561 Lakefront Dr. Info: <https://lakewoodranch.com>

Corey Avenue Fall & Winter Fresh Market *(Sun)*

St Pete Beach: Discover 80+ vendors offering local and homemade produce, plants, prepared foods, unique handmade and artisan gifts, eco-friendly and fair-trade products, live music and more at this dog-friendly weekly open-air market just steps away from the sparkling Gulf of Mexico! Takes place 10am-2pm at Corey Ave & Blind Pass Rd. Info: www.coreyave.com

Monthly

Rock the Park *(1st Thurs)*

Tampa: Experience a unique, free outdoor concert from Central FL's best musicians performing your favorite songs live on the waterfront! Bring a blanket, lawn chairs and a picnic dinner or graze from your favorite food trucks before an electric night of live music under the stars. Free. Takes place 6:30pm at 600 N Ashley Dr. Info: facebook.com/RockThePark/

Third Thursday Sip and Shop

Ocala: Shop 'til you drop when participating downtown merchants and local vendors stay open late, enjoy complimentary cocktails (21+) and get 15% off at downtown restaurants and bars -make a purchase and show your receipt. Free. Takes place 5-8pm in downtown Ocala. Info: <https://ocalamainstreet.org/>

Third Thursday Market

Tampa: Discover a hip, fun nighttime gourmet, dog-friendly, monthly street food fest featuring your favorite Tampa Bay food trucks, cocktails, live music and more! Free with free parking. Takes place 6-10pm at 1120 E. Kennedy Blvd. Info: <http://tampabaymarkets.com>

Historic Trolley Tours (*Fri*)

St Pete: Hop aboard for a historic trip through St Pete's past! Subjects include notable (and infamous) city residents and visitors, iconic neighborhoods, locations and events that shaped the Sunshine City. Tickets. Takes place 9-11am at 335 2nd Ave NE. Info: <https://spmoh.com>

Historic Boat Tours (*Fri*)

St Pete: Get the tea on how some influential (and often colorful!) characters turned this sleepy fishing village into a world-famous tourist destination, while shaping today's ecosystem during a 2-hour waterfront history lesson. Tickets. Various dates, takes place 10am-12pm, launching from 400 2nd Ave NE, Slip Q47. Info: <https://spmoh.com>

First Friday Art Walk (*Sept – May*)

Ocala: Visit 30+ artist displays, live entertainment, free family art activities, and an eclectic variety of historic downtown shops and restaurants – all open extended hours for your shopping enjoyment. Meet under the Marion Theater marquee to kick off the evening. Free. Takes place 6-9pm at 50 S Magnolia Ave. Info: www.reillyartscenter.com

Music on Main (*1st Fri*)

Lakewood Ranch: Kick off the weekend with your favorite live music, food and drinks during this block party-style event featuring community organizations, games and activities for kids and more. Proceeds benefit local non-profit organizations. Free. Takes place 6-9pm at 8100 Lakewood Main St. Info: <https://lakewoodranch.com>

Fresh Fridays (*1st Fri*)

Sarasota: Close out the week with incredible live music and delicious food and drinks showcasing Sarasota's diverse downtown district! Each month features a new theme, live entertainment and a fantastic way to kick off each month! Takes place 7-10pm at various locations. Info: www.downtownsarasotadid.com

The Market Elaine (*1st Fri*)

Wesley Chapel: Discover the nighttime version of Clearwater's Market Marie with 150+ vendors offering delicious food, eclectic art, plants, clothing and jewelry, candles, soaps, home décor, live music, face painting, pet adoptions, a bounce house and more! Free admission and parking. Takes place 5:30-9:30pm at 6013 Wesley Grove Blvd. Info: www.facebook.com/TheMarketElaine

Critical Mass (*last Fri*)

St Pete: Join the movement to promote worldwide bicycle culture and discover the sights and sounds of the Sunshine City on this monthly social ride. There's no set route, so bring your bike, music, lights and sense of adventure for the ride of your life! Free. Takes place 7-8:30pm at 664 4th Ave N. Info: <https://bit.ly/3QIKQ10>

Artwalk Gainesville (*last Fri*)

Gainesville: Explore the exciting local arts scene, featuring visual art, live music, theater and dance performances and culture during a free, monthly self-guided tour of local galleries, studios, breweries and eclectic performance venues. Enjoy artist demos, meet-and-greets, workshops and more. Free. Takes place 7-10 pm monthly at various locations. Info:

<https://www.artwalkgainesville.com/>

Vintage Marche (*1st Sat. & Sun.*)

St Pete: Explore more than 15,000 feet of hand-picked vintage, repurposed, antique and mid-century modern furnishings, home décor, art, jewelry and more at this unique vendor-run market. Takes place Sat: 9am-6pm; Sun: 9am-5pm at 2906 34th St S. Info:

<https://vintagemarche727.com/>

Free First Saturday

Ocala: Start your month of culture with masterpieces from the museum's permanent collection, enjoy special exhibitions, visiting artists and performers, get creative in the Artspace and enjoy a selfie or two in the sculpture garden before sampling fare from visiting food trucks. Free. Takes place 10am-5pm at 4333 E. Silver Springs Blvd. Info:

www.appletonmuseum.org

Fresh Market at Wiregrass (*1st & 3rd Saturdays*)

Wesley Chapel: Discover the taste of summer all year long with fresh, organic produce, plants, unique handcrafted gifts and jewelry from local artisans accompanied by a variety of live music. Takes place 10am-2pm at 28211 Paseo Drive. Info:

<http://tampabaymarkets.com>

The Market Marie (*2nd Sat*)

Clearwater: Shop 'til you drop from 130 local vendors offering delicious food, art, clothing, jewelry, candles and soaps, pet treats, home goods and so much more in beautiful Coachman Park, plus enjoy live music and food trucks! Free admission. Free parking in all City parking lots and garages, except Lot 11. Takes place 10am-3pm at 300 Cleveland St. Info:

<https://themarketculture.com>

Second Saturday Art Walk

St Pete: Explore the Sunshine City's vibrant arts scene as galleries and studios over seven arts districts stay open late! See new exhibits, meet the artists and enjoy cocktails and light bites at featured galleries and make a night of it with dinner, drinks or dessert. Free. Takes place 5-9 pm at various locations. Map & info: <https://stpeteartsalliance.org/artwalk/>

Second Sunday Market + Art Walk (2nd Sun)

Tampa: Shop artisanal makers and merchants selling handmade goods, jewelry, apothecary, candles, apparel, and more in this 'chill' boutique marketplace, then step outside for a monthly art walk featuring works by local and regional artists, live painting and one-of-a-kind art under the west awning. Free. Takes place 11am-3pm at 1910 Ola Ave. Info: <https://armatureworks.com>

Indie Faire Maker's Market (3rd Sat)

Gulfport: Enjoy a night out at this family-friendly night market featuring local, handmade arts and crafts, jewelry, pottery, locally-sourced botanicals and more, live music and street performers, plus unique offerings from local retailers, galleries, restaurants and breweries, all just steps away. Free. Takes place 5-9pm on Beach Blvd S between 28th Ave S & Shore Blvd. Info: <https://visitgulfportflorida.com>

SPORTS

Tampa Bay Lightning, 401 Channelside Dr., Info: www.nhl.com/lightning

Tampa Bay Buccaneers, 4201 N Dale Mabry Hwy., www.buccaneers.com

OCTOBER

October 10-31

Lights at Spooky Point

Sarasota: Dare to be scared along an eerily lit path featuring fantastically spooky orchids and vines cleverly disguised as ghosts, bats, spiders, skeletons and more, plenty of pumpkins and a hay maze to round out this family-friendly Halloween adventure. Takes place 6:30 & 7:45pm at 401 N Tamiami Trail. Tickets and info: <https://selby.org>

October 11 & 12

American Vintage Markets

Sarasota: Explore an exciting and fun shopping extravaganza featuring unique, vintage-inspired home decor, up-cycled goods, collectibles, industrial salvage, jewelry, clothing, furniture, plus a whole lot more –all carefully curated by passionate pickers, collectors and artisans. Tickets. Takes place 9am-4pm at 3000 Ringling Blvd. Info: www.sarasotafair.com/

October 11-20

SHINE Mural Festival

St Pete: Celebrate a decade of public art with stunning large-scale murals and special community events featuring the work of local, regional, national and international artists and discover their impact as 15 new murals transform the city's landscape. Free. Takes place various times/locations. Info: <https://stpeteartsalliance.org>

October 12 & 13

Fall Fest

Tampa: It's Fall, y'all! Discover all the cozy feels with a spectacular riverfront pumpkin patch, pumpkin spice lattes and other festive fall treats, a mini fall market, interactive DJ, face painting, bounce houses, a petting zoo and more! Free. Takes place 12-5pm at 1910 Ola Ave. Info: <https://armatureworks.com>

October 12

Salsa at the District

Clearwater: Experience an extraordinary night of entertainment with a fantastic lineup of performers, talented dancers and amazing DJs as you and your partner salsa the night away. Free. Takes place 6-11pm at 400-500 Cleveland St. Info: www.myclearwaterparks.com

October 12 & 13

Downtown Dunedin Craft Festival

Dunedin: Discover more than 150 artisans and craft artists showcasing handmade, original works of art and craftsmanship, including home decor, paintings, jewelry, pet accessories, photography, ceramics and more during this two-day outdoor festival! Free. Takes place 10am-5pm at 271 Main St. Info: www.artfestival.com

October 12 & 13

St Pete Pier Fall Festival

St Pete: 'Fall' into the ambiance of this family-friendly festival featuring pumpkin pie and warm apple cider., live music, kids' games and face painting and seasonal photo ops, plus a waterfront pumpkin patch full of vibrant, plump pumpkins, all ready for picking. Free. Takes place 11am-7pm at 600 2nd Avenue NE. Info: www.stpetefallfest.com

October 14

Seahorse Key Lighthouse Tours

Cedar Key: Discover the peaceful beauty, history and natural environment of Seahorse Key and the pre-Civil War lighthouse open to the public only four times a year! Tour the UF field research lab, explore the historical light station or get back to nature with a hike along the winding dune-side trail. Access by tour boat, shuttle or private craft. Free. 9am-3pm. Takes place on Seahorse Key Island. Info: <http://cedarkey.org/>

October 14-20

St. Pete Pier Pumpkin Patch

St. Pete: Experience the magic of fall with a stroll through a sprawling field of vibrant, plump pumpkins, ready for picking and purchase. Then, snap some special memories amidst the golden haystacks, a rustic truck and scenic pumpkin displays. Free. Takes place Oct. 14-18: 5-9 pm; Oct. 19: 11am-9pm; Oct. 20: 11am-6pm at 800 2nd Avenue NE. Info: www.stpetefallfest.com

October 20

Ford's Taste of Latino Festival

Tampa: Bite into the 'official sandwich of Tampa Bay' handcrafted by Florida Cuban sandwich artisans with sides of live Latin music, dancing, authentic Cuban art and culture, plus the world's largest Cuban Sandwich and Top Latino Chef contests! Free. 12-5pm. Takes place at 1800 E. 8th Ave. Info: www.cubansandwichfestival.com

October 17-20

Clearwater Jazz Holiday

Clearwater: Celebrate 45 years of Tampa Bay's largest outdoor jazz festival, featuring live performances by exceptional local and national jazz musicians, merchandise, food and more! Past performers include the Beach Boys, Kenny Wayne Shepherd, the Gipsy Kings, Los Lobos and more! Various show times take place at 255 Drew St. Info: www.clearwaterjazz.com

October 19

SPIFFS International Folk Fair

St Pete: Travel to 15+ countries meet cultural ambassadors showcasing cultural handicrafts, art, live music, dancing and martial arts demonstrations, shop the festival marketplace, sample authentic ethnic dishes and desserts or quench your thirst in the beer garden. Free parking. Tickets. Takes place 10am - 6pm at 701 Bayshore Dr NE. Info: www.spiffs.org/

October 19

Pig Jig

Tampa: Go hog wild for delicious food, ice-cold beer, interactive games, incredible live country and rock performances from national artists Dierks Bentley, The Revivalists, Greylan James and more, plus vote for your favorite in the BBQ competition fundraiser for kidney disease. Tickets. Takes place 1-10pm at 1001 N Boulevard. Info:

www.tampapigjig.com/

October 19

Gulfcoast Pride

Sarasota: Get ready for an unforgettable day of celebration, unity and pride featuring live music, a vendor marketplace, surprise guests, performances and more followed by a spectacular street party – all in the vibrant Rosemary District downtown. Free. Takes place 3-11 pm on the Boulevard of the Arts. Info: www.eventeny.com

October 19

Big Mama's Collard Greens Festival

Sarasota: Celebrate community and culture with the 'Big Mama's' collard greens cookoff, featuring recipes dating back 100+ years, specialty foods highlighting Cajun, Creole, Southern and Caribbean cultures, live music and more! Free. Takes place noon-6 pm at 1845 John Rivers St. Info: www.newtownnation.com

October 19 & 20

St Armands Fall Festival of the Arts

Sarasota: Get inspired in this outdoor gallery of unique, original painting, sculpture, jewelry, photography, glass, ceramics, fiber and wearable art, mixed-media, woodworking and much more on display and for sale by artists from across Florida and the US. Free. Takes place 10am-5pm at 434 St Armands Circle. Info: www.paragonfestivals.com

October 19

Water Lantern Festival

Sarasota: Experience the serenity of USA Today's #1 festival as thousands of illuminated rice paper lanterns carrying messages of hope, happiness and goodwill launch in a breathtaking display of peace. Takes place 4-8pm at 5851 Nathan Benderson Circle. Tickets and info: www.waterlanternfestival.com

October 20

Taste of the Bay

Sarasota: Indulge your inner foodie with savory bites from the best local restaurants, craft cocktails and live music set against beautiful waterfront views in this fabulous outdoor dining experience. It's the perfect way wind down your weekend! Free, food tickets onsite. Takes place 12-3pm at 1055 Boulevard of the Arts. Info: www.eatlikealocal.com

October 20

Taste of Latino Food Festival

Tampa: Enjoy a day of tantalizing Latin food, including empanadas, paella and Cuban sandwiches, live music, dancing, vibrant art, Top Chef contests, Latin leader awards and more during this family-friendly cultural tribute to Hispanic heritage stretching over three city blocks. Free. Takes place 12-6pm at 1800 E 8th Ave. Info: www.tasteoflatino.com

October 21 & 22

Seafood Festival

Cedar Key: Commemorate the local fishing heritage with a parade, local arts and crafts handmade from local cedar trees, live local music, shopping, family fun and some of the best seafood from the Nature Coast, including clam chowders, raw or fried oysters, smoked mullet dip and corn on the cob. Free. Takes place Sat: 10am-5pm; Sun: 10am-4pm at Second St. and City Beach Front Park. Info: <http://cedarkey.org/>

October 23

Barenaked Ladies

Clearwater: Enjoy a night out under the stars as this musical sensation brings iconic hits, 'One Week,' 'Pinch Me,' and most recently, the theme song to *The Big Bang Theory*, along with special guest Toad the Wet Sprocket, celebrating 30 years of their 1994 platinum-selling release *Dulcinea*. Tickets. Takes place 7pm at 255 Drew St. Info: www.rutheckerdhall.com

October 25

Spooky Scenes on the Green/Jeep or Treat

Clearwater: Enjoy a night of free family-friendly fun under the stars! Come early and wear your costume for a special Jeep or Treat from 5-8pm before enjoying a visit from *Casper*. Free. Jeep or Treat takes place 5-8pm; movie at 8pm at 300 Cleveland St. Info: www.myclearwater.com/Visit-Coachman-Park

Oct. 25-27

FEST22

Gainesville: Dive into Hogtown's underground music scene with 350+ live, local bands on four stages and over more than 18 venues, plus comedy, no-holds-barred intergender wrestling and a flea market! Tickets. Various showtimes/locations. Info: <https://thefestfl.com/>

October 26 & 27

Hyde Park Village Art Fair

Tampa: Stroll the historic brick-lined streets and shop for life-size sculptures, spectacular paintings, unique jewelry, photography, ceramics and more from more than 100 exhibitors in this open-air arts market. This popular annual market is a must for any art enthusiast! Free. Takes place 10am-5pm at 1622 Snow Ave. Info: www.artfestival.com

October 26 & 27

Craft Festival at the Shops at Wiregrass

Wesley Chapel: Delight in this outdoor artisan market experience offering a variety of handcrafted fine art in a variety of mediums, plus unique soaps and lotions, plants, handbags, pet accessories and more. Takes place 10am-5pm at 28211 Paseo Dr. Info: www.artfestival.com

October 26

Riverwalk Trick or Treat & Lighted Boat Parade

Tampa: Enjoy an afternoon of family friendly trick or treating, live music, food and street performers, then watch as a spooky flotilla of 'ghost' boats glide along the Hillsborough River in an eerie lighted holiday parade. Free. Takes place 4-7 pm; Boat parade: 6:30-9pm in downtown Tampa. Info: <https://thetampariverwalk.com>

October 26

Metropolis: Silent Film + Orchestra

Ocala: Experience one of cinema's most captivating and influential masterpieces with the OSO matching Brian Satterwhite's brilliant soundtrack live to the action on screen. This is Giorgio Moroder's 1984 remastered film version and suitable for all ages. Tickets. Showtime 7:30pm at 500 NE 9th St. Info: www.reillyartscenter.com

October 26 & 27

Ocala Arts Festival

Ocala: Stroll 155+ outdoor art 'galleries' nestled among the beauty of the historic downtown district featuring works in a variety of mediums from artists across the US. Enjoy special kids' activities, live local performers, delicious food truck fare and much more. Free. Takes place 10am-5pm at 1 NE 1st Ave. Info: <https://fafo.org/festival>

October 27

Halloween on Central

St. Pete: No tricks, just treats along this 22-block open street costume crawl featuring a 100+ vendor Voodoo Village marketplace, mesmerizing glass blowing, scavenger hunts, dance and costume contests, scary street performers, wiener dog races and costume parade, candy stations, food trucks and more. Free. Takes place 12-5pm from 900-3100 Central Ave. St. Info: <https://halloweenoncentral.com>

October 27

Phantasmagoria XV

Ocala: Discover a night of the whimsically macabre as this 'phantastical' troupe weaves hauntingly classic stories, dance, puppetry, projections, original music and more that will send a chill up your spine and make you laugh at the same time. Tickets. Showtime 2pm at 500 NE 9th St. Info: www.reillyartscenter.com

October 27

Haunted Halls Family Concert

St Pete: A spooktacular night featuring talented TFO musicians ready to enchant goblins of all ages with eerie and thrilling tunes like March of the Goblins, The Planets, *Star Wars*, *Superman March*, Pirates of the Caribbean, *Nightmare Before Christmas* and more! Tickets. Takes place 2pm at 400 1st Ave. S. Info: <https://floridaorchestra.org>

October 27

Selby Spooktacular

Sarasota: Dress up in your favorite costume for a not-so-scary Halloween celebration featuring games, spooky story stations, arts and crafts, contests and trick or treating throughout the Gardens. Takes place 10am-1pm at 1534 Mound St. Tickets and info: <https://selby.org>

October 31 – November 3

Garden Bros. Nuclear Circus

Tampa: Step right up for an all-new, mind-blowing, five-ring adventure featuring a human cannonball, the world's smallest person, and the chilling 7-man team Globe of Death, a gigantic Midway inflatable slides, bounce houses, pony rides and face painting, plus yummy fair food! Kids free; ticket required. Adult tickets & parking. Showtimes: TH & F: 4:30 and 7:30pm; Sat: 1:30, 4:30 & 7:30pm at 4201 N Dale Mabry Hwy. Info: <http://www.raymondjamesstadium.com> or www.gardenbrosnuclearcircus.com

NOVEMBER

November 1

Dear Evan Hansen

Sarasota: "One of the most remarkable shows in musical theater history" that portrays how people of all ages try to fit in the complex world of social media and featuring iconic songs from the last decade, including "You Will Be Found," "Waving Through a Window," and "For Forever." theater history" and Tickets. Various showtimes take place at 777 N Tamiami Trl. Info: www.vanwezel.org

November 1-3

Pirate Invasion

Cedar Key: Delight in the annual celebration of pillage and plunder as pirates battle to claim the city! Enjoy gun and cannon demos, wenchies, sea shanties from the Ancient City Sirens and Rusty Cutlass, traditional grub and grog, costume contests, mermaids and more! Free. Takes place Fri: 12-7pm; Sat: 8am-6pm; Sun: 10am-3pm at 192 2nd St. Info: <https://cedarkeypiratefest.com/>

November 1-3

Ocala Food & Wine Festival

Ocala: Experience extraordinary cuisine handcrafted by celebrity chefs, including 11 yr. old MasterChef Jr. Season 9 competitor Michael Seegobin, premium beverage tastings, live cooking demos, live music and more during this weekend of culinary delight! Takes place Fri: 5:30-10pm; Sat: 1-7pm; Sun: 10am-1pm at 1390 NW 80th St. Tickets and info: www.ocalafoodandwinefest.com

November 2 & 3

Savor St. Pete

St. Pete: Discover the Bay Area's longest-running food & wine festival featuring flavor-packed bites handcrafted by local chefs and paired with fine wines and microbrews. Try your hand at mixology or enjoy live music set against stunning 180-degree waterfront views. Tickets. Takes place 1-4pm at 701 Bayshore Dr NE, St. Petersburg. Info: <https://savortheburg.com/>

November 6

Cyndi Lauper: Girls Just Wanna Have Fun Farewell Tour

Tampa: Fun is guaranteed when this multi-talented, award-winning performer, songwriter and author brings along some special guests for a night of classic hits, including "Time After Time," "True Colors," and "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun" as her farewell tour makes its stop in Tampa. Tickets. Takes place 8pm at 401 Channelside Dr. Info: www.amaliearena.com

November 6-10

Moulin Rouge! The Musical

Tampa: Pop champagne and enter a world of splendor and romance, of eye-popping excess, glitz, grandeur and glory as Baz Luhrmann's revolutionary film comes to life onstage in this all-new musical mash-up extravaganza celebrating Truth, Beauty, Freedom and Love! Tickets. Various showtimes take place at 1010 Macinnes Pl. Info: www.strazcenter.org

November 8-10

International Chalk Festival – *'Floralia Infiorata'*

Sarasota: This unique celebration of street art showcases larger-than-life masterpieces by 30+ internationally renowned street artists, some featuring real flowers and naturals, interactive photo ops in the 3D Illusion room, a gigantic community chalk mural and a whimsical parade of walking puppets, stilt walkers, and imaginative flower masks! Tickets. Takes place 10am – 7pm at 400-500 bl. S Pineapple Ave. Info: <https://chalkfestival.org>

November 8-10

Digital Mural Fest

Sarasota: Discover a breathtaking of digital graffiti as visual artists and coders light up the night while transforming the downtown cityscape into a vibrant canvas of creativity using urban projection. Enjoy wine tastings, mingle with ChalkFest artists and more! Tickets. Takes place 5:30-8pm at 400-500 S. Pineapple St. Info: <https://chalkfestival.org>

November 9 & 10

Ocala Country Days

Ocala: Experience life in 1800s Florida with pioneer cabin tours, old-time craft demos, sugar cane syrup making, live music, great food, tram rides, Silver River Museum tours and more. Tickets. Takes place 9am-4pm at 1445 NE 58th Ave. Info: <https://silverrivermuseum.com>

Nov. 9 & 10

Downtown Festival & Art Show

Gainesville: Experience the largest free celebration of art and creativity as 200+ of the nation's most talented artists set up shop in the historic downtown. Browse art in a variety of mediums on display, enjoy live entertainment, culinary art, food vendors and more. Free. Takes place 10am-5pm at 111 E. University Ave. Info: gainesvilledowntownartfest.net/

November 10

Here Come the Mummies

Ocala: Were they cursed after deflowering a great Pharaoh's daughter? Or reincarnated Grammy-winning studio musicians? Either way, this 8-piece, 5,000-year-old band with a one-track mind and not-so-ancient stage antics will surely bend your brain and melt your face. Tickets. Showtime 7:30pm at 500 NE 9th St. Info: www.reillyartscenter.com

November 10

Sarasota: Witness the magic of ChalkFest as a vibrant parade of human puppets and stilt walkers marches through historic Burns Square dressed in whimsical costumes and handcrafted, oversize masks featuring Florida's flora and fauna to close out this annual weekend event. Live music, food and fun for the entire family Tickets. Takes place 4:30 - 7pm at 400-500 S. Pineapple St. Info: <https://chalkfestival.org>

November 10

World of Entertainment Kickoff Party

Sarasota: Discover a festive rooftop extravaganza of arts and culture for the whole family, featuring a bird-eye view of ChalkFest and live music by the Brazilian Band. Witness a jaw-dropping live climbing dance performance on the side of the Northern Trust Bldg., food, and more to kick off this week's Living Arts Festival all. Free. Takes place 6pm at 1515 Ringling Blvd. Info: www.sarasotarising.org

November 10-17

Living Arts Festival

Sarasota: A week-long celebration of the arts across various locations featuring live music, visual art exhibitions, curated buskers, cultural pop-ups, walking tours, a traveling arts roulette wheel, a salute to veterans, food and more. Free/ticketed events take place at various times/locations. Info: www.sarasotarising.org

November 10

Rise and Shine

Sarasota: Enjoy a day of live music, theater, art and more, plus indoor and outdoor art appreciation, art therapy, arts immersion activities for the entire family and more. Tickets. Takes place 11am at 801 N Tamiami Trl. Info: www.sarasotarising.org

November 12

Mannheim Steamroller Christmas by Chip Davis

St Pete: Re-discover this spectacular timeless holiday performance sprinkled with classic carols, original songs and spectacular multimedia lightshow synonymous of this Grammy® Award-winning ensemble, whose sound never fails to capture the spirit of the season. Tickets. Takes place 7:30pm at 400 1st Ave S. Info: <https://themahaffey.com>

November 12-17

Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas! The Musical

Tampa: Travel to Whoville as Max the Dog narrates this magical story of Cindy Lou Who and other cast favorites, featuring colorful costumes and magnificent sets inspired by Dr. Seuss' original illustrations and the hits "You're A Mean One Mr. Grinch" and "Welcome Christmas," from the original animated special. Tickets. Various showtimes take place at 1010 Macinnes Pl. Info: www.strazcenter.org

November 13

Ghostly Haunted Trolley Tour

St Pete: Journey into the dark and creepy side of the Sunshine City as Dr. Brandy Stark guides you into some of the lesser-known downtown haunts, including the spooky Roser Park and Old Northeast neighborhoods. Tickets. Takes place 6:30-8:30pm at 335 2nd Avenue NE. Info: <https://spmoh.com>

November 15

Scenes on the Green

Clearwater: Enjoy a night of free family-friendly fun under the stars featuring the movie *The Nightmare Before Christmas*. Bring a blanket or low-lying lawn chairs for a magical night. Free. Takes place 7pm at 300 Cleveland St. Info: www.myclearwater.com/Visit-Coachman-Park

November 15-18

Crystal Classic Int'l Sand Sculpting Festival

Siesta Key: Experience magnificent sand masterpieces, hand-sculpted by 24 internationally renowned artists, as white sand beaches magically transform into a larger-than-life art gallery. Enjoy artist demos, sand sculpting lessons, live music, interactive games and a party tent. Tickets. Takes place 10am-5pm at 948 Beach Road. Info: www.siestakeycrystalclassic.com/

November 15

Full Moon Paddle

Tampa: Get an up-close look at the Tampa's spectacular urban downtown scene, popular waterfront attractions with a guided paddle down the Hillsborough River after sunset. Basic paddling skills required. Tickets. SUP boards included or BYO board, lights required. Takes place 5:30-6:45pm at 301 W 7th Ave #5404. Info: <https://armatureworks.com>

November 15

PeliPaws Dog Walk/Run

St Pete: Leash up your alpha dog for a half-mile run/walk to kick off the weekend and benefit the Pet Pal Animal Shelter. Dogs should be friendly with people + other dogs and enjoy walking on a non-retractable leash. \$25 registration. Takes place 6pm at 480 Bayshore Dr SE. Info: <https://stpeterunfest.org>

November 16

Music of the Knights

St Pete: TFO salutes the enduring musical influences of Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber, Sir Elton John and Sir Paul McCartney with some of your favorite hits, including *Memory*, *Don't Cry for Me, Argentina*, *Phantom of the Opera*, *Can You Feel the Love Tonight*, *Don't Let the Sun Go Down on Me*, *Yesterday*, *Hey Jude* and more. Tickets. Showtimes at 2 and 8pm take place at 400 1st Ave. S. Info: <https://floridaorchestra.org>

November 16

Party in the Park

Ocala: Gather friends for an afternoon of live music, craft beer and wine, food trucks, local artists and craftsmen and an opportunity to browse the latest makes and models from Jenkins Auto Group on display in beautiful Tuscowilla Park. Bring a blanket or lawn chairs to enjoy the concert. Free. Takes place 12-5pm at 829 NE Sanchez Ave. Info:

www.reillyartscenter.com

November 16 & 17

Midtown Tampa Craft Festival

Tampa: This fantastic fall arts festival features countless original works by artists and fine crafters, including painting, sculpture, jewelry, ceramics, glass, photography, and much more on display in a beautiful outdoor gallery setting. The perfect venue for holiday shopping! Free. Takes place 10am-5pm at 4659 Midtown Dr. Info: www.artfestival.com

November 16 & 17

Sarasota Fall Fine Art Festival

Sarasota: Shop this unique outdoor gallery space featuring original paintings, photography, jewelry, glass, fiber, wearable art, mixed media and more, all handmade by talented local, regional and national artists and on display just steps away from the sparkling Gulf of Mexico. Free. Takes place 10am-5pm at 199 Bayfront Dr. Info: www.paragonfestivals.com/

November 16 & 17

St. Pete Run Fest

St. Pete: Experience one of the best running events of the decade with half-marathon, 10K, 5K and kids' events, all featuring scenic views of downtown, the sparkling waterfront and nearby neighborhoods. Post-race, grab a snack, cool off in the beer garden, or shop for new gear in Good Sweat fitness festival tent. It's fun for the whole family! Register. Various start times/locations take place on Bayshore Dr near the Dali Museum. Info:

<https://stpeterunfest.org>

November 17

Blues Traveler

St Pete: Enjoy a night of soulful music and good vibes from this legendary rock and blues jam band as they celebrate 35+ years of "Four" with a deep dive into their iconic catalog of chart-topping hits. Expect to hear your favorites from a marathon set-list, including "Run-Around," "Hook," "The Mountains Win Again," "Stand" and more! Rain or shine. Tickets.

Takes place 7pm at 200 1st Ave. N. Info: www.jannuslive.com

November 17

Living Arts Festival: A Celebration of Youth - Closing Party

Sarasota: Experience a dynamic evening of entertainment featuring circus performers, theater, opera, ballet, music and more to spotlight a collaboration of vibrant youth arts and cultural programming and close out the Living Arts Festival. Tickets. Takes place 7pm at 2075 Bahia Vista St. Info: <https://circusarts.org>

November 20

Ybor City Tree Lighting

Ybor City: Deck the halls with live music and holiday fun as Ybor City welcomes the holiday season with its the annual tree lighting ceremony. Bring the family for photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus and enjoy cookies and hot chocolate. Free. Takes place 6-8pm at 6100 E 8th Ave. Info: <https://www.ybor.org/>

November 21-24

St. Pete BikeFest

Clearwater: Feel the thunder at one of the best bike rallies in Florida! Featuring live music from Molly Hatchet, Shovelhead, Hinder and more, a free public ride-in bike show, burnout competitions, bar crawls, a Sunshine Skyway ride and more. Free. Takes place 10am-6pm at 10575 49th St. N. Info: www.saintpetebikefest.com

November 23

Dunedin Celtic Music & Craft Beer Festival

Dunedin: Enjoy the traditional and contemporary sounds of Celtic music from the City of Dunedin Pipe Band and regional, national and international Celtic artists, craft brews from local and national brewers, authentic food and family fun. Rain or shine. Tickets. Takes place 10am-6pm at 1920 Pinehurst Rd. Info: www.dunedinsafoundation.com

November 23 & 24

Tampa Bay Holiday Market

St Pete: Get in the holiday spirit with 100+ local vendors offering everything from home essentials, unique handmade gifts, cosmetics, holiday decor, apparel, accessories, delicious food and more! Don't miss the premier shopping event of the season! Free. Takes place 10am-5pm at 535 4th Ave N. Info: www.tampabay.com

November 23 - January 2

Illuminated Holiday Displays

St. Pete: Take a stroll through a sparkling fairyland of twinkling lights, decorations and giant greeting cards across four downtown waterfront parks and test your skill with festive interactive games at each stop! Free. Takes place dusk -10 pm from 701 Bayshore Dr NE to 8 Central Ave. Info: www.stpeteparksrec.org/holidayevents

November 24

Messiah Community Sing Along

Ocala: Witness the beauty as 100s of voices come together in a majestic community sing-along of the "Hallelujah" chorus and other selections under the direction of Joshua Mazur. Singers of all abilities and spectators are invited to celebrate in the joy and unity of Handel's Messiah. Tickets. Takes place 5pm at 500 NE 9th St. Info: www.reillyartscenter.com

November 28

Clearwater Turkey Trot

Clearwater: A new name, but the same great pre-Thanksgiving feast tradition traversing parts of scenic Clearwater featuring the 5K Wingding or the 1-mile Abe's Gobbler! Takes place 7 & 8:30 am in the 800 block of Keene Rd. Registration and info: bit.ly/3AZyDRO

November 29

Kacy Musgraves

Tampa: Venture deeper into the fresh, new sounds and past favorites from this Grammy® winner as she winds up her latest tour with special guests Lord Huron and Nickel Creek, including "Merry Go 'Round," "Blowin' Smoke," "Star-Crossed," "Deeper Well" and more. Tickets. Takes place 7:30pm at 401 Channelside Dr. Info: www.amaliearena.com

November 29-December 1

Sarasota Seafood & Music Festival

Sarasota: Enjoy the finest seafood, meat and vegan dishes, live, local bands performing favorites from R&B, blues, jazz, country and more, plus shop for locally handcrafted arts and crafts, gourmet foods, specialty soaps, oils and specialty items in the arts marketplace. Free. Takes place Fri: 4:30-10pm; Sat: 11am-10pm; Sun: 11am-6pm at 3000 Ringling Blvd. Info: www.paragonfestivals.com

November 29 to December 23

Winter Wonderland

Ocala: Discover the magic of twinkling lights and larger-than-life holiday decorations, wander the tree maze or the 45-foot walk-through Christmas tree, enjoy live music, strolling street performers and carolers, face painting, visits with Santa and more! Free, parking fee. Takes place 5-9pm at 1750 NW 80th Ave. Info: www.wecwinterwonderland.com

November 30 & December 1

Shopapalooza

St. Pete: Discover an epic celebration of Small Business Saturday (and Sunday!) shopping featuring 350+ local makers and small businesses offering unique, handcrafted jewelry, art, candles, soaps, coffee, tea, rubs and more. Free. Takes place 10am-5pm at 701 Bayshore Drive NE. Info: www.shopapaloozafestival.com

November 30

Santa Parade & Holiday Tree Lighting

St Pete: Bring family and friends for a spectacular seasonal tradition featuring Santa, marching bands and festive floats, followed by the illumination of the giant holiday tree and dazzling waterfront park displays. Free. Parade takes place 6:30pm at 480 Bayshore Dr SE followed by tree lighting at 400 Bayshore Dr NE. Info:

www.stpeteparksrec.org/holidayevents/

DECEMBER

December 3

Pentatonix

Tampa: Capture the spirit of the season as one of the most innovative a cappella quintets of all time unwraps an evening of popular holiday classics, including "Hallelujah," "Mary, Did You Know," "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen," "12 Days of Christmas," "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" "Please Santa Please," "Here Comes Santa Claus," and more! Tickets. Takes place 7pm at 401 Channelside Dr. Info: www.amaliearena.com

December 5 – January 1

Selby Gardens Lights in Bloom

Sarasota: Stroll through a tropical winter wonderland filled with beautifully-lit flowers and plants and walkways magically illuminated by more than two million lights. Discover festive photo ops, activities, entertainment and seasonal treats for the whole family! Rain or shine. Tickets. Takes place 5:30-9pm at 1534 Mound St. Info: <https://selby.org>

December 6 & 7

St. Petersburg Seafood & Music Festival

St Pete: Savor unique flavors of the deep, handcrafted by top local chefs and paired with fine wines and cocktails along with live music from Damon Fowler, Stormbringer, the Black Honkeys, Greg Billings and more. Between sets, shop the arts marketplace for arts and crafts, gourmet food and more! Free. Takes place Fri: 4-10pm; Sat-11am-10pm; Sun: 11am-6pm at 480 Bayshore Dr SE. Info: www.paragonfestivals.com/

December 6 & 7

Balloon Glow and Laser Show

Sarasota: Enjoy an incredible weekend of family fun featuring hot air balloon rides, live music, kids' games, bounce houses, a crafters market and food trucks before the crowd counts down to a stunning synchronized hot air balloon lighting and coordinated glow. Blankets, chairs and umbrellas encouraged. Tickets. Takes place 5-10pm at 3000 Ringling Blvd. Info: www.sarasotafair.com

December 6

Holiday Night of Lights

Sarasota: Experience a twinkling winter wonderland, cozy sounds of a holiday carol sing-a-long and family photo ops before Santa lights the 60-ft. tall holiday tree. Don't miss the extra-special shopping and dining discounts kicking off the shopping season. Free. Takes place 5:30-9pm at 300 Madison Dr. Info: <https://starmandscircleassoc.com>

December 6

Symphony Under the Lights

Ocala: Gather your family and friends for festive live music, hot chocolate and the sounds of the season during a free community concert under the incredible oaks of Tuscawilla Park! Bring blankets or chairs for lawn seating. Free. Takes place 7:30pm at 829 NE Sanchez Ave. Info: www.reillyartscenter.com

December 7

Celebrate on the Circle

Sarasota: Welcome the holidays with festive family entertainment, games, activities, treats, live music and more during this inaugural holiday event on the Circle, plus shop participating merchants for holiday sales and deals. It's fun for all ages! Free. Takes place 11am-3pm at 300 Madison Dr. Info: <https://starmandscircleassoc.com>

December 7

St Pete: Experience a Florida-style winter wonderland featuring toboggan rides, holiday inflatables, winter-themed arts and crafts, live music, food trucks and more! Wristbands required -\$5. Takes place 2-9pm at 400 Bayshore Dr NE. Info: www.stpeteparksrec.org/holidayevents

December 7

Elf in Concert

Tampa: Experience a special screening of this hilarious holiday classic as Buddy, raised by Santa's elves but who can't shake the feeling that he doesn't fit in, travels to the Big Apple in search of his real father while wearing his full elf uniform and featuring a live synchronized score by the full TFO orchestra! Tickets. Showtimes 2pm and 8pm take place at 1010 N Macinnes Pl. Info: www.strazcenter.org

Date TBA

Holiday Tree Lighting

Tampa: Kick off the holiday season in The Heights with Santa Claus and his merry elves from the, direct from North Pole! Enjoy live interactive entertainment, shop the Merry Makers market and join the countdown to light the giant holiday tree. Free. Takes place 5-9pm at 1910 N Ola Ave. Info: <https://armatureworks.com>

Date TBA

Holiday Movie in the Park

St Pete: Enjoy a night of festive fun with the family with arts and crafts, photo ops and visits with Santa, plus a classic holiday feature from the silver screen. Free. Takes place 6 pm at 1320 5th St N. Info: www.stpeteparksrec.org/holidayevents

December 7 & 8

Festival at Fort King

Ocala: Travel to the 1800's with historic-themed crafts, games, living historians, workshops, vendors, food, drinks and more. Don't miss a spectacular re-enactment of event the fueled the start of the Second Seminole War! Free. Takes place 10am-3pm at 3925 E Fort King St. Info: <https://bit.ly/3RBSPfx>

December 7 & 8

Lakewood Ranch Holiday of the Arts

Lakewood Ranch: Discover impressive paintings, sculptures, jewelry, photography, candles, ceramics, fiber and wearable art, mixed-media, woodworking – all handcrafted and ready for gift giving. Meet the artists, enjoy holiday treats and maybe a visit from Santa himself! Free. Takes place 10am-5pm at 8100 Lakewood Ranch Blvd. Info: www.paragonfestivals.com

December 7 & 8

Corey Arts & Crafts Show

St. Pete Beach: More than 200 talented artists and crafters showcase a variety of handmade pottery, jewelry, ceramics, paintings, and much more in this vibrant, open-air festival marketplace. Or shop the Green Market, featuring plants, orchids, exotic flora, handmade soaps, gourmet spices and freshly popped kettle corn. Free. Takes place 10am-5pm at 415 Corey Ave. Info: www.artfestival.com

December 7 & 8

Pop Goes the Holidays

Ocala: Celebrate this special time of year with two festive performances featuring seasonal favorites from Mannheim Steamroller, Home Alone, The Nutcracker and more by the incredible OSO musicians and vocalists from the Ocala Symphonic Chorus in this annual sold-out concert. Tickets. Showtimes: Sat: 7:30pm and Sun: 3pm at 500 NE 9th St. Info: www.reillyartscenter.com

December 11

Ghostly Haunted Trolley Tour

St Pete: Journey into the dark and creepy side of the Sunshine City as Dr. Brandy Stark guides you into some of the lesser-known downtown haunts, including the spooky Roser Park and Old Northeast neighborhoods. Tickets. Takes place 6:30-8:30pm at 335 2nd Avenue NE. Info: <https://spmoh.com>

December 14

Full Moon Paddle

Tampa: Get an up-close look at the Tampa's spectacular urban downtown scene, popular waterfront attractions with a guided paddle down the Hillsborough River after sunset. Basic paddling skills required. Tickets. SUP boards included or BYO board, lights required. Takes place 5:30-6:45pm at 301 W 7th Ave #5404. Info: <https://armatureworks.com>

December 14 & 15

Holiday Cosplay Tampa Bay

St Pete: Discover a festive fusion of anime, gaming, special effects and creative expression featuring special guests, including The Star Cos and Santa and Mrs. Claus, win cash and prizes in the costume, makeup/sfx, lip sync and video storytelling competitions and more! Tickets. Takes place 10am-5pm at 535 4th Ave N. Info: <https://holidaycosplaytb.floridacomicons.com>

December 20

Union Home Mortgage Gasparilla Bowl

Tampa: Experience the excitement as the top teams from the AAC, ACC, or SEC conferences battle it out with action-packed plays and unforgettable gridiron moments as they battle it out in a fierce season-ending championship matchup. Tickets. Takes place 3:30pm at 4201 N Dale Mabry Hwy. Info: www.gasparillabowl.com

December 20

Blues in the Box

Ocala: Experience an exceptional night of roots rock, blues and soul featuring Tampa's troubadour Damon Fowler showcasing his extraordinary guitar work that critics compare to Johnny Winter, Jeff Beck and Duane Allman and featuring original compositions and distinctive covers from his latest release Barnyard Smile. Tickets. Showtime 7:30pm at 500 NE 9th St. Info: www.reillyartscenter.com

December 28 & 29

Nutcracker!

St Pete: Celebrate a beloved holiday tradition with an international all-star cast that blends world-class ballet with enchanting puppetry, extravagant costumes, and breathtaking acrobatics. Experience the magic of Tchaikovsky's timeless score and create cherished memories with friends and family of all ages this season! Tickets. Various showtimes at 400 1st St. S. Info: <https://themahaffey.com>

December 29

Reliaquest Bowl Beach Day

Clearwater: Join players, marching bands and cheerleaders as they take to the sand for a day of sun and fun competing in beach tug-o-war and other contests, plus live music, skydivers and more! Then stick around for an artisan market, live music and a breathtaking sunset from Pier 60. Free. Takes place 11am-4pm at 400 Mandalay Ave. Info: <http://www.reliaquestbowl.com>

December 30

Reliaquest Bowl Battle of the Bands

Tampa: Enjoy a high-energy performance by the Reliaquest Bowl college marching bands as they square off in a thrilling musical showdown before the big game at Busch Gardens' Gwazi Park! Free, park admission required. Takes place TBD at 10165 McKinley Dr. Info: <http://www.reliaquestbowl.com>

December 31

Salute to Vienna

Clearwater: Waltz into the new year with dazzling costumes, lush flowers and lively music of Vienna's Golden Age, featuring some of Europe's finest singers, dancers and a full orchestra performing timeless melodies, including the breathtakingly beautiful Blue Danube Waltz. Tickets. Showtime 3pm at 1111 McMullen Booth Rd. Info: www.rutheckerdhall.com

December 31

Reliaquest Bowl Parade & Pep Rally

Tampa: Get fired up for the big game as football players and cheerleaders count down to the big game with floats, beads, live music, a pep rally and fun in historic Ybor's Latin District. Catch some beads and stick around for a post-parade pep rally for more pre-game family fun! Free. Takes place 5:30pm on 7th Ave. Info: www.reliaquestbowl.com

December 31

Reliaquest Pregame Bowl Bash

Tampa: Warm up with a tailgate party featuring live music, interactive games, college bands, cheerleaders and delicious food before heading inside for colorful pregame show, featuring marching bands, military flyover and the coin toss to kick off the big game! Free/tickets. Pregame bash: 9am; Pregame show: 11:20am at 4201 N Dale Mabry Hwy. Info: www.reliaquestbowl.com

December 31

Reliaquest Bowl

Tampa: Enjoy this exhilarating showdown as teams from the SEC and Big Ten clash for the championship title! Don't miss the spectacular halftime show with more than 1,500 performers, college bands, a massed band performance and all-star dance troupe in an unforgettable display of talent and spirit! Tickets. Takes place 12:03pm at 4201 N Dale Mabry Hwy. Info: www.reliaquestbowl.com

TBA-December 31

New Year's Eve at Armature Works

Tampa: Ring out 2024 with an incredible farewell party featuring outdoor music performances, skyline photo ops, pop-up bars, specialty cocktails, live DJs, followed by an exhilarating countdown to midnight and explosive fireworks show. Free. Takes place 7pm-1am at 1910 N Ola Ave. Info: <https://armatureworks.com>

TBA-December 31

NYE on The Pier

St Pete: ExPIERience a spectacular free dance party featuring live music and DJs, disco ball and LED light displays, games, food trucks, full bar and champagne toasts, plus the largest midnight waterfront fireworks show in the area! Rain or shine. Free. Takes place 8pm - 12:30am at 615 2nd Ave NE. Info: <https://stpetepier.org>

JANUARY

January 4 & 5

Downtown Dunedin Art Festival

Dunedin: This outdoor festival showcases a stunning variety of artwork from talented local and national artists, including fine paintings and sculptures to unique jewelry, ceramics, and photography, plus live music, interactive art displays, and gourmet food vendors. Free. Takes place 10am-5pm at 271 Main St. Info: www.artfestival.com

January 4 & 5

Corey Ave Arts & Crafts Show

St. Pete Beach: More than 200 talented artists and crafters showcase a variety of handmade pottery, jewelry, ceramics, paintings, and much more in this vibrant, open-air festival marketplace. Or shop the Green Market, featuring plants, orchids, exotic flora, handmade soaps, gourmet spices and freshly popped kettle corn. Free. Takes place 10am-5pm at 415 Corey Ave. Info: www.artfestival.com

January 10

The Rocket Man Show

St Pete: You'll be singing and dancing in the aisles during this electrifying tribute concert featuring Elton's greatest hits performed by Scotsman Rus Anderson -- personally handpicked by Elton himself to portray the Rocket Man-- plus the dazzling costumes and dynamic piano performances that capture the essence of this legendary artist. Tickets. Takes place 7:30pm at 400 1st St S. Info: <https://themahaffey.com>

January 10-12

Sarasota Seafood & Music Festival

Sarasota: Enjoy this art and food lover's paradise featuring a fine arts marketplace, fresh, local seafood cooked onsite by area chefs, tasty desserts and live music from some of Florida's top musicians Free. Takes place Fri: 4:30-10pm; Sat: 11am-10pm; Sun: 11am-6pm at 3000 Ringling Blvd. Info: www.paragonfestivals.com

January 11 & 12

Sarasota Fine Art Festival

Sarasota: Stroll an expansive outdoor gallery featuring spectacular original artist creations, including painting, sculpture, jewelry, photography, glass, ceramics, fiber and wearable art, mixed-media, woodworking and more, chat with the artists and discover an appreciation for the beautiful and unique! Free. Takes place 10am-5pm at 199 Bayfront Dr. Info: www.paragonfestivals.com

January 11 & 12

Beer, Bacon & BBQ Festival

St Pete: Tempt your tastebuds with 100+ savory and salty dishes from your favorite BBQ vendors, enjoy local craft beers and handcrafted cocktails, plus live music and interactive games including beer pong, cornhole and more. Tickets. Takes place Sat: Noon-7pm; Sun: 11am-5pm at 701 Bayshore Dr NE. <http://stpetebaconandbbq.com/>

January 14-19

The Cher Show

Tampa: Experience this award-winning icon brought to life in an unabashedly fabulous new musical packed with 35 smash hits, six decades of stardom, two rock-star husbands, multiple awards and enough Tony Award-winning Bob Mackie gowns to cause an NYC sequin shortage! Tickets. Various showtimes take place at 1010 Macinnes Pl. Info:

www.strazcenter.org

January 19

MLK Dream Big Band Showcase

St Pete: Witness the musicians of tomorrow featuring members of the Tuskegee, Savannah State and Albany State marching bands demonstrating harmonious dedication, precision and skill musical showcase on the eve of Monday's MLK Dream Big Parade. Tickets. Takes place 4pm at 850 34th St. S. Info: <https://mlkdreambig.com/>

January 20

MLK Dream Big Parade

St Pete: Celebrate unity as city leaders and members of the community come together, along with colorful floats and lively music from top college marching bands, to show diversity and inclusivity during this annual tribute to the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Free. Takes place 11am-2pm on 1st Ave. S. (E to W) downtown St. Pete. Info:

<https://mlkdreambig.com/>

January 23-26

St. Petersburg Power & Sailboat Show

St Pete: Set sail with the latest models of power boats, motor yachts, sailboats and personal watercraft, plus marine gear, electronics, maritime art, savory seafood, gyros, craft cocktails and more – all at the Gulf Coast's largest boat show! Takes place Thurs & Fri: 10am-6pm; Sat: 10am-7pm; Sun: 10am-5pm at 400 1st St S. Tickets and info:

www.stpeteboatshow.com

January 25

Gasparilla Invasion and Pirate Fest

Tampa: Ahoy mateys! Enjoy a day of fun and sun as swashbuckling pirates sail into Tampa Bay to receive the key to the city, then come ashore for a parade of pirates followed by a night of revelry, pillaging, live music and entertainment. Free. Takes place 12-7:30pm at various downtown locations. Info: <https://main.gasparillapiratefest.com/invasion>

January 25 & 26

Lakewood Ranch Fine Arts Festival

Lakewood Ranch: Explore this unique outdoor gallery of painting, sculpture, jewelry, photography, glass, ceramics, fiber and wearable art, mixed-media, woodworking and

more from talented US artisans ready to share their inspiration. Free. Takes place 10am-5pm at 8100 Lakewood Main St. Info: www.paragonfestivals.com

January 25 & 26

St. Armands Winter Art Festival & Sidewalk Sale

Sarasota: Shop outdoor gallery-style booths featuring life-size sculpture, fine jewelry, painting, glasswork, handcrafted apparel and décor and more from talented national and local artists, then explore the special sales and deals from participating Circle merchants and restaurants. Free. Takes place 10am-5pm at 1 St. Armands Circle. Info: <https://starmandscircleassoc.com>

January 25 & 26

Vive la France!

Ocala: Prepare to be whisked away as the Ocala Symphony Orchestra takes you on a musical tour of France featuring Debussy's ethereal *Trois Nocturnes*, the exotic rhythms of Camille Saint-Saëns' *Africa: Fantasy for Piano and Orchestra*, plus *Rondo Capriccioso* and Ravel's *Daphnis and Chloe Suite No. 2*. Tickets. Showtimes Sat: 7:30pm and Sun: 3pm at 500 NE 9th St. Info: www.reillyartscenter.com

January 28-February 2

Riverdance

St Pete: Celebrate 30 years of vibrant Irish music and dazzling performances with all-new choreography, stunning costumes, cutting-edge lighting, projection and motion graphics during this spectacular revamped tour! Plus, meet a dynamic new generation of performers, all born after the show first hit the stage! Tickets. Various showtimes at 400 1st St. S. Info: <https://themahaffey.com>

January 28-February 2

Mamma Mia!

Tampa: Take an unforgettable trip down the aisle with this heartwarming tale of love, friendship, and self-discovery set on a sun-kissed Greek island paradise and beautifully told through the timeless hits of ABBA. This feel-good show will have you singing and dancing in your seat! Tickets. Various showtimes take place at 1010 Macinnes Pl. Info: www.strazcenter.org

FEBRUARY

February 6-17

Florida State Fair

Tampa: Celebrate the best in Florida agriculture, horticulture, crafts, cooking, livestock and 4H, plus the thrills of the midway, tractor pulls, sheep shearing, cow milking contests, equestrian events, corn on the cob, lemon shakeups and fried fair food! Takes place Mon-Thurs: 11am-9pm; Fri-Sun: 10am-9pm at 4800 US 301 N. Tickets and Info:

<https://floridastatefair.com/>

February 8 & 9

St. Petersburg Fine Arts Festival

St Pete: Explore stunning original works, including painting, photography, sculpture, metalwork, digital art, jewelry, glass, ceramics, fiber, mixed media and more from 100+ Florida and US artisans in this unique plein air waterfront art gallery. Don't miss the #9 show on USA Today's Top 100 Art Shows! Free. Takes place 10am-5pm at 198 Bayshore Dr NE. Info: www.paragonfestivals.com

February 8 & 9

Downtown Sarasota Festival of the Arts

Sarasota: Discover more than 200 award-winning artists showcasing their original work in painting, photography, glass and metalwork, fine jewelry, mixed media, fiber art and more over five city blocks in this spectacular family-friendly art experience. Plus, artist demos, live music and food vendors. Free. Takes place 10am-5pm at 1718 Main St. Info:

www.artfestival.com

February 8 & 9

Gulfport Fine Arts Festival

Gulfport: Stroll this juried group of artists offering work in a variety of mediums in an intimate outdoor gallery space and just steps away from quaint restaurants, coffee shops and the sparkling Gulf of Mexico. A must-visit on your festival list! Free. Takes place 10am-5pm at 5350 31st Ave S. Info: <https://visitgulfportflorida.com>

February 14

Direct From Las Vegas: Neil Diamond Legacy Concert

St Pete: Don't miss the most authentic tribute concert ever, featuring the world's #1 Diamond performer, Jay White. Join Jay and his electrifying Sweet Caroline Tour Band as they bring Neil Diamond's hits and cherished favorites to life onstage all night long! Tickets. Takes place 7:30pm at 400 1st St. S. Info: <https://themahaffey.com>

February 15 & 16

Sound and Fury

Ocala: Embark on a journey from the tranquil Scottish coasts to the peaks of human emotion as the OSA performs Mendelssohn's evocative *Hebrides Overture*, Anna Clyne's powerful *Sound and Fury* and Beethoven's monumental "Eroica" Symphony. Tickets. Showtimes Sat: 7:30pm and Sun: 3pm at 500 NE 9th St. Info: www.reillyartscenter.com

February 16

Festivals of Speed

St Pete: Discover some of the world's most exotic cars, motorcycles, and watercraft – all with prime parking on St. Pete's sparkling waterfront -- sip and savor fine wines and delicious bites, enjoy live music or enjoy a premium blend in the outdoor cigar lounge. Tickets. Takes place 11am-3pm at 701 Bayshore Dr NE. Info: <https://festivalsofspeed.com>

February 21 & 22

American Vintage Markets

Sarasota: Shop a dazzling selection of carefully curated treasures, including unique, vintage-inspired home decor, up-cycled goods, collectibles, industrial salvage, jewelry, clothing, furniture and much more in this exciting and fun shopping extravaganza. Tickets. Takes place 9am-4pm at 3000 Ringling Blvd. Info: www.sarasotafair.com/

February 21-23

St. Petersburg Seafood & Music Festival

St Pete: Indulge in gourmet deep-sea flavors crafted by top local chefs perfectly paired with exquisite wines and cocktails, live music from some of Florida's finest musicians and a vibrant arts marketplace featuring arts, crafts, gourmet foods, and more! Free. Takes place Fri: 4-10pm; Sat-11am-10pm; Sun: 11am-6pm at 701 Bayshore Dr NE. Info: www.paragonfestivals.com/

February 22

Fiesta Day

Ybor City: Celebrate the rich heritage of Tampa's Latin Quarter with a lively street festival featuring authentic food and craft beers from a variety of vendors Enjoy live Latin music and entertainment, shop for arts, crafts and specialty gifts while immersing yourself in the vibrant culture and traditions that make this neighborhood so unique! Free. Takes place 11am-6pm on 7th Ave. Info: www.yborcity.org

February 25-March 2

MJ The Musical

Tampa: Centering around the iconic, 1992 Dangerous World Tour, get an intimate glimpse into the creative genius that sparked the legendary moves and unmistakable sound of one of the greatest entertainers of all time. This is your chance to be 'startin' somethin'! Tickets. Various showtimes take place at 1010 Macinnes Pl. Info: www.strazcenter.org

February 28-March 2

Firestone Grand Prix of St. Petersburg

St Pete: Feel the excitement as world-class racers burn rubber along the downtown waterfront. Snag driver autographs, tour the Speed Zone and Gasoline Alley and rock out with former Poison frontman Bret Michaels in the 2024 IndyCar season opener! Takes place 8 am-5 pm daily in downtown St. Pete. Info: www.gpstpete.com

MARCH

March 1 & 2

Sarasota Festival of the Arts

Sarasota: Discover original work by 70+ Florida and US artists, including painting, sculpture, jewelry, photography, glass, ceramics, fiber, wearable art, mixed-media, metalwork, graphics, woodworking and more, all in a unique outdoor gallery setting just steps away from the dazzling Gulf. Free. Takes place 10am-5pm at 199 Bayfront Dr. Info: www.paragonfestivals.com/

March 8 & 9

Lakewood Ranch Festival of the Arts

Lakewood Ranch: Step into an awe-inspiring outdoor gallery featuring life-size sculptures, stunning paintings, dazzling jewelry, captivating glasswork, photography, intricate ceramics, fiber and wearable art and more and the chance to engage with artists to learn about their inspiration. Free. Takes place 10am-5pm at 8100 Lakewood Main St. Info: www.paragonfestivals.com

March 7-9

Largo Seafood & Music Festival

Largo: Enjoy delicious seafood, meat and vegetarian dishes, scrumptious sides and delectable desserts, captivating live music and community in this exciting new festival also featuring unique local arts, crafts and specialty items in arts marketplace. Free. Takes place Fri: 4-7pm; Sat: 11am-10pm; Sun: 11am-6pm at 101 Central Park Dr. Info: www.paragonfestivals.com/

March 14-23

Sarasota County Fair

Sarasota: Round up the family for this annual salute to agriculture, featuring 4H livestock judging, sheep shearing and cow milking contests, horticulture displays, midway thrills, racing pigs, magic shows, a petting zoo, live music and delicious fair food. Tickets. Takes place M-TH: 4-10pm; 1st Fri: 5-11pm; 2nd Fri: 4-11pm; Sat: 12-11pm; Sun: 12-10pm at 3000 Ringling Blvd. Info: www.sarasotafair.com