AUSTIN EVENTS

Austin is a 24-hour town populated by an upstart mix of musicians, tech experts, filmmakers, athletes and foodies, and our annual events calendar is proof. For a more comprehensive event list of the variety of things happening in Austin, visit www.visitaustin.org/visit/events.

JANUARY

Free Week
Red River Cultural District
The first week of January might be the best time for a music fan to visit Austin. Why? Hundreds of Austin bands participate in this annual event that encompasses multiple venues all over Austin.

Martin Luther King Festival
Huston-Tillotson University
Join the march from the MLK statue at the University of Texas campus to historic Huston-Tillotson University to celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s legacy for Austin and the world.

FEBRUARY

Black History Month
Various Venues
To commemorate Black History Month there will be events including film screenings and ceremonies throughout the city celebrating important people and moments in time in African-American history.

Carnaval Brasileiro
Emo’s
Austin’s Carnaval is one of the biggest Brazilian Carnaval celebrations outside Brazil. Brasileiro-style samba, costumes and wild abandon can all be seen in the heart of Texas.

Austin Fashion Week
Locations around Austin
Austin Fashion Week showcases the work of fashion designers, photographers, hair stylists, makeup artists and models from around the state of Texas with over a hundred including runway shows, designer meet-and-greets, themed parties and benefits for Austin non-profits.
Austin Marathon & Half Marathon
_Downtown Austin_
Austin will welcome nearly 20,000 participants from around the world for the Annual Austin Marathon & Half Marathon. This exciting event showcases Austin’s scenic urban landscape for both runners and spectators alike.

**MARCH**

**Blancpain GT World Challenge**
_Circuit of The Americas_
The Blancpain GT World Challenge offers unparalleled access to more makes and models than any other racing series. This series features more than 100 production-based cars (like the ones you drive) that have been prepped specially for racing. There will even be access to the paddock to see the cars up close, hear the engines roar and speak with the drivers.

**SXSW® Music, Film and Interactive Conferences and Festivals**
_Various Locations_
Austin Convention Center and more than 50 venues host noted filmmakers, musicians and multimedia artists from around the world converge to showcase music, film and interactive media during this internationally-recognized event.

**Rodeo Austin**
_Travis County Exposition Center_
Since its inception in 1938, this local event has grown from a simple stock show featuring 16 animals into one of the state’s premier rodeos. Over the course of two weeks, the Rodeo features 10 ProRodeo events, a family-friendly fair, daily concerts and more.

**St. Patrick’s Day Festival**
_Jourdan-Bachman Pioneer Farms_
This family-friendly St. Patrick’s Day fest celebrates all things Irish. Come enjoy authentic Celtic music and dancers, Irish language workshops, the finest Irish imports and plenty of good craic!

**IndyCar Classic**
_Circuit of the Americas_
The popular, American-bred IndyCar series tackles COTA’s curves this March. On top of all the action on track, IndyCar attendees with Saturday admission will also be treated to a special COTA Super Stage performance from Grammy Award winning rock band Muse

**World Golf Championships-Dell Technology Match Play**
_Austin Country Club_
The WGC - Dell Technologies Match Play returns to historic Austin Country Club, bringing the top 64 golfers in the world for a weekend of golf action.

**Clyde Littlefield Texas Relays**
_The University of Texas_
This premier track and field event brings together the best high school, college and professional athletes from across Texas, the U.S. and the world.
Zilker Garden Festival
Zilker Botanical Garden
For more than 60 years, the annual Zilker Garden Festival has been a one-stop, garden shopping destination when spring arrives in Central Texas. A family-friendly event, the garden festival offers something for everyone, including the annual flower show, live music, gardening talks, a kid’s corner and food court.

ABC Kite Fest
Zilker Park
The nation's oldest kite festival features hundreds of kites in the air and is free to attend for people of all ages; complete with kite flying contests, food, games and more.

Austin Urban Music Festival
Auditorium Shores
More than 15,000 music revelers converge on Lady Bird Lake's Auditorium Shores to enjoy Austin's only music festival focused on R&B, neo-soul and hip-hop music.

APRIL

Old Settler’s Music Festival
Tilmon, TX
Central Texas’ signature music event featuring Grammy-winning Americana, arts and crafts, camping, food and libations. Acoustic jazz, blues and bluegrass are all performed by old-time local faves and award-winning artists from around the world.

Art City Austin
Palmer Event Center
Austin’s original fine arts festival and national juried art show of 200 locally and nationally recognized artists and galleries is a family friendly event featuring local food trailers, beer, cocktails and interactive projects for kids of all ages.

Capitol 10K
Downtown Austin
Texas’ largest 10K race and one of the nation’s top runs draws some 18,000 serious and not-so-serious runners.

Austin Food + Wine Festival
Auditorium Shores
Join top chef talent, sommeliers and winemakers from across the nation and Austin's own acclaimed gourmet scene for an indulgent, three-day epicurean adventure unlike any other, topped off with live musical performances.

Moontower Comedy Festival
The Paramount Theatre and other locations
Moontower Comedy & Oddity Festival presented by the Paramount Theatre brings to Austin, TX some of the funniest, wittiest and oddest world-class comics from around the globe. National headliners, up-and-comer and local Austin-based comedians ensure a hilarious night of fun.
**Austin Reggae Fest**
*Auditorium Shores*
A fundraiser for the Capital Area Food Bank, Reggae Fest features three days of reggae, world and dub talent, along with more than 50 vendors selling food and arts & crafts.

**Eeyore’s Annual Birthday Party**
*Pease Park*
Live music, beer, food, acrobats and costume contests surround this annual gathering of Austin’s most eclectic locals. Eeyore’s Birthday serves as fundraiser to benefit many local, Austin nonprofits.

**MOTOGP™ Grand Prix of the Americas**
*Circuit of The Americas™*
MotoGP™, the pinnacle of all motorcycle World Championships, joins the roster of racing events at the Circuit of The Americas™ track with a three-day series at the purpose built Grand Prix venue. With the addition of this race, the new circuit is the first North American racing venue to host both two-and four-wheeled World Championship events in one year’s time.

**MAY**

**Cine Las Americas International Film Festival**
*Various Locations*
The festival showcases contemporary films and videos from Latin America (North, Central, South America and the Caribbean) and the Iberian Peninsula. Films and videos made by or about Latinos in the U.S. or the rest of the world, as well as films and videos by or about indigenous groups of the Americas are also invited to participate.

**Pecan Street Festival (Spring)**
*Historic Sixth Street*
A free, family event, the Pecan Street Festival is the oldest and largest art festival in Central Texas. Musicians, food vendors, artists and crafts people turn Sixth Street – historically called Pecan Street – into a lively street fair where there is something for people of all ages.

**Latino Music Month**
*Various Venues*
The many Latino music genres are showcased during performances on the Plaza at Austin City Hall each Friday at noon. Other special events throughout the month are presented as well.

**Lifetime Capital of Texas Triathlon**
*Lady Bird Lake, Downtown Austin*
Lifetime Capital of Texas Triathlon attracts all levels of athletes from top ranked professionals to first-time triathletes. The event includes the USA Paratriathlon National Championship, sprint and international distances, First Tri distance and sprint and international distance relays.

**Hot Luck Fest**
*Around Town*
The Hot Luck: Live Food & Music festival returns to honor the soul, sweat and DIY diversity of the food and music world. The festival is an eat-with-your-fingers picnic and party experience that highlights open-pit feats of culinary know how, and music in your ears that is as thoughtfully created as the food on your plate. Come hungry, thirsty, and bring your dancin' boots.
**West Austin Studio Tour**

*Across West Austin*

The West Austin Studio Tour is a free, self-guided tour that celebrates Austin’s talented and wildly diverse creative community. The public is invited to discover new artistic talent; see working studios; learn about artists’ tools, techniques and inspirations; explore galleries and a variety of exhibitions; and immerse themselves in the arts and local business communities.

**JUNE**

**ATX Television Festival**

*Downtown Austin*

ATX Festival is the first festival devoted to Television’s history and future. It functions like a traditional film festival with premieres of new series, current hits & cult favorites. ATX Festival also offers access to the industry’s leading professionals with cast and creator Q&A’s and panels focusing on innovation in both production and content delivery.

**Republic of Texas Biker Rally**

*Travis County Exposition Center & Downtown Austin*

The state’s largest motorcycle gathering attracts thousands of bikers for rides, parades and music.

**Austin Asian American Film Festival**

*Around Town*

The Austin Asian American Film Festival (AAAFF) promotes Asian and Asian American cultures and experiences through the media arts, showcasing top quality cinema and supporting the creative talents of Asian American artists.

**African American Book Festival**

*George Washington Carver Museum*

This free, annual literary event showcases new works by and about African Americans. Notable speakers and authors will discuss their works and facilitate conversations.

**Central Texas Juneteenth Celebration**

*MLK Blvd. and other locations*

Juneteenth, also known as “Freedom Day” or “Emancipation Day,” is the oldest known African American celebration commemorating the end of slavery. This annual event features a 2K walk/run, parade floats and entertainment and celebration at Rosewood Park.

**Fun Stop & 5K Fest**

*Long Center for the Performing Arts*

Anything is possible at this decade-old Austin extravaganza! Run, skip or race through the streets of downtown Austin wearing the wackiest costume. Unofficially known as “the slowest 5K you will ever run,” this race is designed for amusement and fun.

**JULY**

**Fourth of July Fireworks and Symphony**

*Auditorium Shores*

The Austin Symphony hosts an annual concert of patriotic music culminating in a spectacular firework display over Lady Bird Lake.
Hill Country Galleria Independence Day Festival

Hill Country Galleria
A free celebration of Independence in the Hill Country Galleria, featuring fabulous art, live entertainment and a fireworks display.

AUGUST

Austin Chronicle Hot Sauce Festival
Fiesta Gardens
If you wanna’ beat the heat this summer then you gotta’ eat the heat! Join the Austin Chronicle for one of the world’s largest hot sauce festivals with as many as 10,000 spectators each year.

Austin Pride Festival & Parade
Fiesta Gardens along the shores of Lady Bird Lake
The PRIDE Festival is the largest annual LGBTQ advocacy and fundraising event in Central Texas. Dozens of non-profit organizations and social clubs use the Festival as a platform to inform and interact with the thousands of attendees. Each year, countless people find new organizations to join, causes to support, and opportunities to volunteer.

Bat Fest
Congress Avenue Bridge
Celebrate this batty event as the world’s largest urban bat colony (two million Mexican Free Tail Bats which take up seasonal residence beneath the Ann Richard’s Congress Street Bridge) take to the skies for their nightly flight. Enjoy live music, children activities and costume contest.

Capital City Black Film Festival
Around Town
CCBFF celebrates African American filmmakers from across the nation and provides a stage for burgeoning talent. This festival packs in the fun with four-days of events, seminars, parties, screenings and more.

SEPTEMBER

All Genders, Lifestyles and Identities Film Festival (aGLIFF)
Around Town
aGLIFF is the oldest and largest gay and lesbian film fest in the Southwest and the largest LGBTQ cultural event in Austin. Experience the festival in September and watch for monthly screenings around town.

Austin Museum Day
Museums Across Austin
Organized by the Austin Museum Partnership, this special day features free exhibitions and activities at participating Austin-area museums and cultural sites.

Fantastic Fest
Alamo Drafthouse
Fantastic Fest is the largest genre film festival in the U.S., specializing in horror, fantasy, sci-fi, action and just plain fantastic movies from around the world.
Free Day of Yoga
Across Austin
All day long, participating studios across the Austin area offer free classes as an opportunity for every age and fitness level.

Out of Bounds Comedy Festival
Various Locations
Comedians from around the country show Austinites their comedy chops and throw down in a mini-golf tourney.

Pecan Street Festival (Fall)
Sixth Street Austin
A free, family event, the Pecan Street Festival is the oldest and largest art festival in Central Texas. Musicians, food vendors, artists and crafts people turn Sixth Street – historically called Pecan Street – into a lively street fair where there is something for people of all ages.

Texas Craft Brewers Festival
Fiesta Gardens
The Texas Craft Brewers Fest is the largest beer festival for and by Texas Brewers. This annual event features the best of Texas craft beer and displays the thriving beer community across the Lone Star State.

Zilker Relays
Zilker Park
The Zilker Relays is a 10-mile team race. Each participant runs a 2.5 mile loop from one central festival/transition area. The team concept of the Zilker Relays is not unique, but the combination of a relay, festival home base, drinks and music, make this experience a favorite for runners of all calibers and ages.

Oktoberfest
German Free School
Live music, food, a biergarten, kid’s activities and more at the German Free School.

OCTOBER

Austin City Limits Music Festival
Zilker Park
One of the country’s largest celebrations of live music, this two weekend, six-day festival brings the magic of the famed public TV series "Austin City Limits" outside the studio and into Austin’s most beloved park. More than 150 musical acts will take over eight stages along with local food vendors, brewers, artists and pop-up shops and artists.

Austin Film Festival
Paramount Theatre and various locations
Recognized as one of the top film festivals in the country, this cinematic event shines the spotlight on top-billed films and Indies alike.

Dia de Los Muertos Music Festival
Fiesta Gardens
The cultural celebration will feature renowned recording artists in the Latin and Texas music industries. The family-friendly festival will offer local food and beverages, cultural performances, Kids Zone activities and more.
**Oktoberfest**  
*German Free School*  
The German-Texan Heritage Society holds this annual festival, featuring live music, food, a biergarten, kid’s activities and more at the historic German Free School.

**Texas Fireworks Dia de los Muertos Celebration**  
*Kreig Baseball Field*  
Light up your Halloween night with pyrotechnics at Kreig Softball Fields, presented by Planet K.

**Texas Teen Book Festival**  
*St. Edward’s University*  
The Texas Book Festival has evolved into one of the premier literary events in the country and hosts about 250 authors each year. More than 40,000 book lovers of all ages attend the Festival annually, enjoying readings, panel discussions, signings, cooking demonstrations, live music, local food, YA authors, children’s activities and exhibiting vendors from across the state.

**NOVEMBER**

**Texas Monthly BBQ Festival**  
*City Terrace at The Long Center*  
This tasty festival only has four rules: muster as many of Texas' best BBQ joints as possible; have them serve up their specialties, side-by-side; let smoke and sauce fly for five intoxicating hours; and finally, let The People decide who made the best goods.

**Levitation Fest**  
*Red River Cultural District*  
Mark your calendars, LEVITATION will return to Austin this November. Enjoy a weekend full of live music, psychedelic light shows and more.

**Austin Celtic Festival**  
*Fiesta Gardens*  
This annual festival is also the largest gathering of Celts in Central Texas. The event is home to four stages of Irish, Scottish and Breton music, dance, sports, storytelling, workshops and more.

**Austin Powwow**  
*Travis County Exposition Center*  
For more than 25 years, the Austin Powwow features music, dancing, food and arts & crafts in celebration of American Indian Heritage.

**Blue Genie Art Bazaar**  
*6100 Airport Blvd.*  
The Blue Genie Art Bazaar is a unique holiday art show held in Austin, Texas. The Bazaar features handmade artwork & gifts from over 200 local & regional artists – with a portion of proceeds going to Make-A-Wish® Foundation.
Christmas at the Caswell House
Caswell House Austin
Christmas at the Caswell House has been an Austin community tradition since 1983. The Austin Junior Forum transforms this historic home into a winter wonderland.

Chuy’s Christmas Parade
Congress Avenue
This spirited holiday parade features a procession of giant balloons, marching bands, vintage cars, celebrities and floats to usher in the season of giving.

East Austin Studio Tour
Various Locations
More than 70 Eastside studios open their doors for the public’s viewing and purchasing pleasure.

Formula 1 United States Grand Prix
Circuit of The Americas™
Drivers will be in Austin competing in the Formula 1 United States Grand Prix this fall. Built around a state-of-the-art 3.4-mile circuit track with capacity for 120,000 fans and an elevation change of 133 feet, the facility is designed for any and all classes of racing – from motor power to human power.

Texas Book Festival
Texas State Capitol
The Texas Book Festival has evolved into one of the premier literary events in the country and hosts about 250 authors each year. More than 40,000 book lovers of all ages attend the Festival annually, enjoying readings, panel discussions, signings, cooking demonstrations, live music, local food, YA authors, children’s activities and exhibiting vendors from across the state.

Turkey Trot
The Long Center
ThunderCloud Subs’ 5-mile run/1-mile walk is a good way to work up a Thanksgiving appetite.

Zilker Tree Lighting
Zilker Park
This Austin tradition is continuing its 50+ year run of light displays, interactive shows and holiday-themed walkthroughs.

DECEMBER

Armadillo Christmas Bazaar
Palmer Events Center
Shades of old Austin are reflected at this market with eclectic gift and local entertainment from more than 160 artist and merchants.

Cherrywood Art Fair
Maplewood Elementary
This neighborhood fundraiser benefits the eastside arts scene. Enjoy local food artisans, live music, 80+ artists, kids crafts and a silent auction at the annual event.
German-Texan Heritage Society Christmas Market
German Free School
The German-Texan Heritage Society's annual market offers shoppers handmade, imported crafts, decorations, ornaments and more. Browse the market, visit Sankt Nikolas, listen to traditional German Christmas music and enjoy a cup of Glühwein (hot spiced wine), gingerbread cookies and other sweet baked treats.

Holiday Sing-Along & Downtown Stroll
Texas State Capitol
Join hundreds caroling in front of the Capitol as the tree is lit before heading down Congress Avenue for live music, shopping, art and much more.

Luminations at the Wildflower Center
Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center
Thousands of luminaries and twinkling lights turn the center into a holiday wonderland during Luminations, an Austin holiday tradition.

Trail of Lights
Zilker Park
The Austin Trail of Lights is part of the Austin experience, lighting up the season with a celebration of community, memories and fun. With a beautiful array of lights the tree is lit following a 5k run, which allows the Trail of Lights to be lit and showcased.

Winter Wonderland at The Circuit
Circuit of the Americas
Millions of lights illuminate a magical world of holiday amusement at Circuit of The Americas. There is something for everyone to experience and enjoy including a Skating Rink, Human Snow Globe, Singing Trees, Petting Zoo, Camel Rides, Santa's Workshop, Carnival Rides, Hot Air Balloon Float, Merry Movies on The Lawn, Delectable Food, Shopping Galore, Tunnel of Lights and much more.

Austin’s New Year
Auditorium Shores
This alcohol-free, family-friendly event celebrates the diversity and creativity of the city with visual art installations, jugglers, storytellers, fire dancers and other festive performances.

AUSTIN MUSIC FESTIVALS

JANUARY–MARCH
Free Week
Carnaval Brasileiro
SXSW®
Rodeo Austin

APRIL–JUNE
Austin Reggae Fest
Hot Luck Fest
Old Settlers Music Festival
Urban Music Festival
Spring Pecan Street Festival

JULY–SEPTEMBER
Fourth of July Fireworks & Symphony
Fall Pecan Street Festival

OCTOBER–DECEMBER
Austin City Limits Music Festival
Armadillo Christmas Bazaar
Levitation
ANNUAL ARTS & CULTURE EVENTS

JANUARY–MARCH
Martin Luther King Jr. Festival
Carnaval Brasileiro
SXSW
Austin Area Jazz Fest Concert Series
Austin Urban Music Festival

APRIL–JUNE
Austin Reggae Fest
Austin International Poetry Festival
Art City Austin
Fusebox Festival
Taste of Black Austin
Moontower Comedy Fest
West Austin Studio Tour
Central Texas Juneteenth Celebration
Austin African American Book Festival

JULY–SEPTEMBER
Austin Pride Festival & Parade
Zilker Summer Musical
Out of Bounds Comedy Festival
Austin Museum Day
Texas Biennial (every other year)
Austin Museum Day

OCTOBER–DECEMBER
Texas Book Festival
Viva la Vida Festival & Parade
East Austin Studio Tour
Ballet Austin’s The Nutcracker
Armadillo Christmas Bazaar

ANNUAL FILM EVENTS

JANUARY–MARCH
OUTsider Film Festival
South by Southwest Film Festival

APRIL–JUNE
ATX Television Festival
Austin Youth Film Festival
Cine Las Americas
Films for the Forest
Hill Country Film Festival
Indie Meme Film Festival
Off Centered Film Festival

JULY–SEPTEMBER
Fantastic Fest
Austin Gay and Lesbian International Film Festival
Austin Music Video Festival
Austin Revolution Film Festival
Capital City Black Film Festival
Millennial Film Festival

OCTOBER–DECEMBER
Austin Comedy Short Film Festival
Austin Film Festival
Austin Short Film Festival
Austin Asian American Film Festival
Austin Polish Film Festival
Cinema Touching Disability
Other Worlds Austin