

PADUCAH

UNESCO CREATIVE CITY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Barbecue on the River and Fireball Run Arrive in Downtown Paducah, September 25-27

Paducah, KY – September 23, 2025 – The smell of hickory smoke and the sound of live music will soon fill the streets of historic downtown Paducah as Barbecue on the River returns September 25–27. This annual festival turns downtown into the region’s biggest backyard barbecue, with dozens of food and shopping vendors, live music, and children’s activities. Now in its 31st year, Barbecue on the River serves up classic barbecue and fair flavors while raising money for local nonprofit organizations.

This year’s event comes with an added bonus: on Friday, September 26, downtown Paducah will welcome the Fireball Run, a nationally recognized road rally featuring rare, exotic, and specialty vehicles. Visitors are invited to stroll through downtown and admire the cars on show that evening on Broadway. Follow @paducahcreativecity on Facebook and Instagram for event updates and trip inspiration.

Downtown Paducah, with its mix of shops, galleries, and restaurants provides the perfect backdrop for a weekend full of flavor, horsepower, and community pride. Visitors are encouraged to make the most of their time by exploring all that Paducah has to offer. Resources for planning a weekend getaway are available at www.paducah.travel.

Parking & Accessibility

To accommodate both events, the downtown parking lot at N Second and Broadway and the Farmer’s Market lot will be closed. Festival-goers are encouraged to use the 3rd Street and Kentucky Avenue lot or available street parking throughout downtown (please pay attention to posted signage). A drop-off lane for guests who are pregnant, elderly, or disabled will be offered at The National Quilt Museum, and limited handicap accessible parking will be available nearby on Monroe St.

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