

VISIT DENVER
October 2012 – October 2013
Events Calendar

OCTOBER 2012

Denver Beer Fest, October 5-13

A nine-day celebration of all things beer, including beer tastings at Denver restaurants, beer-paired dinners, meet the brewer” nights, beer tastings, brewery tours and a variety of other entertaining beer events throughout the Mile High City. denverbeerfest.com

Great American Beer Festival, October 11-13

The world’s largest gathering of beer enthusiasts boasts more than 2,000 different beers from 300 American breweries at the Colorado Convention Center. greatamericanbeerfestival.com

Pumpkin Festival, October 12-14

Take a stroll through an 8.5-acre pumpkin patch at the Denver Botanic Gardens at Chatfield on a quest for the perfect jack-o-lantern. Enjoy crafts, food and events especially for the kids. 720-865-3500; botanicgardens.org

A Day in Pompeii, through January 13, 2013

Hundreds of exceptional artifacts on display at the Denver Museum of Nature & Science offer an insider's glimpse into the daily life—and tragic end—of this ancient Roman city that was destroyed by the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in AD 79. dmns.org

Becoming Van Gogh, October 21, 2012 – January 20, 2013

The Denver Art Museum explores Vincent van Gogh’s unconventional path to becoming one of the world’s most beloved artists in an only-in-Denver exhibition. Featuring 70 works, the exhibit explores van Gogh’s key formative years, while also delving into other artists who inspired his path. denverartmuseum.org

NOVEMBER 2012

Starz Denver Film Festival, November 1-11

Grab the popcorn and enjoy this four-star event! Dozens of filmmakers introduce a slate of independent movies at the United Artist Theaters on the 16th Street Mall and the Denver FilmCenter at the Lowenstein Cultureplex on E. Colfax. 303-595-3456; denverfilm.org

Denver Arts Week, November 2-10

Denver celebrates all of the arts, from performing to visual and beyond. Explore Denver’s neighborhood studios and galleries, as well as its world-class museums during this annual event. denverartsweek.com

Denver International Wine Festival, November 7-10

A four-day celebration of wine and cuisine presented by winemakers from around the world. 303-664-5700; denverwinefest.com

Downtown Denver's Grand Illumination, November 23

Dazzling lights illuminate Downtown Denver to kick off Mile High Holidays in the Mile High City. 303-534-6161; downtowndenver.com

DECEMBER 2012

9News Parade of Lights, November 30 – December 1

The streets of downtown burst with color as spectators enjoy sparkling lights, ornamented floats, marching bands, giant balloons and costumed performers. 303-534-6161; denverparadeoflights.com

Blossoms of Light, November 30 – January 2, 2013

Journey through the brilliantly lit Denver Botanic Gardens, featuring artistically highlighted silhouettes of plants throughout 17 acres. Enjoy festive carolers, dancers and hot beverages. 720-865-3500; botanicgardens.org

Zoo Lights, December 3 – January 2, 2013

Luminous animated sculptures, traditional Christmas tunes and roaming wildlife make this event among the brightest and most beautiful in the state. 303-376-4800; denverzoo.org

Annual New Year's Eve Fireworks, December 31

Toast to 2013 under an umbrella of spectacular fireworks on the 16th Street Mall. (Two shows: 9 p.m. & Midnight). Admission is free. 303-534-6161; milehighholidays.com

2013

JANUARY 2013

National Western Stock Show, January 12-27

Grab your cowboy boots and head over to the world's premier stock show and one of the nation's largest rodeos. 303-297-1166; nationalwestern.com

Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade, January 21

Celebrate the largest Martin Luther King, Jr. march and rally in the United States. 720-971-1329; drmartinlkingjrhc.org

FEBRUARY 2013

Colorado Home & Garden Show, February 9-17

The Colorado Convention Center fills more than 40,000 square feet with flowering gardens and 1,300 booths from more than 600 companies. 303-932-8100; gardeningcolorado.com

Georgia O'Keeffe in New Mexico: Architecture, Katsinam and the Land, February 10 – April 28

Featuring some of Georgia O'Keeffe's most rarely seen works, this exhibit at the Denver Art Museum includes numerous drawings, watercolors and paintings of katsina tithu (carved and painted representations of Hopi spirit beings). denverartmuseum.org

Buffalo Bill Birthday Celebration, February 24

Celebrate this Old West icon's 166th birthday at the Buffalo Bill Gravesite & Museum, including pin-the-tail on the buffalo, a buffalo-chip tossing contest and more. 303-526-0744; buffalobill.org

Denver Restaurant Week, February 23 – March 8

Treat your taste buds when more than 300 top Denver restaurants offer multi-course meals for the "mile-high" price of \$52.80 for two (tax and tip not included). denverrestaurantweek.com

MARCH 2013

St. Patrick's Day Parade, March 16

The city's largest annual parade features horses and stagecoaches, marching bands, floats and fun with a Western flair. denverstpatriksdayparade.org

Denver March Powwow, March 22-24

One of the nation's largest annual American Indian gatherings, featuring 1,600 dancers from close to 100 tribes. 303-934-8045; denvermarchpowwow.org

APRIL 2013

Rodeo All-Star Weekend, April 4-6, 2013

The nation's top-ranked cowboys and cowgirls will ride into Denver to compete in the first Rodeo All-Star Weekend at the National Western Stock Show Complex (NWSS Complex). rodeoallstar.com

Doors Open Denver, April

Get behind-the-scenes looks at more than 70 architectural treasures during this free community event that provides access to many of the city's prominent buildings. 303-282-5073; denvergov.org/doorsopendenver

MAY 2013

Cinco de Mayo Festival, May 4-5

Spice up your weekend and head to the largest Cinco de Mayo celebration in the nation, featuring arts and crafts, Mariachi bands, Aztec dancers and more. 303-534-8342; cincodemayodenver.com

Tesoro Indian Market and Powwow, May 18-19

Colorado's largest Indian Market Powwow features Native American artists from across the country. 303-839-1671; tesoroculturalcenter.org

Colorado Colfax Marathon, May 19

The Colorado Colfax Marathon is the ultimate urban tour through 26-miles of Denver's most historic neighborhoods, all along Colfax Avenue. 303-770-9600; coloradocolfaxmarathon.org

Downtown Denver Arts Festival, May 24-27

More than 150 of Colorado's most esteemed artists showcase paintings, sculpture, photography, woodwork and more. 303-330-8237; downtowndenverartsfestival.com

Denver Day of Rock, May 25

Denver Day of Rock is a one-of-a-kind, free music festival presented by Concerts For Kids, featuring several stages of live music throughout Downtown Denver. Performers include national touring acts, as well as the best of the city's local music scene. denverdayofrock.com

Red Rocks Amphitheatre Summer Concerts, May – September

This world-renowned outdoor amphitheatre, located just 15 miles west of Denver, hosts top musical events, blockbuster films and more all summer long. redrocksonline.com

JUNE 2013**Capitol Hill People's Fair, June 1-2**

Denver's most eclectic neighborhood festival features live entertainment on multiple stages, hundreds of arts and crafts booths and a food bazaar. 303-830-1651; peoplesfair.com

Denver Chalk Art Festival, June 1-2

The streets of Larimer Square are transformed into a giant canvas by hundreds of artists who re-create masterpieces and original works with vivid pastel chalk. 303-685-8143; larimerarts.org

Nick Cave: Soundsuits, Opening June 9

Renowned contemporary artist Nick Cave will debut a new body of work at the Denver Art Museum in the summer of 2013. The exhibition will feature a combination of multimedia elements and performances along with a selection of figurative sculptures the artist dubbed "Soundsuits" for which he has become very well-known. denverartmuseum.org

PrideFest, June 15-16

A morning parade leads to a two-day festival in Civic Center Park, filled with food, live music and information highlighting the local gay and lesbian community. 303-733-7743; denverpridefest.org

Juneteenth Music Festival – June

Celebrate African-American culture with food, music and a parade in the historic Five Points neighborhood during one of the largest Juneteenth events in the nation. juneteenthmusicfestival.com

Central City Opera Summer Festival, June – August

Take in the opera in the restored jewel box theater that has provided a rich and intimate opera experience for more than 75 years. 303-292-6700; centralcityopera.org

JULY 2013**Cherry Creek Arts Festival, July 5-7**

One of the finest arts and crafts exhibitions in the nation, this festival draws more than 350,000 people each year. cherryarts.org

Colorado Gay Rodeo, July 12-14

Hang on to your cowboy hats – this traditional rodeo comes with a few twists, including a goat dressing and a Wild Drag Race at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds. cgra.us

Colorado Black Arts Festival, July 12-14

The Black Arts Festival has enriched and entertained Denver with its heritage celebration for more than 25 year. colbaf.org

Colorado Irish Festival, July 12-14

Experience the largest Irish celebration in the Rocky Mountains, with traditional Irish music, performances and dancing, Irish drama and storytelling, crafts, games and food at Clement Park in Littleton. coloradoirishfestival.org

Colorado Dragon Boat Festival, July

Set sail for summer fun at Sloan's Lake Park, where vibrantly colored dragon boats race in an exciting pan-Asian sport. cdbf.org

Buffalo Bill Days, July

The legacy of Buffalo Bill is celebrated in the city of Golden with a Wild West show, burro race, games, food and a Western parade. buffalobilldays.com

AUGUST 2013**Colorado Scottish Festival & Rocky Mountain Highland Games, August 3-4**

Join this Celtic celebration featuring pipe bands, drumming, Scottish athletic competitions, highland dancing and folk music. scottishgames.org

Solheim Cup, August 13-18

The Solheim Cup combines the tradition and prestige of the game of golf with passion for one's country. This biennial, trans-Atlantic team match-play competition features the best

U.S.-born players from the Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA) Tour and the best European members from the Ladies European Tour (LET). Special hotel packages, with tickets, are currently available at visitdenver.com/solheim-cup.

Denver County Fair, August

An offbeat take on the traditional county fair, this fun fest includes a skateboard rodeo, a carnival (complete with rides and midway games), competitive eating contests, animals, rockets, Roller Girls and more. denvercountyfair.org

USA Pro Challenge, August

The third annual USA Pro Challenge brings the high speeds, danger and adrenaline of professional biking to the elevations more than two miles high in some of the most picturesque terrain in the world – the Colorado Rocky Mountains. The race's grand finale is in Denver on Sunday, August TK. prochallenge.com

Taste of Colorado, August 30-September 2

More than 500,000 people make A Taste of Colorado, the state's largest free-admission outdoor event, the focus of their Labor Day Weekend. At this four-day festival, visitors enjoy tasty, specialty small plate offerings from some of Denver's best restaurants and food trucks, rock out to live music and spend quality family time with classic carnival rides and entertainment acts for kids. atasteofcolorado.com

SEPTEMBER

Festival Italiano, September

Festival Italiano serves up the region's best selection of homemade Italian specialties in the pedestrian friendly neighborhood of Belmar. The free festival features an artisan marketplace, live entertainment and chef tastings, live music, kids activities, a bocce tournament and flag throwers for an Italian-style weekend. belmarcolorado.com/sub/event/festival_italiano

OCTOBER

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