



FESTIVALS & EVENTS



Fantasy of Lights Boat Parade

DECEMBER 10

Dozens of festively decorated boats of all sizes light up the lake, with street market vendors, a fireworks finale and visits with Santa adding to the fun. Festivities begin at 4 p.m. with the parade at 7 p.m. Tempe Town Lake, 620 N. Mill Ave., Tempe, downtowntempe.com

DECEMBER

Tempe Festival of the Arts DECEMBER 1-3

Fine artists and craftsmen from across the country showcase original artworks at this street festival. Food trucks, wine and beer gardens, children's activities and live entertainment are included. 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Mill Avenue District, Tempe, tempefestivalofthearts.com

APS Electric Light Parade DECEMBER 2

Look forward to neon dec-

orations and twinkling holiday lights at this parade, which has lit up the night in Phoenix for 30 years. The parade starts on Central Avenue and Montebello Avenue and ends on Seventh Street and Indian School Road. 7-11 p.m. phoenix.gov/parks/lelp

Stroll in the Glow DECEMBER 2

Free photo ops with Santa in a bright red firetruck, live holiday music and more than 60,000 twinkling lights and ornaments highlight Stroll in the Glow in Fountain Hills. The annual tradition kicks off with the "Lighting of the Avenue," including the official Town

of Fountain Hills Christmas Tree. A lighted bike parade, Roll in the Glow, and the third annual Holiday Bake Off add to the festivities. 5-8 p.m. Avenue of the Fountains, Fountain Hills, 480-837-1654, fountainhillschamber.com

Tumbleweed Tree Lighting DECEMBER 2

Continuing a tradition that began in 1957, the city of Chandler celebrates its uniqueness with a Christmas tree made from hundreds of tumbleweeds. The thistly tree is on display throughout the month, with opening-day events

that include a Parade of Lights, tree-lighting ceremony and live entertainment. 7:30-9 p.m. Dr. A.J. Chandler Park, 3 S. Arizona Ave., Chandler, 480-782-2669, chandleraz.gov

S'edav Va'aki Museum Indian and Young Artist Market DECEMBER 9-10

More than 100 booths of authentic American Indian fine art and collectibles are showcased, with native music, dance and hands-on activities adding to the festivities at this 46th annual event. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. S'edav Va'aki Museum, 4619 E. Washington St., Phoenix, 602-495-0901, pueblogrande.org

Las Noches de las Luminarias DECEMBER (TBD)

Thousands of traditional luminarias line garden trails, buildings and courtyards, casting an elegant glow on the garden's world-renowned plant collection in this Valley holiday institution. [Desert Botanical Garden](http://DesertBotanicalGarden), 1201 N. Galvin Pkwy., Phoenix, 480-481-1225, dbg.org

Fiesta Bowl Parade DECEMBER 16

An array of colorful floats, high-flying helium balloons, marching bands and equestrian units perform along the 2-mile parade route in Uptown Phoenix. This year's event celebrates the 51-year history of the Fiesta Bowl organization with the theme "Spirit of Competition." 10 a.m.-2 p.m. 5757 N. Central Ave., Phoenix, 480-350-0900, fiestabowl.org

Decadence Arizona DECEMBER 30-31

Billed as Arizona's largest New Year's Eve party, this two-day bacchanal at Phoenix Raceway in Avondale invites revellers to bounce the night away to EDM talent including Steve Aoki and Illiesium. 6 p.m.-3 a.m. nightly. decadencearizona.com

FESTIVALS & EVENTS

JANUARY

Arizona Fine Art Expo JANUARY 12-MARCH 24

Guests can meet and watch nationally acclaimed, award-winning and emerging artists at work in more than 100 patron-friendly studios as Thunderbird Artists hosts this art adventure. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. daily. 26540 N. Scottsdale Rd., Scottsdale, 480-837-7163, arizonafineartexpo.com

Celebration of Fine Art JANUARY 13-MARCH 24

This 34th annual juried invitational gathering features 100 renowned and emerging

artists who show and sell their gallery-quality work in an intimate studio setting. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. daily. 18400 N. Hayden Rd., Scottsdale, 480-443-7695, celebrateart.com

Rock 'n' Roll Marathon JANUARY 13-14

Participants run to the beat as local bands and cheer teams add spirit and inspiration throughout this marathon and half marathon, which winds through Phoenix, Scottsdale and Tempe, and concludes with a finish line festival at Tempe Beach Park. Kids' races and a 5K, Jan. 13; and a 10K, Jan. 14, are included. It's the

Valley's signature running event. runrocknroll.com/arizona

Carefree Fine Art & Wine Festival JANUARY 19-21

Thunderbird Artists presents this juried fine-art festival, which showcases more than 100 artists from throughout the world, complemented by wine tastings and live entertainment. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. 101 Easy St., Carefree, thunderbirdartists.com

Barrett-Jackson Collector Car Auction JANUARY 20-28

Bid on thousands of vintage and custom cars cruising into

the Valley for this week-long celebration of collector car culture. Interactive demonstrations and displays add to the action. 8 a.m. WestWorld of Scottsdale, 16601 N. Pima Rd., Scottsdale, barrett-jackson.com

Arizona Concours d'Elegance JANUARY 21

French for "competition of excellence," Concours d'Elegance is a curated exhibition of select collector cars competing for the coveted title of Best of Show. 9 a.m. Scottsdale Civic Center, 3939 N. Drinkwater Blvd., Scottsdale, arizonaconcours.com

Cave Creek Indian Art Market JANUARY 22-24

This multicultural celebration of tribal and regional arts, crafts and entertainment showcases handcrafted creations by Native American and Southwestern artisans, along with unique health and wellness products. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Frontier Town, 6245 E. Cave Creek Rd., Cave Creek, cavecreekaz.gov

Arizona Balloon Classic JANUARY 26-28

Dozens of hot air balloons fill the sky during Hare & Hound races; then light up the night during Desert Glows. Live entertainment, a kite festival, stunt bike shows, tethered balloon rides, a beer garden and fireworks add to the festivities. A portion of proceeds benefits Valley of the Sun United Way. Goodyear Ballpark, 1933 S. Ballpark Way, Goodyear, abcfest.com

Doggie Street Festival JANUARY 27

Find music, free snacks, vet tips, pet products and more at this outdoor canine-friendly gathering. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Steele Indian School Park, 300 E. Indian School Rd., Phoenix, 602-495-0935, doggiestreetfestival.org

Russo and Steele Collector Car Auction ▼

JANUARY (TBD)

Auction action is in high gear as hundreds of European sports cars, American muscle cars, hot rods and custom collector cars cross the auction block. 18601 N. Scottsdale Rd., Scottsdale, 602-252-2697, russoandsteele.com



FESTIVALS & EVENTS

FEBRUARY

Arizona Musicfest THROUGH APRIL 26

This multi-month festival features the nation's top artists of classical, chamber, jazz, rock, country, bluegrass and pop. North Scottsdale/Phoenix venues, 480-422-8449, azmusicfest.org

Concours in the Hills FEBRUARY 3

More than 1,000 collector and high-performance cars representing most makes and models take over the gently rolling slopes and green grass

around the lake and world-famous fountain. Proceeds benefit Phoenix Children's Foundation. Fountain Park, 12925 N. Saguaro Blvd., Fountain Hills, 480-837-1654, concoursinthehills.org

Parada del Sol FEBRUARY 3

Everyone's a cowboy or cowgirl at the Parada del Sol Parade, which will saunter through Old Town Scottsdale for its 70th year. Look forward to more than 150 parade floats and participants, plus the post-parade Trail's End Festival, an all-ages block party featuring concerts, food vendors, games, pony rides and more. It's also

part of a larger annual party – Scottsdale Western Week – which celebrates the town's history and heritage. 9:30 a.m.-noon. Downtown Scottsdale, scottsdaleparade.com

Scottsdale Arabian Horse Show FEBRUARY 15-25

Since 1955, this show has been a pacesetter in the Arabian horse world, growing from 50 horses to nearly 2,400 of the world's finest steeds, each competing for the title of "Scottsdale Champion." WestWorld of Scottsdale, 16601 N. Pima Rd., Scottsdale, 480-515-1500, scottsdaleshow.com

Arizona Strong Beer Festival FEBRUARY 17

A longtime favorite of Valley beer geeks, the annual conclave of beer consumption features more than 500 stouts, Imperial IPAs, lip-smacking barley-wines and other high-gravity styles, along with more demure brews like lagers and ciders. 11:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Salt River Fields at Talking Stick, 7555 N. Pima Rd., Scottsdale, chooseazbrews.com

Hoop Dance Contest FEBRUARY 17-18

Enjoy the fast-paced precision, grace and creativity of hoop dancing as top hoop dancers from the U.S. and Canada compete for cash prizes and the title of world champion. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Heard Museum, 2301 N. Central Ave., Phoenix, 602-252-8848, heard.org

Greater Phoenix Jewish Film Festival FEBRUARY 18-MARCH 3

The longest running film festival in Phoenix will present dozens of international films across three different Harkins theaters in the East Valley, West Valley and Scottsdale. Past submissions have included films from Brazil, Germany, Denmark, France and Hungary. gpjff.org

Fountain Festival of Fine Arts & Crafts FEBRUARY 23-25

This juried show features nearly 500 artists, plus live music, food booths and beer gardens. Avenue of the Fountains and Saguaro Boulevard, Fountain Hills, 480-837-1654, fountainhillsartfairs.com

Innings Fest FEBRUARY 23-24

The producers of Chicago's Lollapalooza and Austin City Limits are behind this annual music fest set to coincide with Spring Training. Past performers have included Tame Impala, Foo Fighters, Gin Blossoms and Dave Matthews Band. Tempe Beach Park, 80 W. Rio Salado Pkwy., Tempe, 480-350-5200, inningsfest.com

Devour Culinary Classic FEBRUARY 24-25

The finest chefs from around the Valley converge on Papago Park for this always-sold-out culinary confab at Desert Botanical Garden. 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Desert Botanical Garden, 1201 N. Galvin Pkwy., Phoenix, devourphoenix.com

Arizona Matsuri Festival FEBRUARY 24-25

This two-day festival focuses on all aspects of Japanese culture, including music and dance, martial arts, food and drink and more. Steele Indian School Park, 300 E. Indian School Rd., Phoenix, azmatsuri.org

Hashknife Pony Express FEBRUARY (TBD)

Welcome the Hashknife riders as they complete a 200-mile journey on horseback from Holbrook to Scottsdale, delivering thousands of letters. This re-enactment of Western history is the longest-running Pony Express ride in the nation. Riders arrive at high noon at a soon-to-be-announced Scottsdale location. 480-686-9539, hashknifeponyexpress.com

Arizona Renaissance Festival

FEBRUARY 3-MARCH 31

Foolish pleasures mix with artisan treasures at this 50-acre festival village complete with storybook shops, hundreds of costumed characters, a hearty feast and 16 stages of entertainment, including music, dance, shenanigans and jousting knights. Huzzah! Saturdays-Sundays, plus President's Day, Feb. 19, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. 12601 E. Hwy. 60, Gold Canyon, 520-463-2600, renfestinfo.com



FESTIVALS & EVENTS

MARCH

M3F

MARCH 1-2

Nonprofit and locally produced, the annual two-day indie rock bacchanal brings national acts, food vendors and a mini marketplace to Downtown Phoenix each spring. Margaret T. Hance Park, 67 W. Culver St., Phoenix, 602-534-2406, m3ffest.com

Phoenix Scottish Games

MARCH 1-3

Enjoy a day of highland pagentry as the Caledonian Society of Arizona hosts the 59th annual event featuring pipes and drums, highland dancers, Celtic bands, and more. Gilbert Regional Park, 3005 E. Queen Creek Rd., Gilbert, phoenixscottishgames.com

Melrose Street Fair

MARCH 2

Hailed for its vintage shops, the Melrose 'hood is also home

to this bustling event featuring food trucks, live music and the handiwork of more than 200 local artisans. 11 a.m.-5 p.m., melrosemerchantsassociation.com

Indian Fair & Market

MARCH 2-3

More than 600 top American Indian artists exhibit and sell handmade artwork – including baskets, beadwork, quilts, jewelry, paintings, weavings, sculpture, pottery and pueblo carvings. Heard Museum, 2301 N. Central Ave., Phoenix, 602-252-8848, heard.org/indian-fair

Mecum Auctions

MARCH 5-9

Approximately 1,200 classic and collector cars – Corvettes, exotics, trucks, hot rods, resto-mods and muscle cars – cross the auction block at this high-energy event. State Farm Stadium, 1 Cardinals Dr., Glendale, mecum.com

Rodeo Scottsdale

MARCH 7-10

The PRCA-sanctioned event attracts world-class bull riders, ropers, steer wrestlers, bronc riders, barrel racers, rodeo clowns and bullfighters. Dances follow most performances. WestWorld of Scottsdale, 16601 N. Pima Rd., Scottsdale, 480-648-4369, rodeoscottsdale.com

St. Patrick's Day Parade

MARCH 16

Known as the "Greenest Day in the Desert," the annual event celebrates all things Irish in Arizona. Attendees can enjoy traditional music and dance, dishes like corned beef and cabbage and more. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Irish Cultural Center, 1106 N. Central Ave., Phoenix, stpatricksdayphoenix.org

PHOENIX Dish Fest

MARCH 17

Eat and drink your fill at this one-of-a-kind food festival, fea-

turing dishes showcased in the annual January/February dining issue of *PHOENIX* magazine. This year's festival will focus on favorites seen in the magazine's Best New Restaurant and Best of the Valley issues. The Clayton House, Scottsdale, 3719 N. 75th St., phoenixmag.com/dishfest

Arizona Aloha Festival

MARCH 16-17

Shop for plumeria candles and Polynesian leis, chow down on SPAM musubi and bring a lawn chair to watch hula dancers sway on the mainstage. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tempe Beach Park, 80 W. Rio Salado Pkwy., Tempe, 480-350-5200, azalohafest.org

Arizona Dragon

Boat Festival

MARCH 23-24

Paddle crews from around the world celebrate the ancient Chinese sport of dragon boat racing at Tempe Town Lake. See the elegant boats – outfitted with a dragon's head in front and a tail at the back – glide through the water to the "heartbeat" cadence of each boat's drummer. 550 E. Tempe Town Lake, azdba.org

Art Detour

MARCH (TBD)

Celebrating its 36th anniversary this year, Artlink's annual self-guided tour gives locals a glimpse inside the studios – and the minds – of Downtown artists. Visit the opening night gala for a preview of this year's featured artists, or download a map and visit workshops from Roosevelt Row to Grand Avenue. artlinkphx.org/art-detour

Chandler Ostrich

Festival

MARCH (TBD)

Flightless fowl strut their stuff in a yearly festival that features carnival rides and games, national and local entertainment, arts and crafts, children's activities and ostrich races. Tumbleweed Park, 745 E. Germann Rd., Chandler, 480-588-8497, ostrichfestival.com

Tempe Festival of the Arts

MARCH 8-10

Nearly 350 fine artists and craftsmen from across the country showcase original artworks at this street festival. Food trucks, wine and beer gardens, children's activities and live entertainment are included. Mill Avenue District, Tempe, tempefestivalofthearts.com



FESTIVALS & EVENTS

APRIL

Arizona Musicfest APRIL 1-APRIL 26

This multi-month music festival comes to a close with performances such as *Trailblazing Women of Country*, April 1; and *Hotel California: A Salute to the Eagles*, April 26. North Scottsdale/Phoenix venues, 480-422-8449, azmusicfest.org

Arizona Bike Week APRIL 3-7

This 27th annual festival and rally celebrates motorcycles and biker culture with five days of local bands, bike shows, demos, vendors, exhibitions and the HandleBar Saloon in The PowerYard. WestWorld of Scottsdale, 16601 N. Pima Rd., Scottsdale, azbikeweek.com

Phoenix Film Festival APRIL 4-14

Find nearly 300 films at what *MovieMaker Magazine* named one of America's "25 Coolest Film Festivals." Harkins Theatres Scottsdale 101, 7000 E. Mayo Blvd., Phoenix, phoenixfilmfestival.com

Maricopa County Fair APRIL 5-14

Livestock shows, agriculture and youth exhibits, midway rides and live entertainment are among the attractions at this annual carnival. Arizona State Fairgrounds, 1826 W. McDowell Rd., Phoenix, 602-252-0717, maricopacountyfair.org

Country Thunder APRIL 11-14

Thousands of fans turn out for Arizona's premier country

western jam each year. Luke Bryan, Dierks Bentley and more headlined the all-star lineup last year. 20585 E. Water Way, Florence, countrythunder.com/az

Pat's Run APRIL 13

Thousands of runners and walkers participate in this annual 4.2-mile run/walk honoring late football star Pat Tillman. The race, which also includes a .42-mile kids' run, winds through downtown Tempe and finishes on the 42-yard line of the ASU stadium, paying tribute to Tillman's jersey number. ASU Sun Devil Stadium, 500 E. Veterans Way, Tempe, patsrun.com

Celebrity Fight Night APRIL 27

Winning the fight for local charities since 1994, this

star-studded evening attracts celebrities from across the country, such as Steve Nash, Mike Tyson, Halle Berry, Michael Phelps, David Foster, Harrison Ford and more. Proceeds support Gateway for Cancer Research. 5 p.m. Fairmont Scottsdale Princess, 7575 E. Princess Dr., Scottsdale, 480-585-4848, celebrityfightnight.org

Arizona Tiki Oasis APRIL (TBD)

Each year, Arizona Tiki Oasis takes over the Hotel Valley Ho in Scottsdale with food and drink tastings, art and music for tiki enthusiasts across the state. The event is the companion event to the highly regarded Tiki Oasis Festival in San Diego. Hotel Valley Ho, 6850 E. Main St., Scottsdale, aztikioasis.com

FESTIVALS & EVENTS



Garden Tour <

APRIL (TBD)

Phoenix Home & Garden hosts this annual self-guided tour featuring several residential properties designed by landscape professionals and homeowners. Magazine editors, as well as several of the designers and homeowners, are on hand to answer questions. A portion of the proceeds benefit a local charity. Valley-wide, phgmag.com

Art in the Garden APRIL (TBD)

Local artists share new works in florals, botanicals, ceramics, wood and wearable art, complemented by live music, art and garden demonstrations, a silent auction and food and beverage vendors. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. A ticketed tea, 1-3 p.m., includes finger sandwiches, petite pastries and more. Shemer Art Center, 5005 E. Camelback Rd., Phoenix, 602-262-4727, shemerartcenter.org

Chandler Jazz Festival SPRING (TBD)

Jazz it up at this annual fest, which features a stellar lineup of local talent, spanning genres ranging from traditional and fusion rhythm to smooth jazz. 5-10:30 p.m. Dr. A.J. Chandler Park, 178 E. Commonwealth Ave., Chandler, 480-782-2669, chandleraz.gov

Great American Barbeque & Beer Fest SPRING (TBD)

Award-winning grilled meats washed down with craft beers. Need we say more? You'll have to spring extra dough for tasty 'cue and brew samples, but VIP access includes four to six drinks with homemade jerky or barbecue meal provided. Tumbleweed Park, 745 E. Germann Rd., Chandler, forty8live.com/chandlerbbq

Scottsdale Arts Festival SPRING (TBD)

Expect a stellar assortment of 175-plus artists from the U.S. and Canada, plus live music and complimentary admission to Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art. Scottsdale Civic Center Park, 7380 E. Second St., Scottsdale, scottsdaleartsfestival.org