FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

READY, SET, SUMMER! WISCONSIN FESTIVALS ARE REVVING UP FOR FUN
Travel Wisconsin’s list of events from April through Labor Day 2015

MADISON, Wis. (March 31, 2015) – Summer is right around the corner, which means Wisconsin is bursting with festivals and events to keep you busy all season long. We’ve narrowed down the list to just 17 pages of high-energy, family-friendly festivals, competitions, art shows and so much more. Find classic favorites, as well as new events, like Subfest at the Wisconsin Maritime Museum and The Paine Art Center’s Dressing Downton exhibit. We’re not exaggerating when we say there is something for everyone in Wisconsin this spring and summer.

Please note that event changes may occur. We encourage media to double check dates and contact information before going to print or posting online.

Travelers looking for year-round Wisconsin getaway ideas, travel planning, events and free guides can discover their own fun by visiting TravelWisconsin.com on desktop, tablet or mobile devices. You can also choose to “Like” us at Facebook.com/TravelWisconsin or follow along on Twitter at Twitter.com/TravelWI and Instagram at TravelWisconsin.

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**JULY EVENTS (Pages 12-14)**

- **40th Annual National Women’s Music Festival** – Madison  
  July 2-5, 2015
- **Bastille Days** – Milwaukee  
  July 9-12, 2015
- **Wisconsin Maritime Museum: Submarine Fest** – Manitowoc  
  July 10-12, 2015
- **Art Fair on the Square** – Madison  
  July 11-12, 2015
- **Logging and Heritage Festival** – Marinette  
  July 11-12, 2015
- **Salmon-A-Rama** – Racine  
  July 11-19, 2015
- **World Championship Snowmobile Watercross** – Grantsburg  
  July 17-19, 2015
- **Festa Italiana** – Milwaukee  
  July 17-19, 2015
- **Midsummer Festival of the Arts** – Sheboygan  
  July 18-19, 2015
- **EAA AirVenture** – Oshkosh  
  July 20-26, 2015
- **Country Jam USA Festival** – Eau Claire  
  July 23-25, 2015
- **35th Annual German Fest** – Milwaukee  
  July 24-26, 2015
- **Big Top Parade and Circus Celebration** – Baraboo  
  July 25, 2015
- **American Players Theatre: “Beyond the Plays”** – Spring Green  
  July 25-Sept. 6, 2015

**AUGUST/SEPTEMBER EVENTS (Pages 14-16)**

- **National Mustard Day** – Middleton  
  Aug. 1, 2015
- **African World Festival** – Milwaukee  
  Aug. 1, 2015
- **Old World Wisconsin “Game On”** – Eagle  
  Aug. 1-Sept. 7, 2015
- **Chocoholic Frolic** – Appleton  
  Aug. 2, 2015
- **Wisconsin State Fair** – West Allis  
  Aug. 6-16, 2015
- **U.S. Open Chainsaw Sculpture Championships** – Eau Claire  
  Aug. 6-9, 2015
- **Hamburger Fest and Balloon Rally** – Seymour  
  Aug. 7-9, 2015
- **Cranes of the World Festival** – Baraboo  
  Aug. 8, 2015
- **2015 PGA Championship** – Kohler  
  Aug. 10-16, 2015
- **35th Annual Irish Fest** – Milwaukee  
  Aug. 13-16, 2015
- **Lake Superior Dragon Boat Festival** – Superior  
  Aug. 21-22, 2015
- **Mexican Fiesta** – Milwaukee  
  Aug. 21-23, 2015
- **Artstreet** – Green Bay  
  Aug. 28-30, 2015
- **Wisconsin State Cow Chip Throw** – Prairie du Sac  
  Sept. 4-5, 2015
- **Taste of Madison** – Madison  
  Sept. 5-6, 2015

**NATIVE AMERICAN SUMMER CELEBRATIONS (Pages 17-18)**

- **Ho-Chunk Nation Pow-Wow** – Black River Falls  
  May 23-25 & Sept. 5-7, 2015
- **Oneida Pow-Wow** – Oneida  
  July 3-5, 2015
- **Red Cliff Traditional Pow-Wow** – Red Cliff  
  July 3-5, 2015
- **Bear River Pow-Wow** – Lac du Flambeau  
  July 10-12, 2015
- **Honor the Earth Pow-Wow** – Hayward  
  July 17-19, 2015
- **Menominee Nation Contest Pow-Wow** – Keshena  
  July 31-Aug. 2, 2015
- **Indian Summer Festival** – Milwaukee  
  Sept. 11-13, 2015
Top 2015 Spring/Summer Events and Activities

APRIL/MAY EVENTS

Taste of Scotland – Kohler
April 11, 2015
Don your finest kilt and come celebrate Scottish independence in the countryside splendor of the American Club in Kohler. With plenty of Scotch to go around, Taste of Scotland offers guests an extraordinary evening of Scotch tasting and Scottish entertainment. A five-course dinner at the majestic Whistling Straits golf course pairs Macallan and Highland Park Scotch with traditional Scottish fare.
844-289-1566; www.americanclubresort.com

Season of Blossoms – Door County
April 11-June 7, 2015
Enjoy the 22nd year of Door County Peninsula’s blossoming beauty during this two-month long celebration. Take part in blossom-themed trolley tours, guided nature hikes and several local festivals along Door County’s waterfront communities. Keep an eye out for the Door County USA, a stunning, cream-colored double daffodil.
800-527-3529; www.doorcounty.com

Midwest Horse Fair – Madison
April 17-19, 2015
Trot on over to the Alliant Energy Center in Madison for the annual Midwest Horse Fair. This year’s festival brings more than 800 horses with an array of horse clinics and demonstrations. As one of the top horse fairs in the country, this three-day festival offers unbeatable shopping and entertainment, like Big Jake – the World’s Tallest Living Horse!
920-623-5515; www.midwesthorsefair.com

Wisconsin Grilled Cheese Championship – Dodgeville
April 18, 2015
Now in its fourth year, the Wisconsin Grilled Cheese Championship offers up delicious, competition-level sandwiches that will make your mouth water. In honor of National Grilled Cheese Month, competitors are judged on presentation, style and taste. Spectators can also enjoy a beer and wine garden, music and children’s activities while sampling the dairy state’s best grilled cheeses.
608-935-9200; www.grilledcheesewisconsin.com

Port Exploreum Grand Opening – Port Washington
April 21, 2015
Combine the maritime traditions and history of Port Washington with hands-on activities and you’ve got the Port Exploreum. This new museum invites guests to explore the diversity of Port Washington’s history through interactive displays, cutting-edge technology and a children’s maritime experience. Check out the museum’s inaugural exhibit “From the Front Lines to the Sidelines – The Man Behind the Camera,” featuring noted photographer and member of the Green Bay Packers Hall of Fame Vern Biever.
262-268-9150; www.portexploreum.com
Taylor County Maple Festival – Medford          April 25, 2015
Can’t get enough maple syrup? Look no further than the Taylor County Maple Festival! Maple syrup tastings, pancake breakfasts and maple-flavored root beer floats all celebrate Wisconsin’s State Tree, the Super Maple. Learn maple syrup tapping techniques or check out the baking and cooking competitions featuring all things maple-flavored. Bring the whole family so everyone can get their maple fix.
715-512-0018; www.taylorcountylionsmaplefest.org

Horse-A-Rama – Manitowoc                          May 2-3, 2015
Horse riders and trainers alike gather at the Manitowoc County Expo for the annual Horse-A-Rama. Revel in the sights and sounds of the Wisconsin horse world. Take part in horse clinics and seminars, including special guest presenter Peggy Cummings from Connected Riding in Poulsbo, Wash. Children can enjoy the “Kids’ Korral” pony rides, magic shows and wagon rides. Yee Haw!
920-323-7394; www.horse-a-rama.org

Horicon Marsh Bird Festival – Horicon       May 8-11, 2015
Covering 33,000 acres in Dodge County, Horicon’s marshland is home to the annual Horicon Marsh Bird Festival. Have your binoculars ready to catch more than 300 species of birds. Boat and bus tours with marsh experts help you spot each distinctive bird. More adventure awaits during the night sounds hikes, live hawk and owl presentations and children’s bird scavenger hunts.
920-387-4663; www.horiconmarshbirdfestival.com

Motorsports Mayhem – Richland Center             May 9, 2015
Don’t miss this fast-paced, adrenaline-pumping event featuring every kind of motorsport imaginable. This family-friendly mayhem includes ATV and dirt bike drags, truck and tractor pulls and a demolition derby. Kiddos can enjoy the pedal cart pull. This year features “grillologists” and backyard enthusiasts Mad Dog and Merrill, who will be filming their nationally-recognized TV show, “Midwest Grill’n” live.
608-604-5068; www.hybridredneck.com

Chequamegon Bay Birding & Nature Festival – Ashland                               May 14-16, 2015
Considered one of the top birding destinations in the Midwest, Chequamegon Bay hosts three days of birding and outdoor activities at the peak of spring migration. This beautiful location boasts more than 300 bird varieties. Nature lovers can choose from 100 different events, like wildflower walks, birding by ear classes and edible wild mushroom foraging.
800-284-9484; www.birdandnaturefest.com

Wisconsin Music Arts Festival – Monroe              May 14-16, 2015
Musicians, singers and songwriters come together for the Wisconsin Music Arts Festival, celebrating the creation of music. With activities for all ages, fest-goers can enjoy classes in African drumming, songwriting and musical workshops just for kids. This year features the musical stylings of country musical revue Sweet Dreams and Honky Tonks, as well as improvisational singer-songwriter Ken Lonnquist.
888-596-1249; www.monroeartscenter.com
**Bayfield in Bloom – Bayfield**  
May 15-June 14, 2015

Delight your senses by visiting Bayfield in Bloom, a month-long celebration of the more than 50,000 blooming apple blossoms and daffodils across the town. A live recording of the Wisconsin Public Radio Show “Garden Talk” kicks off the festivities on Friday, May 15. Be sure to check out Bayfield’s Annual Garden Tours on Saturday, June 6. And don’t miss the Bayfield in Bloom Expo, featuring horticultural experts and a variety of products for your own garden on Friday, May 15.  
715-779-3335; [www.bayfield.org](http://www.bayfield.org)

**White Deer Triathlon – Boulder Junction**  
May 16, 2015

Enjoy the splendor of Boulder Junction during the inaugural White Deer Triathlon. Events include a 3K canoe, kayak and paddleboard course and 23K bike ride along Boulder Junction’s scenic roads and picturesque lakes. After crossing the finish line, celebrate your victory with a cookout, live music and an awards ceremony.  
715-385-2400; [www.whitedeertriathlon.com](http://www.whitedeertriathlon.com)

**Morel Mushroom Festival – Muscoda**  
May 16-17, 2015

Welcome to the world of all things mushroom at the Morel Mushroom Festival. Stop by Mushroom Headquarters for fried mushrooms and mushroom brats while enjoying a Morel Microbrew beer. This family-friendly fest includes a flea market, chalk drawing contest and horseshoe tournament. Don’t miss the fireworks Saturday night!  
608-739-3182; [www.muscoda.com](http://www.muscoda.com)

**Hillbilly Hustle – Lancaster**  
May 16, 2015

Get ready for some down n’ dirty fun at the Hillbilly Hustle, a 5K course with 12 farm-themed obstacles. Test your strength and endurance in this non-competitive race starting at Vesperman Farms in Lancaster. This year’s event features a brand new one-mile kids course. After crossing the finish line, enjoy food and refreshments.  
608-723-2820; [www.hillbillyhustle.com](http://www.hillbillyhustle.com)

**World’s Largest Brat Fest – Madison**  
May 22-25, 2015

After 33 years of cooking brats, the World’s Largest Brat Fest continues to draw brat lovers to the heart of downtown Madison for lots of fun and, of course, brats. Chow down while listening to free live music or play a little “Bratteyball,” the fest’s version of volleyball. Proceeds from this volunteer-run event go to more than 100 local charities.  
608-236-2031; [www.bratfest.com](http://www.bratfest.com)

**Wisconsin Canoe Heritage Day – Spooner**  
May 23, 2015

To honor the one and only Wisconsin Canoe Heritage Day, exhibitors from across the state display all shapes, sizes and styles of canoes and boats on the front lawn of the Wisconsin Canoe Heritage Museum. Enjoy live music and great summer food in the beer garden or paddle on over to the canoe and wooden boat show.  
715-635-2479; [www.wisconsincanoeheritagemuseum.org](http://www.wisconsincanoeheritagemuseum.org)
Lawn Mower Races – Fifield  May 24 & July 11, 2015
Sponsored by the Fifield Fire Department, this fun and quirky event takes the chore out of mowing your lawn! Expert drivers race their mowers around an oval track, with trophies given to the top five competitors. This fast-paced event has become so popular it now has two summer dates. Pick your favorite mower and cheer them on!
715-662-2432; www.tn.fifield.wi.gov

For 31 years, the Pewaukee Lake Water Ski Club has been entertaining the local community with spectacular summer ski shows. The club performs more than 20 shows a year, mesmerizing viewers with stunning flips, dips and dives across sparkling Pewaukee Lake. Check out this year’s Fourth of July show, complete with music and fireworks!
414-350-8713; pewaukee.waterski.org

Festival of Beer – Kohler  May 29-31, 2015
Beer fans unite at the Festival of Beer to honor Wisconsinites’ drink of choice. Premium craft brewers from around the nation gather in Kohler for music, cooking demonstrations and flowing taps. Taste delicious grilled dishes created by top local and regional chefs specially paired with delicious craft beer.
1-855-444-2838; www.destinationkohler.com/beerfestival

JUNE EVENTS
Chippewa Valley LogJam – Chippewa Valley  June 6-7, 13-14 & 20-21, 2015
This interactive art, music and theater festival is held on a 26-acre site replicating an 1800’s trading post. This year’s theme is “Wild West Fest and Steampunk Spectacular,” and features shopkeepers, food vendors and entertainers dressed in period attire. Theatrical performances include log rolling, trick riding, a rodeo competition and much, much more. Don’t forget to check out local artists selling handcrafted items throughout the grounds.
715-450-0399; www.cvlogjam.com

Annual Fresh Art Spring Tour – Pepin  June 5-7, 2015
Fresh Art Spring Tour invites guests to discover some of the finest art studios and galleries in scenic Lake Pepin and the Chippewa River Valley. On this self-guided tour, guests can experience the splendor of spring while meeting 24 local artists in 13 different galleries, creating an authentic, behind-the-scenes look at Wisconsin’s original artwork.
715-672-8188; www.freshart.org

Great Wisconsin Cheese Festival – Little Chute  June 5-7, 2015
Behold the Great Wisconsin Cheese Festival, featuring cheese, cheese… and more cheese! Fest-goers can get their fix with a cheese curd eating contest, competitive cook off with a cheesy secret ingredient and a big cheese parade. Check out celebrity guest grillers and TV personalities Mad Dog and Merrill who are sure to be cooking up something cheese-licious!
920-788-7380; www.littlechutewi.org

PrideFest – Milwaukee  June 5-7, 2015
Proudly celebrating the gay/lesbian, bisexual and transgender culture and community, Pridefest is one of the nation’s largest LGBT festivals, with more than 31,000 visitors last year. Held at the Henry W. Maier Festival Park, the fest promises exciting, diverse and high-energy entertainment with more than 150 local and national acts across eight stages, including a Dance Pavilion.
414-272-3378; www.pridefest.com
4-Pack of Fun Weekend– Statewide  
June 6-7, 2015
Enjoy the great outdoors with the whole family at Free Fun Weekend, when all admission stickers to Wisconsin State Parks are waived both Saturday and Sunday. Grab your hiking boots and explore one of Wisconsin’s 42 breathtaking state trails, including the 50th anniversary of Elroy-Sparta State Trail. Pack your pole for free fishing statewide without a trout stamp or license, or bust out your ATV and enjoy free access to public trails throughout the weekend without a trail pass.
608-266-2621; [http://dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov)

Outta Sight Kite Flight – Kenosha  
June 6-7, 2015
Watch 600 kites soar sky-high during the grand launch kicking off this free event at Kennedy Park on Kenosha’s lakefront. This year features Chicago Fire, the nation’s number one kite flying team, and the Canadian Dream Team from Montreal showcasing a giant 150-foot octopus kite. Guests can take part in kite-flying lessons, kite-making workshops and much more. Bring the family for breathtaking views and fun in the sun.
414-305-3145; [www.giftofwings.com](http://www.giftofwings.com)

Carp Fest and Wisconsin Carp Fishing Championship – Two Rivers  
June 6-7, 2015
Join world-class carp anglers in “Carp Town,” aka Two Rivers, for Carp Fest and the Wisconsin Carp Fishing Championship. Not only do competitors of this catch and release tournament get a chance to be a Wisconsin State Carp Champion, but they compete for a spot on Team USA in the World Carp Championship. Watch from the shoreline as anglers reel in this year’s biggest catch or enjoy live music, food and plenty of family-friendly activities.
920-973-0761; [www.trba.info](http://www.trba.info)

31st Annual Sparta Butterfest – Sparta  
June 11-14, 2015
Drawing thousands of people statewide, Sparta Butterfest celebrates Sparta’s buttery heritage as historic award-winning butter makers. With an array of activities like milking contests, butter making demonstrations and the always popular Butterfest parade, there is no shortage of family fun during this four-day festival.
608-269-4123; [www.spartabutterfest.com](http://www.spartabutterfest.com)

Walleye Weekend Festival – Fond du Lac  
June 12-14, 2015
As one of Wisconsin’s largest festivals, Walleye Weekend is more than just a premier fishing competition. Reel in lots of fun with musical acts, family activities and sporting events during this exciting summer festival. Every year Walleye Weekend raises money for local charities, including this year’s Hearts to Heroes motorcycle charity ride benefiting American Legion Riders.
920-923-6555; [www.walleyeweekend.com](http://www.walleyeweekend.com)
Polish Fest – Milwaukee  June 12-14, 2015
America’s largest Polish festival continues this year celebrating Milwaukee’s vibrant Polish culture. The three-day event brings an abundance of Polish artisans, nationally-recognized folk dancers, a cultural village and marketplace. Enjoy authentic Polish baked goods such as delicious pierogias. Listen to Polish rock bands or taste some of Poland’s best vodka in one of the many vodka tastings happening throughout the weekend.
414-529-2140; www.polishfest.org

Stroll through downtown New Glarus for the annual Beer, Bacon & Cheese festival. Pick up an event wristband and enjoy unlimited sampling of craft beer, specialty meats and artisan cheeses. But make sure to save room for beer, bacon and cheese-inspired foods like bacon jam burgers, beer cheese soup, cheese pie with bacon and fudge with bacon. Bring the whole family and come hungry!
800-527-6838; www.swisstown.com

Northwoods Heritage Fest – Three Lakes  June 14, 2015
Celebrate your cultural heritage at the annual Northwoods Heritage Fest in beautiful Three Lakes. German, Polish and Italian cultures will be represented, taking visitors on a fun-filled journey. Discover your own heritage through traditional music, dance, food and crafts. Don’t miss the farmer’s market featuring locally-grown produce. Sip your choice of beverage in the International Wine and Beer Garden Pavilion, which also hosts live entertainment.
715-546-3344; www.threelakes.com

Step back in time at Old World Wisconsin to see what growing up in the 1860s was like for Laura Ingalls Wilder. Old-time activities and chores come to life straight out of the Little House books and give kids the chance to step into the past. New this year is “Ma’s Tale,” an interactive storytelling experience shared from the perspective of Laura’s mother Caroline Ingalls. And, on July 26, guests can celebrate the wedding of a pioneer couple during a special performance-based meal in the Clausing Barn.
262-594-6301; www.oldworldwisconsin.org

50th Annual Greek Fest – West Allis  June 19-21, 2015
This year Greek Fest celebrates 50 years of all things Greek at Wisconsin State Fair Park. Shop at the Greek Market, full of imported goods, or enjoy traditional Greek music and dancing. Try a wide variety of authentic foods, including gyros, Greek chicken, lamb, souvlaki and baklava. Don’t miss a chance to be Greek for a day!
414-461-9400; www.annunciationwi.org

Clean Energy & Sustainable Living Fair – Custer  June 19-21, 2015
As the largest event of its kind in the nation, this eco-friendly fair is a hot spot for environmental enthusiasts. Each year 15,000+ patrons flock to Custer to learn the latest and greatest in clean energy and sustainability. The fair offers 300 workshops and more than 200 exhibitors. New this year: green building demos, a clean energy car show and chef demonstrations on bringing food sustainability to your dinner table. Immerse yourself in all things green… and the planet will thank you.
715-592-6595; www.midwestrenew.org/energyfair
Door County Beer Festival – Baileys Harbor  
June 20, 2015
Door County’s biggest craft beer event celebrates its fourth year, giving visitors a chance to sample more than 100 craft brews. Pair your beer with mouth-watering street food prepared with local ingredients by area chefs. This year, the festival welcomes live music by Minneapolis rockers The Dead Pigeons. Wisconsin Foodie’s Kyle Cherek will also lead a round table discussion with Wisconsin brewers, including Lakefront Brewery’s Russ Klisch.
920-915-9880; www.doorcountybeerfestival.com

Fete de Fleurs – St. Croix Falls  
June 20-21, 2015
Calling all wine enthusiasts! Fete de Fleurs, or “flowering of the vines,” is Chateau St. Croix Winery’s annual summer festival with live music, gourmet food and arts and crafts booths. Relax in the summer sun while sipping wine or enjoy one of the many tours of the winery.
715-483-2556; www.chateaustcroix.com

June Dairy Days – Gilman  
June 20-21, 2015
Celebrate June Dairy Month in gorgeous Gilman for a weekend of entertainment and activities for the whole family. Stop by the Swinging Bridge Classic Car Show, the Dairy Days swap meet, volleyball tournament or the one-mile fun run. Getting hungry? Stop by the June Dairy breakfast or chicken dinner. There is no shortage of Dairy State fun during this two-day event!
715-447-8147; www.gilmanwi.com/junedairydays/

Columbus Horse and Carriage Festival – Columbus  
June 20-21, 2015
From elegant antique carriages to sleek modern day vehicles, this festival offers a variety of family fun. Don’t miss the carriage competition with drivers from across the Midwest looking to score the highest in eight different divisions. Take a break from the action and enjoy tempting treats and delicious burgers. Considered one of the largest horse and carriage driving shows in the nation, all proceeds from the festival benefit community projects.
608-235-1755; www.columbuscarriagefestival.org

The Paine Art Center’s Dressing Downton Exhibit – Oshkosh  
June 20-Sept. 20, 2015
“Dressing Downton: Changing Fashion for Changing Times” features 36 period costumes and a fashion overview from the first four seasons of the acclaimed PBS series Downton Abbey. The stunning exhibition explores British fashion from 1912 through the early 1920s. Step back in time and enjoy this unique exhibit as you explore the historic Paine mansion.
920-235-6903; www.thepaine.org

Summerfest – Milwaukee  
June 24-28 & 30-July 5, 2015
The World’s Largest Music Festival comes to Milwaukee for 11 days each summer, welcoming more than 900,000 visitors to the city’s lakefront. With more than 1,000 performances on 11 different stages, and a list of headliners that includes Ed Sheeran, Keith Urban and Florida Georgia Line, this is a can’t-miss summer event.
414-273-2680; www.summerfest.com
Get ready for four days of serious truck and tractor pulling competition at the Budweiser Dairyland Super National Truck & Tractor Pull in Tomah. The event will feature six shows and two pull tracks. Competitions include Light Unlimited, Super Semi, TWD Trucks, FWD Trucks, Super Farm Tractors and much more.
608-372-2081; www.tomahtractorpull.com

Hayward Musky Festival – Hayward June 25-28, 2015
This annual event celebrates Wisconsin’s Northwoods and its strong fishing traditions. The weekend includes a catch and release fishing contest, a carnival, live music and street dances, a 5K and 10K race, mouthwatering foods, arts and crafts and much more. The event concludes with the exciting Grand Parade down Main Street.
715-634-8662; www.muskyfestival.com

Each year Spooner serves up two days of soulful tunes during the annual Northwoods Blues Festival. This year will feature 10 different bands, including headliners Devon Allman, son of legendary musician Gregg Allman, and blues artist Marcia Ball. With a variety of savory gourmet food items prepared by an international chef, feel free to come for the food and stay for the music.
715-638-2204; www.northwoodsbluesfest.com

Head to the cheese curd capital of Wisconsin this summer for the annual Ellsworth Cheese Curd Festival. The festival celebrates the famous Wisconsin cheese curd with creative foods like cheese curd brats and pizza, as well as the popular cheese curd eating contest. The event also features live entertainment, a beer garden, a 100-unit parade, crafts, children’s activities and more.
715-273-6442; www.ellsworthchamber.com

Uncork Summer Food, Wine & Music Festival – Ellison Bay June 27, 2015
Kick off the summer with Door County’s greatest food, wine and entertainment at Ellison Bay’s Wickman House restaurant. Local chefs from area restaurants offer an extensive variety of cuisine like artisan cheese, baked goods, barbeque, Spanish tapas and Scandinavian fare – just to name a few. Sip handcrafted beers and cocktails while grooving to the sounds of Door County musical artists. Stop by and uncork some fun!
920-854-4450; www.uncorksummer.com

Strawberry Festival – Cedarburg June 27-28, 2015
Strawberry-lovers unite! Join more than 100,000 festival-goers in historic downtown Cedarburg for the annual Strawberry Festival and get your fill of strawberry ice cream, strawberry wine, strawberry brats and much more. This street festival features arts and crafts vendors, a painting competition, fun events and activities and an endless amount of homegrown strawberry treats.
262-377-3891; www.cedarburgfestivals.org

Strawberry Festival
Photo Courtesy of Donald S. Abrams
**JULY EVENTS**

40th Annual National Women's Music Festival – Madison  
**July 2-5, 2015**  
For 40 years, the National Women's Music Festival has celebrated life, spoken word, music and female empowerment by offering workshops, concerts, comedy and theater presentations. This year the festival will take a trip down memory lane to revisit some of the best moments from the past four decades. The event will also feature special performances by Holly Near, Cris Williamson, June and Jean Millington, Melanie DeMore, Zoe Lewis, Alix Olson, Ruth Barrett and many more.  
317-395-3809; [www.wiaonline.org](http://www.wiaonline.org)

Bastille Days – Milwaukee  
**July 9-12, 2015**  
Champagne, crepes, mimes and the Eiffel Tower are all part of Milwaukee’s own Bastille Days, returning to Cathedral Square Park. Tap into your own inner Parisian at this free, four-day affair boasting an international marketplace, epicurean delights, roaming busker entertainment and a 43-ft Eiffel Tower replica. Guests will find a variety of musical stylings across five stages including jazz, folk and Cajun. Don’t miss an opportunity to see one of the nation’s largest French-themed celebrations!  
414-271-1416; [www.bastilledaysfestival.com](http://www.bastilledaysfestival.com)

Wisconsin Maritime Museum: Submarine Fest – Manitowoc  
**July 10-12, 2015**  
New this year, the Wisconsin Maritime Museum will host Subfest, featuring classic WWII submarine movie showings, the “Up Periscope” art exhibit from the U.S. Navy, sidewalk sales, vendors, live music, a fireworks show and more. Be sure to also check out the museum’s 19th century shipbuilding town and nation’s most completely restored WWII submarine!  
866-724-2356; [www.wisconsinmaritime.org](http://www.wisconsinmaritime.org)

Art Fair on the Square – Madison  
**July 11-12, 2015**  
Join the more than 200,000 visitors who head to Madison’s Capitol Square each year for Art Fair on the Square. The outdoor festival features more than 500 artists from across the country and is one of the largest and most popular juried art fairs in the Midwest. Browse unique paintings, prints, photographs, sculptures and jewelry during this sensational event.  
608-257-0158; [www.mmoca.org/art-fair](http://www.mmoca.org/art-fair)

Logging and Heritage Festival – Marinette  
**July 11-12, 2015**  
Grab your flannel and head to Marinette’s Logging and Heritage Festival for a weekend full of family forest fun. The event kicks off Friday with a family movie night, and continues Saturday and Sunday with multiple performances of the popular Timberworks Lumberjack Show, a 5K run/walk, live music, children’s activities, craft vendors, a car show, grand parade and more.  
715-732-4333; [www.marinette loggingandheritagefestival.com](http://www.marinette loggingandheritagefestival.com)

Salmon-A-Rama – Racine  
**July 11-19, 2015**  
Consider yourself a fishing pro? Then mark your calendar for the Salmon-A-Rama fishing contest, one of the largest and most popular fishing competitions in the Great Lakes. Soak in the sun and fresh air during the friendly competition that has produced trophy fish like a world record 41-lb. brown trout in 2010. Contest divisions include offshore, onshore, youth and perch divisions with a newly upped grand prize of $20,000!  
800-272-2463; [www.salmon-a-rama.com](http://www.salmon-a-rama.com)

World Championship Snowmobile Watercross – Grantsburg  
**July 17-19, 2015**  
Other people might put their snowmobiles away for the season, but each summer Wisconsin is host to the World Championship Snowmobile Watercross, where daring athletes race their snowmobiles across Memory Lake in Grantsburg. Join thousands of spectators to cheer on the competitors, enjoy street dances and live music.  
715-463-4269; [www.grantsburgwatercross.com](http://www.grantsburgwatercross.com)
Festa Italiana – Milwaukee       July 17-19, 2015
Milwaukee is home to the country’s largest Italian-American festival – Festa Italiana. Each summer, more than 100,000 Italian aficionados visit the shores of Lake Michigan for a festival celebrating all things Italian – food, family, arts and culture! This year’s event will feature wine tastings, fireworks, cooking demonstrations, children’s activities and live entertainment. 414-223-2808; www.festaitaliana.com

Midsummer Festival of the Arts – Sheboygan        July 18-19, 2015
Visit the beautiful John Michael Kohler Arts Center to view the impressive works of more than 135 artists showcasing ceramics, drawing, glass, jewelry, metal, painting, photography and other art. The annual event is also host to live musical performances, art-making workshops and food trucks. 920-458-6144; www.jmkac.org

EAA AirVenture – Oshkosh        July 20-26, 2015
Head to Oshkosh for the World’s Greatest Aviation Celebration and join more than 50,000 aviation enthusiasts from across the world to honor the past, present and future of flight. In addition to daily airshows, workshops, demonstrations and other activities, this year’s event will feature a “Salute to Apollo 13,” with astronauts Jim Lovelle and Fred Haise, and mission control’s Gene Kranz. The event will also feature world-record skydiving attempts on July 22 and 24 and a commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the end of WWII with war bird aircraft shows every afternoon. 920-426-4800; www.airventure.org

Lumberjack World Championships – Hayward        July 23-25, 2015
Part of Hayward’s rich logging history is the annual Lumberjack World Championships, with more than 100 competitors in 21 events. Guests can watch male and female lumberjacks show their strength and skill in exhilarating events like the 90-ft. Speed Climb, the Springboard Chop and the Men’s and Women’s Logrolling. Don’t miss the All-Female Bucking Saw Competition, new to the competition this year. With more than $50,000 in prize money and 12,000 patrons each year, this high-energy event is sure to excite. 715-634-2484; www.lumberjackworldchampionships.com

Country Jam USA Festival – Eau Claire        July 23-25, 2015
Grab your cowboy boots and hurry over to Eau Claire for the annual Country Jam USA Festival, featuring headlining performances by Lady Antebellum, Blake Shelton and Eric Church. Other performers include Gary Allan, Jerrod Niemann, Hunter Hayes, Kip Moore, Sam Hunt and many others. Country USA also offers camping and shuttle services to and from the festival grounds. 715-839-7500; www.countryjamwi.com

35th Annual German Fest – Milwaukee       July 24-26, 2015
This year, Milwaukee’s original “haus” party will celebrate its 35th anniversary. German Fest is the nation’s largest German Festival, drawing thousands of visitors and serving more than 10,000 pounds of sauerkraut and enough brats to stretch the length of eight Empire State Buildings! Don your lederhosen and enjoy authentic German food, music, entertainment, a cultural village and, of course, great German beer. 414-464-9444; www.germanfest.com
Big Top Parade and Circus Celebration – Baraboo July 25, 2015
Known as the “Circus City,” Baraboo boasts an impressive Circus Celebration in its historic downtown district. This year’s grand marshals are Baraboo natives and indie-pop band PHOX. Enjoy circus-themed floats and performances, live music, walking tours and plenty of fun-filled children’s activities.
608-356-8333; www.bigtopparade.com

American Players Theatre: “Beyond the Plays” – Spring Green July 25-Sept. 6, 2015
American Players Theatre’s “Beyond the Plays” gives audience members a unique chance to enhance their theater-going experience by engaging in lively discussion about the theater’s current repertoire. Offered Saturdays and Sundays, each event includes question and answer sessions as well as tours of the theater buildings. Don’t miss the first session of the summer spotlighting “An Iliad.”
608-588-2361; www.americanplayers.org/events

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER EVENTS
On the first Saturday in August each year, the Mustard Museum in Middleton hosts National Mustard Day. The family-friendly event is filled with an abundance of mustard-related fun to honor the “King of Condiments.” Enjoy free hot dogs, mustard tastings, music, games, entertainment and more.
608-831-2222; www.mustardmuseum.com

Celebrate African-American heritage and culture along beautiful Lake Michigan during the annual African World Festival. For more than 30 years, this festival has promoted and shared the culture and heritage of all people of African descent with ethnic foods, a cultural village and live music ranging from gospel and R&B to old-school hip hop and jazz.
414-291-7959; www.awfmke.com

From rounders to baseball, cricket to draughts and early soccer to croquet, you can try your hand at dozens of traditional sports from the 1800s this summer. During “Game On,” Old World Wisconsin will host activities, contests and tournaments for all ages, including outdoor, indoor, early sports and board games.
262-594-6301; www.oldworldwisconsin.org

Chocoholic Frolic – Appleton Aug. 2, 2015
Love chocolate? Feeling a little competitive? Appleton’s Chocoholic Frolic combines the best of both worlds with this unique 5K and 10K race. Take your sweet time by running, jogging or walking through each course. Competitors are rewarded for their hard work with chocolate-y treats and race swag at the finish line. Register online and don’t miss this sweet race!
507-664-9438; www.chocoholicfrolicrun.com

Wisconsin State Fair – West Allis Aug. 6-16, 2015
A visit to the Wisconsin State Fair is an annual summer tradition. Exploring agriculture through numerous animal barns featuring thousands of animals, indulging in novel fair food, listening to live music on 30 free stages, and enjoying endless family activities, events and contests are all part of a memorable visit to the fair. New attractions for 2015 include the Sea Lion Splash show, the bunny-hopping competition and tightrope-walking daredevil Nik Wallenda.
414-266-7000; www.wistatefair.com
U.S. Open Chainsaw Sculpture Championships – Eau Claire     Aug. 6-9, 2015
This August, Eau Claire will host the world’s best chainsawers as they combine the ruggedness of logging with the creativity of artistry to create a wooden masterpiece using a single wood log and chainsaw. The competitors will work 20 hours over four days to create stunning pieces of art. Guests can watch the masterpieces come to life and also enjoy family-friendly entertainment, activities, food, an auction and more.
715-835-6200; www.uschainsawchamps.com

Hamburger Fest and Balloon Rally – Seymour     Aug. 7-9, 2015
Head to Seymour, “Home of the Hamburger,” to honor one of America’s favorite foods. Hamburger enthusiasts can enjoy the world’s largest hamburger parade, a hamburger eating contest, the popular ketchup slide, a car show, live music, the serving of a 190 lb. giant cheeseburger and much more! Hamburger Fest takes place on Saturday and guests staying for the whole weekend can enjoy the Hot Air Balloon Rally on Friday and hot air balloon ascensions all weekend long.
920-833-6688; www.homeofthehamburger.org

Cranes of the World Festival – Baraboo     Aug. 8, 2015
The Cranes of the World festival in Baraboo is the only place in the world where visitors can view all 15 distinct species of cranes in one place! This unbeatable opportunity is paired with guided crane and prairie hikes, tours, special programs, arts and crafts and much more.
608-356-9462; www.savingcranes.org

The rugged and windswept terrain of the dynamic Whistling Straits Golf Course is the perfect backdrop for the 2015 PGA Championship. More than 150 of the world’s best golfers, including defending champ Rory McIlroy, will compete for the coveted Wanamaker Trophy during this spectacular six day event.
920-547-4977; www.pga.com/pgachampionship

Break out your green attire for Milwaukee’s Irish Fest, celebrating its 35th year. Home to the world’s largest celebration of Irish music and culture, the four-day festival showcases more than 100 entertainment acts on 16 stages. The fest includes tradition Irish fare, a Celtic cultural village, family-friendly activities and emerging international musicians.
414-476-3378; www.irishfest.com

Lake Superior Dragon Boat Festival – Superior     Aug. 21-22, 2015
There’s no Loch Ness Monster living in Lake Superior, but there are dragons – dragon boats, that is! Each summer at the Lake Superior Dragon Boat Festival, teams of 22 paddlers race each other 450 meters in colorful and beautifully decorated dragon boats. Visitors can cheer on from the shores and enjoy fantastic food, music and a craft fair.
715-395-6169; www.lakesuperiordragons.com

Mexican Fiesta – Milwaukee     Aug. 21-23, 2015
Experience Mexican culture without having to leave Wisconsin! Each summer the authentic aroma, sounds and songs of Mexico visit Milwaukee’s lakefront for a three-day fiesta. Guests can enjoy live entertainment, delicious food, a cultural pavilion and more.
414-383-7066; www.mexicanfiesta.org
Artstreet – Green Bay  
**Aug. 28-30, 2015**  
Now in its 34th year, Artstreet is recognized as one of the premier art festivals in the Midwest, featuring original work from 200 artists from throughout the country. Located in downtown Green Bay, this event attracts more than 80,000 visitors annually. This year, experience Poet’s Alley, culinary arts demonstrations like edible art, children’s art activities and a community art gallery featuring Mosaic Arts members. On Friday night, visitors can enjoy a special sneak peek of more than 100 fine artists.
920-435-5220; [www.mosaicartsinc.org](http://www.mosaicartsinc.org)

Wisconsin State Cow Chip Throw – Prairie du Sac  
**Sept. 4-5, 2015**  
If you love Wisconsin’s quirkier festivals, the annual Wisconsin State Cow Chip Throw won’t disappoint! Each year more than 40,000 visitors head to Prairie du Sac to watch as competitors throw flattened “cow chips” (read: dried cow patty) as far as they can. It’s not just about the cow cakes though – the all-weekend festivities also includes a run/walk, arts and crafts and live entertainment.
608-643-4317; [www.wiscowchip.com](http://www.wiscowchip.com)

Taste of Madison – Madison  
**Sept. 5-6, 2015**  
Each year over Labor Day weekend, Wisconsin’s capital fills with local food, beverage and entertainment stands. This year will feature more than 85 vendors covering the Capital Square all weekend long. Try food from Madison’s top restaurants while enjoying the best free concert experience the city offers.
608-276-9797; [www.tasteofmadison.com](http://www.tasteofmadison.com)
NATIVE AMERICAN SUMMER CELEBRATIONS
Experience the cultural beauty of Wisconsin’s 11 Native American tribes this summer by attending one of their annual pow-wows. Free and open to the public, the following pow-wows offer a glimpse of the celebratory drumming, dancing and singing taking place during these striking ceremonies.

Ho-Chunk Nation Pow-Wow – Black River Falls May 23-25 & Sept 5-7, 2015
Join the Ho-Chunk Nation for their annual celebration of thanks on Memorial Day and Labor Day weekends. The pow-wow celebrates the coming together of friends, neighbors and warriors with a colorful display of traditional drumming, dancing and a variety of native crafts.
715-284-9343; www.ho-chunknation.com

Oneida Pow-Wow – Oneida July 3-5, 2015
Enjoy the traditions of the Oneida tribe as they host their annual pow-wow during Fourth of July weekend. Visitors can enjoy Native American arts and crafts and watch the impressive grand entry featuring more than 400 dancers.
920-713-0608; www.exploreoneida.com

Red Cliff Traditional Pow-Wow – Red Cliff July 3-5, 2015
Head to beautiful Lake Superior for the Annual Red Cliff Traditional Pow-Wow. With spectacular views, great entertainment, local hospitality and more, this event offers visitors the chance to experience Chippewa heritage at its best.
715-779-3700; http://www.redcliff-nsn.gov

Bear River Pow-Wow – Lac du Flambeau July 10-12, 2015
The annual Bear River Pow-Wow is a celebration that offers crafts, food, dancing and four grand entries, bringing tribes together from across the nation to celebrate their rich and distinct heritage.
715-588-3333

Honor the Earth Pow-Wow – Hayward July 17-19, 2015
Hosted by the Lac Courte Orielles Ojibwe tribe and considered the largest pow-wow in North America, Honor the Earth draws nearly 10,000 guests from around the world. This annual celebration honors mother earth through traditional drumming, dancing and song. The pow-wow welcomes many other Native American tribes and nations featuring speakers, games, art displays and Native American foods.
715-634-8934; www.haywardareachamber.com

Menominee Nation Contest Pow-Wow – Keshena July 31-Aug. 2, 2015
Now in its 49th year, this annual pow-wow offers a diverse array of events and activities celebrating the Native American spirit. Spectators can enjoy dancing and singing competitions, traditional cuisine and an assortment of merchandise, including Native American beadwork and apparel.
715-799-5114 Ext. 1267; www.menominee-nsn.gov

Indian Summer Festival – Milwaukee Sept. 11-13, 2015
Through storytelling, dance, song and drumming, Indian Summer Festival invites visitors to experience the culture of Wisconsin’s Woodland tribes. Fest-goers can experience traditional food, cultural crafts, canoe rides and a pow-wow featuring the popular smoke dance competition.
414-604-1000; www.indiansummer.org

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