

2019/2020 Calendar of EVENTS

APRIL

6 - 7 Aggie Days
Come and see real farm animals, and find out where your food comes from at this free educational experience for families.

15 - May 4 Calgary Performing Arts Festival
One of the largest amateur competitive festivals in North America features performances by emerging musicians and vocalists.

19-20 Easter Eggstravaganza
The Calgary Zoo hosts an Easter egg hunt and other fun springtime activities for kids.

22 - 28 Calgary Underground Film Festival
Screenings of feature, documentary, short and animated films that have rarely been shown in North America.



APR 25-28 CALGARY COMIC & ENTERTAINMENT EXPO
Visit one of the largest comic and pop culture shows in North America. Meet actors from movies and television shows, listen to themed panel discussions, get your favourite comics signed by the artist, dress up as your favourite characters and shop for merchandise.

MAY

3 - 4 Calgary International BeerFest
Sample hundreds of varieties of beer from local and international breweries.

4 - 5; 10 - 12 Spruce Meadows May Classic I & 2
The first outdoor tournaments of the season at Spruce Meadows.

17 - 19 Otafest - Calgary's Anime Festival
Fans of Japanese anime, popular culture and related arts won't want to miss this festival.

May 20 - 25 YYComedy Festival
Bringing laughter with renowned comedians from across North America.

24 - June 2 Fairy Tales Queer Film Festival
A showcase of movies that depict a selection of stories about people in the LGBTQ+ community to celebrate and engage diversity.

26 Scotiabank Calgary Marathon
The Calgary Marathon is an official Boston Marathon-qualifying race. Other races include the 150 km ultra solo and relay marathon and a 5 km family run and walk.

30 - June 9 FunnyFest
This comedy festival features local comedians, magicians, ventriloquists and variety acts.

JUNE

1 - 2 Calgary Ukrainian Festival
A celebration of Ukrainian culture with traditional food, music, dancing and activities.

2 4th Street Lilac Festival
Kicking off with a family friendly parade, this neighbourhood street festival features arts and crafts vendors, food trucks and live entertainment.

5 - 9 Spruce Meadows National CSI 5*
Performances by some of the world's best show jumping athletes and horses compete.

7 - 9 Third Action Film Festival
This festival focuses on celebrating the "third act", the last three decades of adult life, to shift how aging is viewed in society.

8 Calgary ReggaeFest
Transform into a "Rastagarian" (a Calgarian who shares the values of reggae music and culture) at this family friendly music festival.

12 - 16 Spruce Meadows Continental CSI 5*
This world-class show jumping competition features some of the best equestrian athletes in the world.

12 - 16 JazzYYC Summer Festival
Enjoy jazz concerts, a club series and the signature JazzWalk on the final Sunday of the festival.

19 - 23 Sled Island Festival
Every year, crowds gather to enjoy an eclectic mix of performances by over 250 musicians, artists, filmmakers and comedians.

26 - 30 Spruce Meadows Pan American CSI 5*
The Spruce Meadows Summer Series concludes with a tournament with the top riders from North America competing. Complimentary admission.



JUNE 27 - AUG 18 SHAKESPEARE BY THE BOW
Enjoy the timeless appeal of the Bard by taking in an all-ages production of one of his plays performed outdoors at Prince's Island Park. Admission by donation.

JULY

1 Canada Day
Commemorate Canada's 152nd anniversary of confederation with fireworks, live music, activities, food trucks and more.

3 - 7 Spruce Meadows North American CSI 5*
Watch some of the top show-jumping athletes and horses in North America compete, and enjoy family friendly activities, market shopping and a prairie dog showcase.

5 - 7 Mexifest
Sample Mexican cuisine, browse an artisan market and see real luchadores (wrestlers) from Mexico at this celebration of Mexican culture.

5 - 14 Calgary Stampede
A 10-day festival that includes a rodeo and exhibition, midway rides, games and food, concerts and more.

10 Roundup Music Fest
Big names perform at this charity fundraiser (in 2018, the Goo Goo Dolls and Train performed).

19 - 21 Fiestaval Festival Latino
A free, multicultural festival with plenty of Latin cuisine, music and dancing.



JULY 25-28 CALGARY FOLK MUSIC FESTIVAL
Folk artists from all over the world perform at Prince's Island Park.

27 - 28 Pet-a-Palooza
Don't miss this free, family friendly event dedicated to your furry companions.

29 - Aug 4 Calgary International Blues Festival
Blues music gets its time in the spotlight during this week-long festival.

AUGUST

2 - 10 Calgary Fringe Festival
See a variety of uncensored, non-juried theatre shows by troupes and performers from around the world.

3 Inglewood Sunfest
The neighbourhood of Inglewood hosts a full day of free all-ages programming, from live music to children's crafts to a vintage car display.

3 - 4 Chasing Summer Music Festival
Western Canada's largest electronic music festival is always a party with multiple outdoor stages showcasing the year's top DJs and electronic artists. Grab your neon body paint and glow sticks and get ready to dance until the wee hours of the morning.

8 - 11 Taste of Calgary
Wander around the outdoor food and drink vendors to sample some tasty creations from restaurants, bars, cafes and food trucks. Enjoy your food alongside live music, browse retail vendors and take little ones to the kids' craft zone.



AUG 15 - 24 GLOBALFEST
Celebrate Canada's cultural diversity with a series of concurrent festivals focused on food, performances and jaw-dropping fireworks displays. Teams from six countries, including Canada, will present spectacular fireworks set to themed music. Before the main event each night, enjoy other themed entertainment, sample regionally-inspired food, make children's crafts and shop for locally-made products at the night market.

9 - 11 Calgary Dragon Boat Race & Festival
Over 1,000 competitors in traditional wooden dragon boats vie for victory on the Glenmore Reservoir. Watch the competitions and enjoy all-ages activities.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN SHOW JUMPING

May 17 - 19: Bow Valley Classic I
May 22 - 26: Bow Valley Classic II
June 19 - 23: June Classic I CSI 2*
June 27 - 30: June Classic II
July 31 - August 4: Rocky Mountain Classic I
August 7 - 11: Rocky Mountain Classic II
August 14 - 18: Rocky Mountain Classic III
October 17 - 27: Royal West CSI 4*

11 Marda Gras Street Festival
Join the community-focused neighbourhood of Marda Loop for an all-ages, Mardi Gras-themed festival full of vendors, entertainment and a pet parade.

16 - 18 Expo Latino
Hispanic Arts Society presents a weekend of lively music and dance performances, along with art and food vendors, outdoors in Prince's Island Park.

16 - 18 Country Thunder Alberta
This country music festival is back with headliners Miranda Lambert, Jake Owen and Jason Aldean, as well as 12 other acts including Lauren Alaina, Terri Clark and Jimmie Allen. Put on your cowboy hat and boots, grab a beer and enjoy some country music in the great outdoors.

16 - 17 Carifest
A colourful parade full of music and dancing kicks off a weekend of lively activities celebrating Caribbean culture.

23 - 25 Calgary Ribfest
"Get your sticky on" at this three-day extravaganza where you can taste the city's best ribs, chicken and pulled pork.



AUG 23 - SEPT 1 CALGARY PRIDE
Celebrate and encourage diversity, positivity and acceptance with a series of art, film, theatre and music events, including the festival highlight: the lively, colourful Pride Parade.

30 - Sep 1 Shaw Charity Classic - PGA TOUR Champions
Calgary welcomes the 2019 PGA Champions Tour at the Shaw Charity Classic, a 54-hole stroke-play tournament held at Canyon Meadows Golf and Country Club.

31 Calgary Highland Games
Attracting competitors and spectators from across Western Canada and the United States, you will watch some of the world's top pipers, drummers, dancers and heavy event athletes compete and perform.



31 - Sept 1 BBQ on the Bow Festival
The 26th anniversary of this beloved communal picnic includes a chance to sample dozens of BBQ items and watch the BBQ competition.

4 - 8 Spruce Meadows Masters CSI 5*
This tournament is a major international equestrian event where the top show jumpers in the world compete for money and industry fame.

SEPTEMBER

4 - 8 CCMA COUNTRY MUSIC WEEK & AWARDS SHOW
Canadian country music's biggest night of the year is coming to Calgary, which gives Calgary the title of most frequent host city of the CCMA Awards.



SEPT 5-8 CFL GREY CUP CHAMPIONSHIP & FESTIVAL
Calgary is honoured to host the nation for the 107th Grey Cup Championships. While the actual game will be held at McMahon Stadium, experience the energy of the festival at Stampede Park, making for an epic, can't-miss event with a family area and special events.



CALGARY INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL
Celebrating its 20th anniversary this year, this festival presents new feature, documentary and short films by filmmakers around the world, some premiering for the first time. From films with award buzz to flicks by indie filmmakers, there's something new and interesting for everyone to see.

5 - 8 Honens International Piano Competition & Festival
This music festival celebrates piano and classical music with a variety of concerts and free, kid-friendly community events.

13 - 14 Circle Carnival
This travelling food, beer and music carnival includes plenty of fun for all ages, including live music and circus school for kids.

18 - 22 Beakerhead
This unique collaboration of arts-and-science-fused activities is a Calgary original. It's truly unlike any other festival experience, with hands-on workshops, installation art, theatre, wearable tech fashion shows, concerts, gastronomy meals and so much more.

OCTOBER

3 - 6, 17 - 20 Spruce Meadows Oktoberfest I & II
Experience equestrian competition up close and in comfort at the indoor Equi-Plex.

11 - 14 HEX Halloween and Entertainment Expo
A new Halloween expo with haunted houses, a marketplace, cosplay and lots of other activities.

16 - 23 WordFest
This literary festival hosts authors from around the world in a variety of genres for readings, Q & As, book signings and unique programming.

18 - 19 Rocky Mountain Wine & Food Festival
Sample hundreds of wines and liquors from wineries, breweries, and distilleries around the world, paired with food from local restaurants.

NOVEMBER

7 - 10 JazzYYC Canadian Festival
Running in tandem with the Yardsbird Suite's Festival of Canadian Jazz, this four-day festival brings together the best jazz musicians that Calgary and Canada have to offer.

Nov - Dec Zoollights
Walk among hundreds of outdoor displays of millions of coloured lights, enjoy interactive exhibits, skating, a visit from Santa and more family-friendly activities.

Weekends only - NOV - DEC Spruce Meadows International Christmas Market
A shopping experience filled with 300+ vendors spreading Christmas Spirit, delicious food, world-imported items, hand crafted gifts, and colourful entertainment.

Weekends only - NOV - DEC Granary Road Christmas Market
A unique holiday market that makes for a great full day shopping experience. Meet the farmers and entrepreneurs behind the produce and products and keep the whole family occupied with a complete lineup of activities.



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Weekends only - NOV - DEC ONCE UPON A CHRISTMAS
Enjoy old-fashioned Christmas fun at Heritage Park Historical Village. Decorate cookies, get photos with Santa, sing along with costumed carollers, shop for unique and vintage gifts and ride along in a horse-drawn wagon.

JANUARY 2020

8 - 26 High Performance Rodeo
Canada's largest international festival of the arts includes a diverse selection of dozens of different alternative theatre shows and live music performances.

JAN - FEB Chinese New Year Festival
Celebrate the arrival of the lunar new year with live performances, firework displays and more.

FEBRUARY 2020

Winefest
This all-inclusive event includes as many samples of wine as you can drink. Choose among hundreds of varieties from vendors representing wines from around the world.

Block Heater Festival
This indoor winter music festival, presented by Calgary Folk Fest, features more than 20 local, national and international artists.

Spruce Meadows February Classic IV
Watch the competitions from the indoor comfort of the Spruce Meadows Equi-Plex.

Calgary Midwinter Bluesfest
Beat the winter blues with workshops and performances of live blues music.

MARCH 2020



CALGARY MAPLE FESTIVAL DES SUCRES
Celebrate the traditions and stories of the French Canadian, Métis and First Nations cultures. Learn about the history at Heritage Park Historical Village, try some fun activities and sample delicious maple treats.

Calgary International Salsa Congress
Join world-famous salsa dancers for a weekend of workshops, performances, salsa music and dancing.