



REGISTER SEPTEMBER 8 - 22

A CROSS-COUNTRY TOUR OF STATE FAIRS | SEPTEMBER 22 - NOVEMBER 16

POINTS OF INTEREST

1 Delaware State Fair

Because of its smaller size, visitors often get a more intimate experience and interaction with exhibitors and vendors. Scrapple, a Mid-Atlantic regional specialty made from fried pork scraps, flour, and spices, can often be found on menus at this fair alongside classic carnival foods.



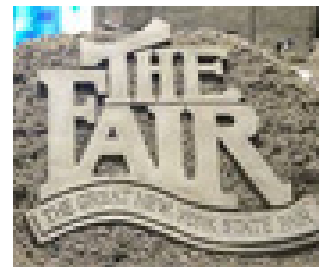
2 Eastern States Exposition

The Big E serves as the official state fair for all six New England states. It's known for its Avenue of States, a street lined with replica statehouses from each New England state, where the buildings showcase the foods, crafts, and tourist attractions from their state. Many people go to the Big E specifically to "eat around New England" without leaving the fairgrounds.



3 Great New York State Fair

The Great New York State Fair is the oldest U.S. state fair still running. Milk is just 25 cents a cup at the famous Milk Bar. Visitors can watch major national music acts, like Bruno Mars, Ice Cube, and REO Speedwagon, perform at Chevy Court. There's also an enormous, detailed sand sculpture built over the course of the fair.



4 Ohio State Fair

The Ohio State Fair has its own butter sculpture tradition, inspired by Iowa, featuring annual themes like U.S. athletes or Ohio inventors. Visitors can also enjoy Ohio-specific specialty foods like deep-fried Buckeyes, Cincinnati chili-inspired dishes, and fresh caramel apples made using Ohio-grown apples.



MILES FOR WELLNESS CHALLENGE 32 POINTS OF INTEREST

5

Indiana State Fair

The Indiana State Fair boasts competitions for cattle, pigs, poultry, and crops, as well as a prominent 4-H and FFA presence. Unique specialty food competitions like place, like pie-baking contests and chili cook-offs. Corn is a major feature, reflecting Indiana's status as a top corn-producing state.



6

Kentucky State Fair

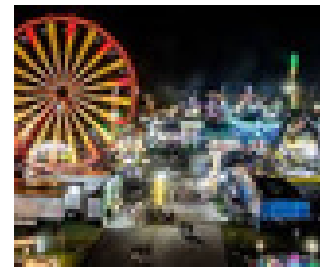
The Kentucky State Fair is most known for its Country Ham Breakfast & Auction, a long-standing tradition where a prize-winning country ham is auctioned for charity; it often fetches hundreds of thousands of dollars, but the record was set in 2022 at \$5 million. The fair showcases plenty of bourbon-infused foods and local music for fairgoers to enjoy, too.



7

Tennessee State Fair

The Tennessee State Fair boasts lively entertainment and plenty of Southern-style foods. The fair often incorporates local music talent, giving visitors a taste of the state's vibrant music culture, and with Music City less than an hour away, Nashville's music scene is reflected in live performances, from country to gospel and blues.



8

Illinois State Fair

The Illinois State Fair highlights corn, soybeans, dairy, and livestock competitions. Since it takes place in Springfield, Abraham Lincoln's hometown, the fair has historical exhibits on the United States' 16th president and occasionally features Lincoln-themed events, too.



9

Wisconsin State Fair

The Wisconsin State Fair has its own flavor (literally, a lot of cheese) and a history that's almost as long as the state itself. The fair's signature food is the cream puff, so there's a dedicated Cream Puff Pavilion where fair attendees can watch the pastries being baked and filled on a moving assembly line before purchasing them fresh.



MILES FOR WELLNESS CHALLENGE 32 POINTS OF INTEREST

10

Minnesota State Fair

The Minnesota State Fair regularly draws over 2 million visitors during its 12-day run. Attendance per day rivals or exceeds some small city populations. This fair has become famous for putting almost anything imaginable on a stick — from the classic corn dog to spaghetti and meatballs, deep-fried candy bars, and alligator.



11

Montana State Fair

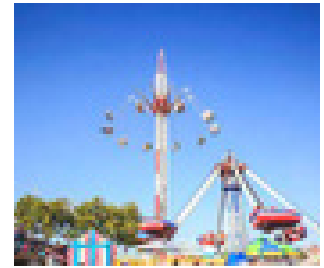
Rodeo competitions, bull riding, and horse shows are featured entertainment, highlighting Montana's Western culture. Local agricultural products on display include grains, wheat, potatoes, and livestock. Unique to Montana, the fair features bison and game meat exhibits.



12

Oregon State Fair

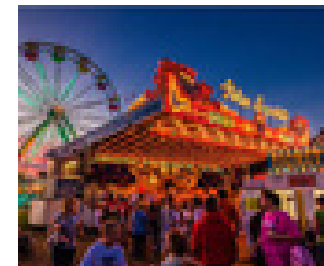
Local craft beers, artisan foods, and outdoor exhibits give the fair distinctly Pacific Northwestern vibes. Marionberries, Oregon's official state berry, are featured in pies, jams, and desserts throughout the fair. It also boasts an eco-friendly focus, emphasizing sustainability with recycling programs, educational exhibits, and green initiatives.



13

The Nevada State Fair

The fair often features educational exhibits on ranching in arid conditions, as well as sustainable farming. It also blends traditional fair food with local desert-inspired ingredients, so even simple items like funnel cake or nachos may be served with prickly pear syrup, green chiles, or chipotle seasoning.



14

California State Fair

California's size and diversity mean the California State Fair often acts as a mini-tour of the state, showcasing products and culture from every corner. The fair has a tradition of Best of California competitions for everything from wine to olive oil to artisan breads, and many of the food vendors put a healthy California twist on fair classics.



MILES FOR WELLNESS CHALLENGE 32 POINTS OF INTEREST

15

Arizona State Fair

Reflecting the state's cowboy and ranching heritage, rodeos, equestrian shows, and livestock competitions are central. Classic fair foods are updated with regional flavors, including Sonoran hotdogs, prickly pear desserts, cactus fries, and chili-spiced treats.



16

Colorado State Fair

Visitors to the Colorado State Fair enjoy a high-altitude celebration with strong Western and agricultural traditions. The Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association events featured draw competitors from across the West, and the fair's demolition derbies, motorsports, and tractor pulls tend to be bigger and more dramatic than similar attractions in eastern states.



17

Kansas State Fair

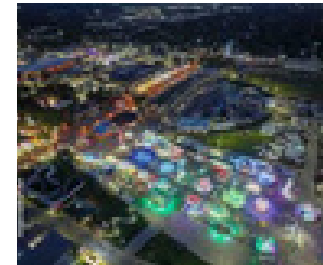
First run in 1913, the Kansas State Fair is younger than many of the Midwest's major fairs, but still offers plenty of classic fair fun and lots of local flavor. Sunflowers are a recurring theme in displays, decorations, and souvenir items, emphasizing Kansas' nickname as the "Sunflower State."



18

Iowa State Fair

The Iowa State Fair is often held up as the classic example of a true state fair in pop culture, and its cultural impact is unmatched, with politicians treating it as a required stop during presidential election years. The fair is also known for its Butter Cow tradition. Each year, visitors marvel at the life-size cow sculpted from roughly 600 pounds of pure cream butter.



19

Missouri State Fair

Visitors to the Missouri State Fair can peruse and purchase Missouri-made products, crafts, and foods before enjoying traditional carnival rides, thrill attractions, and musical acts performing on the Grandstand. Ultimately, it's the livestock competitions, crop displays, and farm-related education that are the heart of the fair, celebrating the state's rural roots.



MILES FOR WELLNESS CHALLENGE 32 POINTS OF INTEREST

20

Oklahoma State Fair

The Oklahoma State Fair is a large, energetic fair with cattle, swine, poultry, and horse shows as the central focus. Visitors will also see displays highlighting regional crops like wheat, pecans, and peanuts. This fair is part of the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association circuit, meaning attendees can watch top cowboys from around the country.



21

State Fair of Texas

The State Fair of Texas is Texas-sized in every sense — it runs for 24 consecutive days, making it the longest state fair in the United States. The Red River Showdown, the annual college football rivalry between the University of Texas and the University of Oklahoma, is played at the Cotton Bowl on the fairgrounds during fair season.



22

State Fair of Louisiana

Local music and dance performances showcase the state's vibrant heritage, especially jazz, blues, and Zydeco. Cajun and Creole-inspired foods make this fair's menu stand out with options you won't find at other fairs, like fried crawfish tails or boudin balls. Additionally, competitions for cattle, pigs, goats, poultry, and crops are central.



23

Florida State Fair

Warm winter weather makes mid-February the optimal time to host the Florida State Fair. Citrus contests are a major highlight, with competitions for juiciest oranges, best marmalades, and even decorative fruit carvings. Fairgoers can also expect unique food options — fried key lime pie, coconut-based treats, and tropical fruit smoothies are common.



24

North Carolina State Fair

Enjoy the Got to Be NC Agriculture Pavilion, a showcase of locally made products, and the Village of Yesteryear, a large area where artisans create and sell traditional handmade goods. The fair is also known for its over-the-top Southern fair food — deep-fried Cheerwine and MoonPies, Krispy Kreme burgers, barbecue, and hushpuppies are crowd favorites.

