



Events around the Bluegrass week of April 28, 2025



Happy Derby Day!

The legendary **Kentucky Derby** returns this **Saturday, May 4**, at the iconic **Churchill Downs** in Louisville, KY. Celebrated as “*America’s Greatest Race*,” the Derby has thrilled spectators

around the globe since **1875**. Held annually on the **first Saturday in May**, it also marks the first leg of the prestigious **Triple Crown**.

The race caps off the two-week-long **Kentucky Derby Festival**, filled with events, parades, and celebrations.

Affectionately known as “**The Run for the Roses**,” the Derby is famed for its tradition of draping the winning horse in a blanket of red roses—a symbol of victory, beauty, and Kentucky pride.

So, grab your best hat, sip a mint julep, and celebrate this unforgettable piece of Kentucky heritage!

Explore Derby Events & Info:

- kentuckyderby.com
- [Kentucky Derby Festival](#)
- [Official Derby Events](#)

Monday, April 28

Chris Isaak in Concert

Monday, April 28

For more information, check out

<https://www.centralbankcenter.com/events/detail/chris-isaak-1>

Location: Lexington Opera House, Downtown

Asking Alexandria

Monday, April 28

For more information, check out <https://www.manchestermusichall.com/tm-event/asking-alexandria/>

Location: Manchester Music Hall, Downtown

Old Time Jam Session

Monday, April 28

For more information, check out <https://www.visitlex.com/event/old-time-jam-session/25377/>

Location: Old North Bar, Downtown

Tee Dee Young Lounge Night

Monday, April 28

For more information, check out <https://www.visitlex.com/event/tee-dee-young-lounge-night/25357/>

Location: Tee Dee's Lounge, Downtown

Keeneland's Morning Works

Monday, April 28 (ongoing)

For more information, check out <https://www.keeneland.com/morning-works-tour>

Location: Keeneland Racecourse, Lexington

Wilderness Trail Distillery Tours

Monday, April 28 (ongoing) Location: Wilderness Trail Distillery, Danville, KY

Enjoy one of the newest distilleries on the Kentucky Bourbon Trail! Tours conclude with an outdoor tasting offered Tuesday through Saturday. For more information, check out https://wildernesstraildistillery.com/bourbon-distillery-tours-kentucky/#_ga=2.188584301.475033086.1663065127-1430386174.1663065127

Raven Run Nature Sanctuary

Monday, April 28 (ongoing)

Various hiking trails for you to enjoy! For more information, check out

<https://ravenrun.org/>

Location: 3885 Raven Run Way, Lexington

Picnic With Goats

Monday, April 28 (ongoing)

Enjoy a private picnic lunch or dinner with goats on our private farm just 15 minutes from downtown Lexington. Food is brought in from Lexington's top rated restaurants, set just steps from your car. For more information, check out <https://www.picnicwithgoats.com/>

Location: Lexington

Woodsongs Old-Time Radio Hour

Monday, April 28 (ongoing)

For more information, check out <https://www.visitlex.com/event/woodsongs-old-time-radio-hour%3a-sugar-harp-and-gail-ceasar/22107/>

Location: Lyric Theatre, Downtown

Mary Todd's Lexington – Traveling Exhibit

Monday, April 28 – April 30

For more information, check out <https://www.mtlhouse.org/new-events>

Location: Mary Todd Lincoln House, Downtown

Kroger's Fest-a-Ville

Monday, April 28 – May 2

For more information, check out <https://discover.kdf.org/krogers-fest-a-ville/>

Location: Waterfront Park, Louisville, KY

Kentucky Derby Festival

Monday, April 28 – May 26

For more information, check out <https://discover.kdf.org/>

Location: Various locations around Louisville, KY

Tuesday, April 29

Downtown Walking Food & History Tour

Tuesday, April 29 (ongoing)

For more information, check out <https://www.visitlex.com/event/downtown-walking-food-%26-history-tour/22193/>

Location: Downtown

Waveland State Historic Site Tea Tuesday

Tuesday, April 29 (ongoing)

For more information, check out <https://parks.ky.gov/explore/waveland-state-historic-site-7805>

Location: Waveland State Historic Site, Lexington

Yoga at The Kentucky Castle

Tuesday, April 29 (ongoing)

For more information, check out <https://www.thekentuckycastle.com/events>

Location: The Kentucky Castle, Versailles, KY

Wednesday, April 30

The Psychology of a Murderer

Wednesday, April 30

For more information, check out

<https://www.centralbankcenter.com/events/detail/the-psychology-of-a-murderer>

Location: Lexington Opera House, Downtown

International Jazz Day: Paladin

Wednesday, April 30

For more information, check out

<https://www.visitlex.com/event/international-jazz-day%3a-paladin/25391/>

Location: Central Library Farish Theater, Downtown

Food Truck Wednesday

Wednesday, April 30 (ongoing)

For more information, check out <https://www.basehere.com/events>

Location: Base 249, Downtown

Thursday, May 1

Black Violin

Thursday, May 1

For more information, check out

<https://www.centralbankcenter.com/events/detail/black-violin-2>

Location: Lexington Opera House, Downtown

Paul McDonald & the Mourning Doves

Thursday, May 1

For more information, check out <https://theburlky.com/>

Location: The Burl, Downtown

Art Walk – Guided Tour

Thursday, May 1 (ongoing)

For more information, check out <https://www.artsconnectlex.org/art-walks.html>

Location: Downtown

Trivia at Town Branch

Thursday, May 1

(ongoing)

For more information, check out <https://lexingtonbrewingco.com/whiskey-spirits/town-branch>

Location: Lexington Brewing and Distilling Co., Downtown

Bourbon Barons Historic Tour

Thursday, May 1 (ongoing)

For more information, check out

<https://www.stonefencetours.com/index.php/bourbon-tours/bourbon-tours>

Location: Various locations in the Bluegrass

Spring Carnival at Fayette Mall

Thursday, May 1 – May 4

For more information, check out <https://www.shopfayette-mall.com/event/blt72a33ad366e5e028>

Location: Fayette Mall, Lexington

Lavender Festival

Thursday, May 1 – June 14 (Thursday – Saturday)

For more information, check out

<https://www.thekentuckycastle.com/experience#!/event/9c143b05-5c7a-4521-bdc5-dafa66e4accd>

Location: The Kentucky Castle, Versailles, KY

Thursday Night Live

Thursday, May 1 – October 9

For more information, check out <https://www.visitlex.com/event/art-on-the-town-at-thursday-night-live/25278/>

Location: Downtown

Friday, May 2**Soul of Thoroughbred Racing Pre-Derby Celebration**

Friday, May 2

For more information, check out <https://kyhorsepark.com/event/soul-of-thoroughbred-racing-pre-derby-celebration/>

Location: Kentucky Horse Park, Lexington

Spring Migration Bird Walks

Friday, May 2

For more information, check out

<https://parks.lexingtonky.gov/wbwsc/webtrac.wsc/iteminfo.html?Module=AR&FMID=369524497>

Location: Raven Run Nature Sanctuary, Lexington

Forest Birds of the Palisades

Friday, May 2

For more information, check out <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/forest-birds-of-the-palisades-w-ben-leffew-and-michael-patton-tickets-1091302879289?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>

Location: Floracliff Nature Sanctuary, Lexington

First Friday Birding

Friday, May 2

For more information, check out <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/floc-first-friday-birding-registration-1277971359739?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>

Location: Floracliff Nature Sanctuary, Lexington

Shinedown

Friday, May 2

For more information, check out

<https://www.centralbankcenter.com/events/detail/shinedown-dance-kid-dance-2025>

Location: Rupp Arena, Downtown

Whitney Cummings: Big Baby! Tour

Friday, May 2

For more information, check out

<https://www.centralbankcenter.com/events/detail/whitney-cummings-big-baby-tour>

Location: Lexington Opera House, Downtown

An Evening with the Paul Thorn Band

Friday, May 2

For more information, check out <https://www.manchestermusichall.com/tm-event/an-evening-with-the-paul-thorn-band/>

Location: Manchester Music Hall, Downtown

JR Carroll

Friday, May 2

For more information, check out <https://theburlky.com/>

Location: The Burl, Downtown

Live Music with Lauren Mink and Dale Adams

Friday, May 2

For more information, check out <https://www.visitlex.com/event/live-music-with-lauren-mink-and-dale-adams/24928/>

Location: Harkness Edwards Vineyards, Winchester, KY

David Nihill – Comedian

Friday, May 2 – May 3

For more information, check out

<https://www.comedyoffbroadway.com/events/108824>

Location: Comedy Off Broadway, Lexington

Saturday, May 3**Kentucky Derby at Keeneland**

Saturday, May 3

For more information, check out <https://www.visitlex.com/event/kentucky-derby-at-keeneland/25047/>

Location: Keeneland Race Course, Lexington

Derby Day Celebration

Saturday, May 3

For more information, check out <https://www.visitlex.com/event/derby-day-celebration-on-old-state-capitol-lawn/25409/>

Location: Old State Capitol Lawn, Frankfort, KY

May Pop-Up at Fayette Mall

Saturday, May 3

For more information, check out <https://www.visitlex.com/event/may-pop-up-at-fayette-mall/25408/>

Location: Fayette Mall, Lexington

Salt Spring Trace Hike

Saturday, May 3

For more information, check out

https://lowerhowardscreek.org/Plan_Your_Visit/Organized_Hikes/organized_hikes.html

Location: Lower Howard's Creek, Winchester, KY

Spring Garden Expo

Saturday, May 3

For more information, check out <https://www.visitlex.com/event/spring-garden-expo/25313/>

Location: Georgetown, KY

Driftwood Gypsy

Saturday, May 3

For more information, check out <https://theburlky.com/>

Location: The Burl, Downtown

Junkfest Day

Saturday, May 3

For more information, check out <https://www.augustaky.gov/events>

Location: Augusta, KY

Downtown Farmers Market

Saturday, May 3 (ongoing)

For more information, check out <https://www.lexingtonfarmersmarket.com/>

Location: Tandy Centennial Park, Downtown

Kentucky-19

Saturday, May 3 – May 5

For more information, check out <https://kyhorsepark.com/event/kentucky-19/>

Location: Kentucky Horse Park, Lexington

Sunday, May 4**Remembering Go for Gin**

Sunday, May 4

For more information, check out <https://kyhorsepark.com/event/remembering-go-for-gin/>

Location: Kentucky Horse Park, Lexington

Celebration!

Sunday, May 4

For more information, check out <https://www.centralbankcenter.com/events/detail/the-lexington-singers-pops-concert-presents-celebration>

Location: Lexington Opera House, Downtown

Live Music with Hannah Mae

Sunday, May 4

For more information, check out <https://www.visitlex.com/event/live-music-with-hannah-mae/24929/>

Location: Harkness Edwards Vineyards, Winchester, KY

Flood with Love

Sunday, May 4

For more information, check out <https://www.manchestermusichall.com/tm-event/flood-with-love/the>

Location: Manchester Music Hall, Downtown

Fancy Hagood

Sunday, May 4

For more information, check out <https://theburlky.com/>

Location: The Burl, Downtown

Distillery District Food & History Tour

Sunday, May 4 (ongoing on Sunday)

For more information, check out <https://www.visitlex.com/event/distillery-district-food-%26-history-tour/23408/>

Location: Downtown