



March 2019

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March 1-3, 2019, Celtic Calling, Charleston, WV, <https://www.celticcalling.org/>
Charleston's Celtic Calling is an Irish, Scottish and Welsh celebration of music, art, food and recreation. The weekend events include music, singing, dancing, a 5K Kilt Run/Walk, Blackface Sheep Petting Zoo, fire and dance artists, cooking class and competition, storytelling and limerick writing, boutique walk and Kirken of the Tartans Church Service.

March 1-3, 2019, Craftsmen's Spring Classic Art & Craft Festival, Columbia, SC, www.CraftShow.com

The award-winning Craftsmen's Spring Classic Art & Craft Festival is bursting with hundreds of the finest artists and craftsmen from around the country. Held at the South Carolina State Fairgrounds, there will be pottery, fine art, jewelry, glass, furniture, clothing, photography, baskets, sculpture, wood, musical instruments, specialty foods and more! Not only is this a great opportunity for browsing and buying, but also the public can meet the artisans behind the original works.

March 1-31, 2019, Azalea Bloom Out at Bellingrath Gardens and Home, Theodore, AL, www.bellingrath.org

Come stroll among the blooms of some 250,000 azaleas and enjoy the color explosion throughout Bellingrath Gardens during the annual Azalea Bloom Out.

March 2, 2019, Pigeon Forge Chuck Wagon Cookoff, Pigeon Forge, TN, www.MyPigeonForge.com/events/Cookoff

The first food trucks were chuck wagons operated by cowboys rolling on the prairies since the 1800s. Today, chuck wagons and cook teams prepare tasty meals that are judged for cash and prizes, and then served to cookoff attendees. The Pigeon Forge Chuck Wagon Cookoff is a western-themed day of food (cooked over an open fire in cast iron with the spices that would have been available to original chuck wagon cooks) and fun. Bring the family, enjoy lunch at high noon and visit with the cooks.

March 3, 2019, Krewe of Highland XXIII, Shreveport, LA, www.thekreweofhighland.org

The 20-year mission of the Krewe is to bring people from all over the community (residents and visitors) into Highland for a fun-filled day and encourage neighbors to meet each other. The parade rolls through historic Highland, a Shreveport neighborhood, beginning at the corner of Gilbert Drive and Gregg Avenue. The eccentric krewe is known for tossing hotdogs, packs of ramen noodles and moon pies. Visitors will enjoy the oldest neighborhood parade and the only one with a float from each krewe participating in this exciting, witty event.

March 8-9, 2019, NHRMC Wrightsville Beach Marathon, Wilmington, NC, www.wrightsvillebeachmarathon.com/

The 10th annual NHRMC Wrightsville Beach Marathon event includes a 5K Glow Run, a 1-mile Fun Run, a 5K, Half and Full Marathon, and a Relay Marathon. Participants will enjoy an earlier date this year for better sunrise experiences in this unique event with races for any age or level of runner.

March 8-10, 2019, Craftsmen's Spring Classic Art & Craft Festival, Richmond, VA, www.CraftShow.com

New exhibitors to this Richmond show will add to the creative excellence expected by the many attendees. Award-winning Gilmore Shows produces the event that carefully balances crafts and fine art categories in an ever-changing economy offering hard-to-find craftsmanship coupled with unique access to artisans from many different states. The Craftsmen's Spring classic showcases the best of "Made in America" creating a fabulous shopping experience for visitors.

March 9-10, 2019, 35th Annual Art in the Park, Brooksville, FL, <https://www.hernandoarts.org/art-in-the-park.html>

Prepare to enjoy the Gulf Coast's largest art festival with more than 100 artists from many states — Art in the Park. A juried show with cash prizes, you'll see fine artists, exhibitors and student artists. There will also be a food court and live stage entertainment all in a tree-shaded park.

March 9-10 and 16-17, 2019, Shamrock City, Lookout Mountain, GA, www.seerockcity.com/shamrockcity

Come enjoy an Irish celebration and festival at Rock City. There will be music, food and other entertainment. . .and the famous waterfall will be green! Enjoy bands in the Pot of Gold Pavilion, taste some Irish food, specialty beer and Rock City's famous fudge with a "green" twist.

March 10, 2019, Black Heritage Festival, Lake Charles, LA, www.visitlakecharles.org

The annual Black Heritage Festival features live entertainment, tasty food and fabulous family fun. Celebrating diversity and education, the festival brings the cultures of Africa and Southwest Louisiana together and promises lots of great music like Zydeco, Jazz, R&B and Gospel. The event is held at the Lake Charles Civic Center and includes a Baby Expo/Healthy Baby Contest, vendors, performers, shows and more. Also, experience amazing culinary creations of Louisiana Creole and traditional African-American foods such as gumbo, jambalaya and barbecue.

March 11-18, 2019, Hilton Head International Piano Competition, Hilton Head Island, SC, www.hhipc.org

Pianists from all over the globe compete in four rounds of performance in front of an international jury representing top conservatories plus an audience at the Hilton Head International Piano Competition. Prizes include cash (totaling \$34,000), a Carnegie Hall concert, a CD recorded on the Steinway & Sons label, a return engagement with the Hilton Head Symphony Orchestra and other performances.

March 14, 2019, 11th Annual Stuart Single Fin Showdown Surf Festival, Stuart, FL, <http://www.ohanasurfshop.com/>

Charity and surfing come together at the Stuart Single Fin Showdown. From humble beginnings, the Showdown has grown into one of the largest one-day amateur surf and skim festivals in the state attracting over 150 competitors and 1500 spectators per year.

March 14-16, 2019, Iowa Rabbit Festival, Lake Charles, LA, www.visitlakecharles.org

The 33rd annual Iowa Rabbit Festival is a unique event celebrating the economic and culinary impact that rabbits have in Southwest Louisiana. The festival highlights include a rabbit show, a rabbit cook-off (a variety of dishes that are at least 50% rabbit), carnival-type rides and the “Miss Bunny” beauty pageant. The event is family-friendly with good music (local Cajun & Zydeco as well as regional headliners). Proceeds support the community of Iowa and other youth organizations, schools and non-profit groups.

March 16, 2019, St. Paddy's on Perry, Lawrenceville, GA, www.lawrencevillega.org

Historic Downtown Lawrenceville has its own Celtic isle with shamrocks and other shenanigans on Perry Street on St. Paddy's Day. Don't let the leprechauns have all the fun — as long as you remember it's Paddy's, and not Patty's, you can celebrate too! Hear live music with traditional bagpipers, taste traditional Irish fare from local eateries and harness that fighting Irish spirit for the eating contest and beer relay. Fíálte (welcome) to St. Paddy's Day on Perry Street!

March 19-23, 2019, A Mountain Quiltfest, Pigeon Forge, TN, www.MountainQuiltfest.com

Quilters from Colonial times were experts at repurposing what they had into something new. Their piecwork quilts were important for staying warm, but today's quilts are literally works of art. See the beautiful quilts at A Mountain Quiltfest, a quilt show and vendor mall. There are also classes offered for all skill levels from basic hand-stitching to the most innovative machine-stitched techniques. Admission to the show is free, but please note that fees are charged for classes and lectures.

March 21-24, 2019, Festival of Flowers, Mobile, AL, www.festivalofflowers.com

Festival of Flowers, in its 26th year, features spectacular displays under both tent and sky on the Providence Hospital campus. The city's signature herald of spring draws thousands of visitors annually from across the region and country. Expect to experience education, inspiration and enchantment through this event that shares the rich heritage of Mobile. Established as a fundraiser by the Providence Foundation to assist Providence Hospital in its health care mission, the award-winning event benefits the entire community.

March 23, 2019, ShamRockin' for a Cure, Alpharetta, GA,

<http://www.shamrockinforacure.com/>

ShamRockin' for a Cure will rock your night with great food, bands and dancing, all to help cure Cystic Fibrosis. The event is held at the Verizon Amphitheatre and regular tickets include food, drinks (beer, wine and cocktails) plus giveaways! There is something for everyone (trips, dining, gift certificates and more) in both the live and silent auctions as well as a raffle.

March 23-24, 2019, Conyers Cherry Blossom Festival, Conyers, GA,

www.conyerscherryblossomfest.com

The Conyers Cherry Blossom Festival continues to grow and nurture the friendship and exchange of Japanese Culture since its inception in 1982. Held at the Georgia International Horse Park, the venue is able to accommodate a growing festival like this. Expect to see hundreds of arts and crafts booths as well as food booths and entertainment.

March 23-24, 2019, Lake Charles Civic Ballet's Assemblé 2019, Lake Charles, LA,

www.visitlakecharles.org

Celebrating 50 years, Lake Charles Civic Ballet (LCCB) and the Southwest Louisiana arts community presents Assemblé 2019 - A Dance Down Memory Lane at the Lake Charles Civic Center. Excerpts of select pieces originally created and performed in Southwest Louisiana over the past 50 years will be included such as Peter Pan (Assemblé 2018), Hungarian Dances (choreographed by LCCB founding member Libby Lovejoy) and Louisiana Saturday Night, accompanied onstage by local Cajun band Chris Miller & Bayou Roots. Enjoy the creativity, costumes and elaborate sets of yesteryear in this exciting collaboration.

March 28-April 6, 2019, Columbus, Mississippi Spring Pilgrimage, Columbus, MS,

www.visitcolumbusms.org

The award-winning Columbus, Mississippi Spring Pilgrimage highlights exceptional historic homes and gardens with unique events. Explore the rich heritage and history of Columbus by carriage ride or atop a double decker tour bus, and celebrate with a community-wide Kick Off Party featuring live music, boiled crawfish and shrimp on the lawn of the Tennessee Williams Home and Welcome Center. Events include a Half Marathon and 5K Run, "Catfish in the Alley" (Mississippi food and Blues musicians), Artisans Alley filled with handcrafted items and, of course, beautiful antebellum homes not normally on tour. Also noteworthy are Tales from the Crypt at Friendship Cemetery, the Buttahatchee Barn Quilt Trail, garden parties and more! Bring the family and experience authentic Southern hospitality at this 10-day event.

March 29-30, 2019, Springtime Tallahassee Festival, Tallahassee, FL,

<http://www.springtimetallahassee.com/>

Experience true Southern hospitality with one of the largest, most-celebrated festivals in the Southeast — Springtime Tallahassee Festival. This two-day event features a Music Festival on Kleman Plaza with national acts, a Grand Parade with more than 100 entries and Jubilee in the Park with its hand-crafted items, Children's Park and local entertainment in the downtown area. More than 150,000 folks attend this event annually, so bring the family and check it out.