

WHERE THE BEST COMES INTO VIEW

While the lure of outdoor activities attracts visitors to the area, the hometown charm of the local cities and festivals brings them back. Lined with historic significance and country charisma, the small downtowns in Lake County offer the peaceful getaway so many tourists seek.

Whether it is the sports-themed, heritage or just plain fun festivals your family searches for, it is all happening in Lake County. Come join the party. Lake County has its share of farmers markets, on the weekends and during the week as well. A stroll around one of these farmers markets will provide an array of produce, baked goods, plants and other items for sale.



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To request a free copy of any of these publications or for a complete listing of events, fairs, festivals and farmer's markets in Lake County, visit www.lakecountyfl.com, keyword: calendar or call 352-429-3673



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For more information and tips for planning a vacation, visit the Lake County Welcome Center, located at 20763 U.S. Highway 27 in Groveland, call 352-429-3673 or log on to www.lakecountyfl.com.

LAKE COUNTY

Monthly Events Guide

Where the best comes into view



LAKE COUNTY
FLORIDA

DECEMBER 2012

Provided by the Economic Development & Tourism Department

MONTHLY EVENTS GUIDE LISTINGS

What: Tavares Holiday Celebration

When: Dec. 1 - 5:30 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Where: Wooton Park - Downtown Tavares

Cost: Free

The City of Tavares presents Candy Canes & Christmas Carols. The parade starts at 5:30 p.m. on Main St. & Ruby St. Festivities at Wooton Park include entertainment, snow storms, ice skating, living angels, s'mores pit, video game truck and much more. And don't forget Santa's very special arrival in America's Seaplane City. For more info: 352-742-6319 or log on to www.tavares.org.

What: Lake County Rowing Association Learn to Row

When: Dec. 1-2, 9 - 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Where: Lake Minneola

Cost: \$100

Rowing promotes cardiovascular fitness, strength, mental discipline and teamwork. LCRA rowers train throughout the year to compete successfully at the local and regional levels. For more information, contact Debbie Kiely at 407-497-1035 or log on to www.lakecountyorowing.org.

What: Plaid Tidings

When: Dec. 1-2, 5-9 - Wed - Sat 8 p.m.;

Sun 2 p.m., Sat Nov. 24 & Dec. 8, 2 p.m.

Where: State Theatre, Eustis

Cost: \$18 Weds & Thurs, \$21 Fri & Sat, \$11 Students

This show will bring a little harmony to the holidays. The musical group known as The Plaids are back to croon favorites from the '50s and '60s. For more info: 352-357-7777 or log on to www.baystreetplayers.org.

What: The Winter Wonderettes

When: Dec. 1-2, 6-9, 13-16 - Thu, 7:30 p.m.; Fri, 8 p.m.;

Sat, 2 p.m. or 8 p.m.; Sun, 2 p.m.

Where: The IceHouse Theatre, Mount Dora

Cost: \$10 - \$20

The Marvelous Wonderettes, Suzy, Missy, Betty Jean and Cindy Lou are back harmonizing for the holidays to Santa Claus is Coming to Town, Jingle Bell Rock, Run Rudolph Run, Winter Wonderland and 20 other seasonal favorites. For more info: 352-383-4616 or log on to www.icehousetheatre.com.

What: Light Up Clermont

When: Dec. 1 - Fri, 6:45 p.m. - 9 p.m.; Sat, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Where: Historic Downtown Clermont

Cost: free

The 24th Annual Light Up Clermont ceremony will take place at Center Lake. The festivities will continue with a holiday craft show & food vendors on Montrose St. The hometown holiday parade will begin at 1 p.m. and travel through downtown Clermont. For more info: 352-241-7352 or log on to www.cityofclermontfl.com.

What: 22nd Annual Lighted Boat Christmas Parade

When: Dec. 1 - 7 p.m.

Where: Lake Dora Waterfront, Mount Dora

Cost: free

This annual parade is sure be enjoyed by all ages as colorful lighted boats glide over Lake Dora. Come join in the fun and Merry Christmas from the Lions Club of Mt. Dora, The Rusty Anchor and The Mt. Dora Boating Center and Marina! For more info: 352-383-3150 or log on to mountdora.com/festivals.php.

What: Fall Colors Kayak Tours

When: Dec. 1-14, 23-24, 30-31 - 9:30 a.m.

Where: St Johns River, Deland

Cost: \$59

Florida really does have fall! Come see the season's colors and learn about the St Johns River. This was the super highway of its time, the thoroughfare for goods and services to reach Lake County. All the equipment is supplied for you to have a relaxing time on the river. Call or email for reservations. For more info: 352-589-7899 or log on to www.kayakcentralflorida.com

What: Citrus Tower Spectacular Christmas Light Show

When: Dec. 1-31 - 6 - 10 p.m.

Where: Citrus Tower, Minneola

Cost: free

Thousands of dancing lights synchronized to Christmas music. Lights will be visible from miles away on all four sides of the Citrus Tower. Music can be heard in the parking lot at the base of the tower. The light up ceremony will be on Saturday December 1st at 7 p.m.. For more info: 352-321-6457 or log on to www.jayslights.com.

What: Homemade for the Holidays

When: Dec. 1, 15 - 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Where: Paisley County Library

Cost: free

Homemade for the Holidays is an adult and teen program to make unique handmade gifts for the holidays. For more information, call the Paisley Library at 352-669-1001. For more info: 352-669-1001 or log on to www.mylakelibrary.org/libraries/paisley_county_library.aspx.

What: Florida Lakes Symphony Orchestra: Christmas Eve Suites

When: Dec. 6 - 7:30 p.m.

Where: St. Patrick Catholic Church, Mount Dora

Cost: \$42 in advance; \$45 at door; student \$15

The fabulous "Nutcracker Suite" will boast the Mount Dora School of Ballet in a stellar performance, beginning the eve will be "Troika" from "Lt. Kije Suite." We will celebrate the "Festival of Hannukkah" to honor the Jewish roots of Christmas and continue with the beautiful voice of Tara Rowell in "O Holy Night." For more info: 352-589-1500 or log on to www.floralakesymphonyorchestra.com.

What: Light Up Montverde

When: Dec. 7 - 6:30 p.m.

Where: Town Hall Montverde

Cost: free

Montverde Academy select choir along with local church groups will present sounds of the season. Not to miss, will be Santa Claus hitching a ride with our Montverde Fire Department to spread Christmas candies to all of the children. A food drive and gift drive will be on site distributed back to our local community. For more info: 407-469-2681 or log on to www.mymontverde.com.

What: Christkindmarket Yalaha Bakery

When: Dec. 8-9 - 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Where: Yalaha Bakery Christkindlmarket

Cost: free

One of the most memorable experiences for anyone in Germany is savoring the winter holiday season at one of the country's myriad Christmas markets. Join us to celebrate the spirit of Christmas with our first annual Christkindlmarket following this German tradition. For more info: 352-324-3366 or log on to www.yalahabakery.com.

What: Wine & Chocolate

When: Dec. 8-9 - Sat, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.;

Sun, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Where: Lakeridge Winery & Vineyards, Clermont

Cost: \$2 Donation

Wine and Chocolate is the theme for this very special event at this seasonal time of year. Local Artists and Crafters are invited to display their work. Enjoy live music by incredible bands on outdoor stage throughout the entire weekend. For more info: 352-394-8627 or log on to lakeridgewinery.com.

What: Ladies Victorian Tea

When: Dec. 11 - 2 - 4 p.m.

Where: Lakeside Inn, Mount Dora

Cost: call for pricing

This event has all the pomp and circumstance of a Victorian tea from the beautiful place settings and tea cakes to delightful music and prim etiquette true to the Victorian era. This is a truly elegant and unique experience! For more info: 800-556-5016 or log on to www.lakeside-inn.com.

What: Florida Half Marathon, 10k, &5K

When: Dec. 15 - 8 a.m.

Where: Lake Louisa State Park, Clermont

Cost: \$51 (half), \$36 (10k), \$21 (5k)

Lake Louisa State Park will be the host for this year's Florida Half Marathon, 10K and 5K. With the beauty of our State Park and minimal traffic you are bound to have a great time. This is a great opportunity for our competitive athletes as well as for those that are looking for a family friendly race. For more info: 352-241-7144 or log on to imathlete.com.