

EDMONTON FESTIVAL CITY

2014-2015

October-May



October February May December January October November March April May



Edmonton Festival City

A vibrant and culturally diverse northern city, Edmonton bustles with exciting festivals year round. Each winter, Edmonton hosts a magnificent array of festivals and events that celebrate arts, culture, sports, film and theatre. In fact, one third of Edmonton's public celebrations take place during winter months, and last year, these events attracted more than 100,000 people!¹

This guide will help you to discover what's happening in Edmonton's exhilarating visual and performing arts scene, as well as major sporting events, world-class shows and exhibitions, and everything in between.

Although we have tried to be as thorough as possible, we may have inadvertently missed something. Stay up-to-date by visiting the City of Edmonton's online events calendar at www.edmonton.ca/calendar. Is your community organization or group hosting an event of its own? By adding it to the online events calendar you can give folks all the details they need to attend your event.

Please note that the events and dates we have listed may be subject to change without notice. Contact the event organizer or visit their website to confirm all event-related information.

For a printable PDF of this guide, please visit http://www.edmonton.ca/attractions_recreation/attractions/festivals-events.aspx.

Explore your options, join the excitement and discover why Edmonton is known as Canada's Festival City!

For more information about Edmonton's Winter City Strategy, go to www.edmonton.ca/WinterCityStrategy or visit our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/WinterCityEdmonton>

OCTOBER/ NOVEMBER

U of A Turkey Trot

October 5, 2013
2014 event dates to be confirmed

Location: Butterdome, University of Alberta Campus (114 Street & 87 Avenue)

Ticket Price: See website for registration fees
recservices.ualberta.ca/Programs/SpecialEvents

Turkey Trot is a fun run for anybody and everybody. We have a flat and scenic 4km route that circles North Campus and can be easily walked or ran by anyone. Our 8km route is more of a challenge with Emily Murphy park hill hitting you at the 6km mark. As part of the official U of A United Way Campaign a portion of your registration will be donated to the United Way.

Edmonton Comedy Festival Presented by ATB Financial

October 16 to 19, 2013
2014 event dates to be confirmed

Location: Various locations throughout Edmonton

Ticket Price: Various. Tickets range from free to \$45

atbcomedy.com | 780-439-8809

The Edmonton Comedy Festival, presented by ATB Financial, takes over Edmonton for four side-splitting days of comedy. The festival features dozens of shows by the best comics in North America.

Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation CIBC Run for the Cure

October 6, 2013
October 5, 2014

Location: Sir Winston Churchill Square (100 Street & 102 Avenue) and surrounding streets

Ticket Price: Free admission for spectators. Refer to website for registration fees

cbcf.org | 780-452-1166

The Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation CIBC Run for the Cure is the largest, single-day, volunteer-led, fundraising event in support of the breast cancer cause in Canada.

LitFest: Edmonton's Nonfiction Festival

October 17 to 27, 2013
October 15 to 26, 2014

Location: Various locations throughout downtown, and all over the capital region.

Ticket Price: Various. Tickets range from free to \$50

litfestalberta.org | 780-498-2500

LitFest celebrates nonfiction writing through performances, panels, workshops and multi-faceted events. We focus on conversation, close contact with the writers, and the development of new ideas through great writing.



PHOTO CREDITS: (Left to Right): Jim Cuddy performs at The Edmonton Comedy Festival, Bill Cowen; Alexis Kienlen and Noah Richler talk about the challenges of balancing the need to market yourself as a writer, and still get some writing done, Donna Fong

River City Round Up

November 1 & 2, 2013
2014 event dates to be confirmed

Location: Main activities at Sir Winston Churchill Square (100 Street & 102 Avenue)

Ticket Price: Free Admission

rivercityroundup.com | Within Edmonton: 311
Outside of Edmonton call: 780-442-5311

River City Round Up is a city-wide festival that celebrates Edmonton's agricultural heritage and rodeo. Dust off your western attire and head out to one of the many events happening throughout Edmonton.

Canadian Finals Rodeo

November 6 to 10, 2013
November 5 to 9, 2014

Location: Rexall Place (7424 - 118 Avenue)

Ticket Price: \$20 and up

cfr.ca | 780-471-7210

National titles, bragging rights and more than \$1.25 million are up for grabs at the CFR. Don't miss the heart-pounding excitement and entertainment of watching your favourite rodeo athletes buck, rope and ride. This isn't just any rodeo – it's the Canadian Championship!

Farmfair International

November 3 to 10, 2013
October 31 to November 9, 2014

Location: Northlands Edmonton EXPO Centre (7515 - 118 Avenue)

Ticket Price: \$5

farmfairinternational.com | 780-471-7210

Canada's premiere agricultural showcase with top quality livestock shows, sales and competitions. For more than 35 years, Farmfair International has held the reins as a top destination for the international livestock industry and is a hub for agricultural business.

City Hall Remembrance Day Ceremony

November 11, 2013
November 11, 2014

Location: City Hall (#1 Sir Winston Churchill Square)
Ticket Price: Free Admission

edmonton.ca | Within Edmonton: 311
Outside of Edmonton call: 780-442-5311

A Remembrance Day service will be held at City Hall to honour the achievements and sacrifices of those who served our country in times of war and peace.

NOVEMBER/ DECEMBER

The Pure Speculation Festival

November 15 to 17, 2013
November 14 to 16, 2014

Location: Ramada Conference Centre Edmonton
(11834 Kingsway)

Ticket Price: Advance tickets \$40, \$50 at the door.
Children under 12 enter for free with an adult.

purespec.org | 780-937-6465

Pure Spec is a celebration of science fiction, fantasy, comics, gaming, science and media. Come and meet the authors, the costumers and the speakers. Take part in the gaming, check out the merchants and enjoy the programs!
2013 theme: Steampunk.

Prairie Bowl Improv Festival

November 21 to 23, 2013
November 20 to 22, 2014

Location: Zeidler Hall at the Citadel Theatre
(9828 - 101A Avenue)

Ticket Price: Tickets and passes range from \$12 to \$35

rapidfiretheatre.com | 780-443-6044

Did you know that improv comedy à la Theatresports was invented right here in Alberta? Well, it was – and we OWN the form! Come and see western Canada's favourite improv troupes performing the styles and games that made the format so famous. Thursday through Saturday. There will be a trophy!

Christmas on the Square Holiday Light Up

November 16, 2013
November 15, 2014

Location: Sir Winston Churchill Square
(100 Street & 102 Avenue, NW)

Ticket Price: Free Admission

edmontondowntown.com | 780-424-4085

Kick off the holiday season at the Christmas on the Square Holiday Light Up! The Square comes alive with music and family entertainment, all leading up to the arrival of Santa, the lighting of the giant Christmas tree, and a spectacular fireworks show!



Celebrate the Season

December 5 to 23, 2013
December 4 to 23, 2014

Location: Alberta Legislature
(10800 - 97 Avenue)

Ticket Price: Free Admission

assembly.ab.ca | 780-427-7362

Celebrate the Season is an annual holiday tradition at the Alberta Legislature with hot chocolate and live music.

New Year's Eve Downtown

December 31, 2013
December 31, 2014

Location: Sir Winston Churchill Square
(100 Street & 102 Avenue)

Ticket Price: Free Admission

edmonton.ca | 311

Outside of Edmonton call: 780-442-5311

Ring in the New Year downtown! Join us for Edmonton's best New Year's Eve party and fireworks.

PHOTO CREDITS (Opposite page, TOP): Fireworks at the Christmas on the Square Holiday Light Up, *Downtown Business Association*; (BOTTOM): Performers at the Prairie Bowl Improv Festival, *Marc Julien Objois*



JANUARY

Deep Freeze: A Byzantine Winter Festival

January 11 & 12, 2014
January 10 & 11, 2015

Location: 118 Avenue, between 90 & 94 Streets
Ticket Price: Admission by donation
deepfreezefest.ca

This winter adventure celebrates the Russian/Ukrainian “Olde New Year” and embraces our northern climate by melding artistic panache with authentic cultural winter games and fun. Join us for snow and ice sculptures, old tyme curling, ethnic foods, dance and street hockey.

The Canoe Theatre Festival

January 22 to February 2, 2014
2015 event dates to be confirmed

Location: C103 (Formerly Catalyst Theatre)
8529 - 103 Street
Ticket Price: Tickets range from \$18 to \$35
workshopwest.org | 780-477-5955 x301

Join us for theatre that rocks the boat at Workshop West Theatre Festival. The Canoe Theatre Festival is a cutting-edge contemporary theatre festival that presents a program of provocative, ground-breaking performances from Edmonton, Canada and around the world.



Ice on Whyte Festival

January 24 to February 2, 2014
January 23 to February 1, 2015

Location: End of Steel Park, Gateway Blvd
(103 Street) & Tommy Banks Way
Ticket Price: Adult \$6, Child \$3, under 2 free
iceonwhyte.ca | 780-758-5878

Come outside to play and celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Ice on Whyte Festival. The park will be filled with ice and snow carvings, a giant ice slide, an interactive children's play area, food, fashion, culturally themed days, live music, hot beverages and more!



PHOTO CREDITS (LEFT): Curling at the Deep Freeze Festival, *Edward Allen*; (Opposite page, TOP): Ice carving at the Deep Freeze Festival, *Erik Kozakiewicz*; (Opposite page, BOTTOM): Ice slide at the Ice on Whyte Festival, *Ice on Whyte 2013*



FEBRUARY

The Flying Canoe Adventure Walk and the City of Light/ L'aventure du Canoe volant (Mill Creek Adventure Walk/ La Cité en Lumière)

February 7 to 8, 2014
February 6 to 7, 2015

Location: Mill Creek Ravine Park
(8323 - 95A Street)
lacitefranco.ca | 780-463-1144

Canadian Birkebeiner Ski Festival

February 7 to 8, 2014
February 6 to 7, 2015

Location: East of Edmonton: Cooking Lake-Blackfoot Provincial Recreation Area, Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village, Elk Island National Park
Ticket Price: Free for spectators. Participant fees range from \$7 to \$100

canadianbirkie.com | 780-430-7153

The Canadian Birkebeiner is Canada's largest classic cross country ski event. This family friendly event takes place the second Saturday of every February. It is a mass-start recreational loppet, with events for all levels of skiers from beginners to elite.



PHOTO CREDITS (Opposite page, BOTTOM): Canadian Birkebeiner Ski Festival, *JaN Studios*; (TOP): Wildfire Improv Festival performers, *Marc Julien Objois*; (BOTTOM): Family fun at the Silver Skate Festival, *Anthony P. Jones*

Wildfire Improv Festival

February 11 to March 1, 2014
February 10 to 28, 2015

Location: Zeidler Hall at the Citadel Theatre
(9828 - 101A Avenue)
Ticket Price: Tickets and passes range from \$8 to \$10

rapidfiretheatre.com | 780-443-6044

These kids are GOOD! Make some funny with Alberta's best high school and teen improvisors, competing in the Nose Bowl Theatresports Tournament, and for a spot in the coveted Canadian Improv Games in Ottawa. You can even get a peek at the very youngest recruits, Jr. High performers who are sparking the talent that will someday soon shine on the Rapid Fire Theatre stage!

Silver Skate Festival

February 20 to 23, 2014
2015 event dates to be confirmed

Location: Hawrelak Park (9930 Groat Road)
Ticket Price: Free Admission

silverskatefestival.org | 780-488-1960

Edmonton's oldest winter festival is an extravaganza of free all-ages art, culture, recreation and sports programming in February at William Hawrelak Park.



MARCH/ APRIL



Expanse Movement Arts Festival

March 6 to 9, 2014
2015 event dates to be confirmed

Location: Westbury Theatre, TransAlta Arts Barns (10330 - 84 Avenue)

Ticket Price: Tickets range from free to \$15
azimuththeatre.com/expanse | 780-454-0583

An electric four-day celebration of the body-in-motion, Expanse Movement Arts Festival features high velocity body-made art, presenting innovative movement in all forms: dance, movement theatre, aerial and circus arts, mime, dance for film and more.

Bonfire Long Form Improv Festival

April 8 to 12, 2014
April 7 to 12, 2015

Location: Zeidler Hall at the Citadel Theatre (9828 - 101A Avenue)

Ticket Price: Tickets and passes range from \$12 to \$35

rapidfiretheatre.com | 780-443-6044

Edmonton's first ever long-form improv comedy festival. See full-length one-act plays unfold right before your eyes! No script, no director, no rehearsal. Rapid Fire Theatre's best improvisors take a concept, an image, a single word – and improvise!

Music at the Muttart: Celtic Romp

March 13, 2014
2015 event dates to be confirmed

Location: Muttart Conservatory (9626 - 96A Street)

Ticket Price: Regular Admission

muttartconservatory.ca | Within Edmonton: 311
Outside of Edmonton call: 780-442-5311

PHOTO CREDITS (Opposite page, TOP): Rapid Fire Theatre at Bonfire Improv Festival, *Marc Julien Objois*; (Opposite page, BOTTOM): The Muttart Conservatory stays in full bloom year round, *Lana Adcock*

Edmonton Kiwanis Music Festival

April 14 to May 2, 2014
2015 event dates to be confirmed

Location: McDougall United Church (10086 Macdonald Drive) and various locations around Edmonton

Ticket Price: Free Admission

edmontonkiwanis.com | 780-488-3498

Come and hear the stars of tomorrow present their talents. You will enjoy choirs, bands, musical theatre, speech and drama, piano, brass, woodwinds, handbells, harp and strings.

Edmonton Poetry Festival

April 20 to 27, 2014
April 19 to 26, 2015

Location: Various locations throughout downtown Edmonton

Ticket Price: Prices vary by event. Average is \$10
edmontonpoetryfestival.com | 780-289-1553

The Edmonton Poetry Festival engages people from across the city in poetry as creators and audience. The theme for the 2014 festival is Word Bridges.



MAY

Global Visions Film Festival

May 8 to 15, 2014

2015 event dates to be confirmed

Location: Metro Cinema (Garneau Theatre) (8712 - 109 Street) and Art Gallery of Alberta Theatre (#2 Sir Winston Churchill Square)

Ticket Price: Tickets and passes range from \$11 to \$150

globalvisionsfestival.com / 780-414-1052

Abuzz with filmmakers, industry types and film lovers, Global Visions is an eight-day celebration of documentary film, media and music, turning Edmonton into an international Mecca for culture, cause and art.

Vocal Arts Festival

May 17 to June 28, 2014

2015 event dates to be confirmed

Location: Victoria School for the Arts Theatre, Convocation Hall (UofA) and various locations around Edmonton

Ticket Price: Tickets range from \$14 to \$40
operanuova.ca / 780-487-4844

The Vocal Arts Festival showcases Canada's finest emerging talent in opera and classical music, offering audiences dozens of concert events of diverse vocal genres including art song, sacred music, Broadway and light opera. The festival spans six weeks and includes three fully-staged orchestrated opera productions and operas for children and families.

Wintertime Music at the Muttart: Swing into Spring

May 15, 2014

2015 event dates to be confirmed

Location: Muttart Conservatory (9626 - 96A Street)

Ticket Price: Regular Admission
muttartconservatory.ca / Within Edmonton: 311
Outside of Edmonton call: 780-442-5311

Hip Hop in the Park

May 17 to 24, 2014

2015 event dates to be confirmed

Location: Louise McKinney Park (9999 Grierson Hill Road) & various locations

Ticket Price: By Donation

hiphopinthepark.ca

Hip Hop in the Park is the name of the event and is also what you will find at the event – Hip Hop... in the Park. The cultural elements of Hip Hop, DJin', Emceein', Breakin', Graffin', Beatboxin' will be on display in the park and there will be plenty of chances for you to work on your elements with workshops and plenty of hands-on experience with Hip Hop Kulture! See you there!

PHOTO CREDITS (Opposite page, TOP): Muttart Conservatory, City of Edmonton; (Opposite page, BOTTOM): Global Visions Film Festival audience, Rob Hislop Photography



Vaisakhi Nagar Kirtan (Sikh Parade)

May 18, 2014

May 17, 2015

Location: 2606 Mill Woods Road East

Ticket Price: Free Admission

780-990-6166

A parade that has been organized annually since 1999 to celebrate the creation of the Khalsa (a unique identity of the Sikhs). The procession is lead by The Guru Granth Sahib Ji (the Sikh scriptures), with participants following, singing holy hymns.



Edmonton and Area Corporate Challenge

May 23 to June 7, 2014

May 22 to June 6, 2015

Location: Various locations throughout Edmonton

Ticket Price: Free Admission

edmontoncorporatchallenge.com / 780-463-9500

Corporate Challenge is a multi-sport activity that gives corporations of all sizes the opportunity to compete against each other in activities as diverse as volleyball, crib, table tennis, basketball and trivia. Over 170 companies take part annually in 22 sports and recreation events plus a variety of spirit and special events.

MS Walk

Location: Sir Winston Churchill Square (100 Street & 102 Avenue)

See website for dates

mswalks.ca / 780-440-8773

The MS Walk is a community event that brings together people touched by multiple sclerosis. At the MS Walk, people affected by MS connect with others who understand the daily realities of their disease. Every year over 65,000 participants in more than 160 communities across Canada gather at the MS Walk to engage with each other and raise vital funds for people living with MS.



edmonton festival city
live all year



October November December January
February March April May October November
December January February March April May