

California Strawberry Festival

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THE GOLDEN STATE'S TASTY TRIBUTE May 20 & 21 34th ANNUAL CALIFORNIA STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

Strawberry revelry is ripest when the 34th Annual California Strawberry Festival kicks off the summer fun May 20 and 21, 2017 on the newly expanded acreage at Strawberry Meadows of College Park in Oxnard. More than 1.5 million strawberries will be consumed over the weekend's iconic berry spectacular.

Ranked nationwide among the top outdoor Festivals, the fruity fete boasts lip-smacking strawberries every way imaginable with live concerts on multiple stages, more than 200 Fine Arts & Crafts booths, the Strawberry Promenade with celebrity cooking demonstrations, Strawberryland For Kids with rides and attractions, gooey contests, and more.

Strawberry pizza alongside a strawberry beer is just a sampling of the delicacies where the region's most prolific crop is the main ingredient for goodness. Other favorites include strawberry nachos, strawberry funnel cake, strawberry crepes, chocolate dipped strawberries, fried strawberries, and strawberry smoothies. With selections from 50 food booths, those who wish to control their destiny can visit the "build you own" strawberry shortcake tent to pile on the sweetness.

Best of all, indulging is guilt free. With each bite of berry bliss from the non-profit food booths, 100% of sales support their causes. The formula has proved to be a fruitful enterprise with close to \$5 million dollars benefiting a multitude of southland charities over the past decades.

"This year we're enhancing the Festival experience with a 50% expansion of the Festival grounds," says California Strawberry Festival Chairperson Kim Gibas. "As volunteers, we work year round to produce a first class event. We're excited because the added acreage and new footprint gives us the opportunity to double the fun."

Oxnard is located just 60 miles north of Los Angeles and 30 miles south of Santa Barbara. The free Park & Ride "Strawberry Express" shuttles from multiple convenient locations off the 101 freeway make getting there a breeze. Amtrak California offers a special Kids Ride Free promotion Festival weekend (shuttles meet the trains). Parking is also available on site for \$10. Address: 3250 South Rose Avenue, Oxnard.

California Strawberry Festival general admission is \$12, seniors 62+ and active military are \$8, and youths ages 5-12 are \$5. Kids 4 and under are free. The California Strawberry Festival toll free information line is 888 288-9242.

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