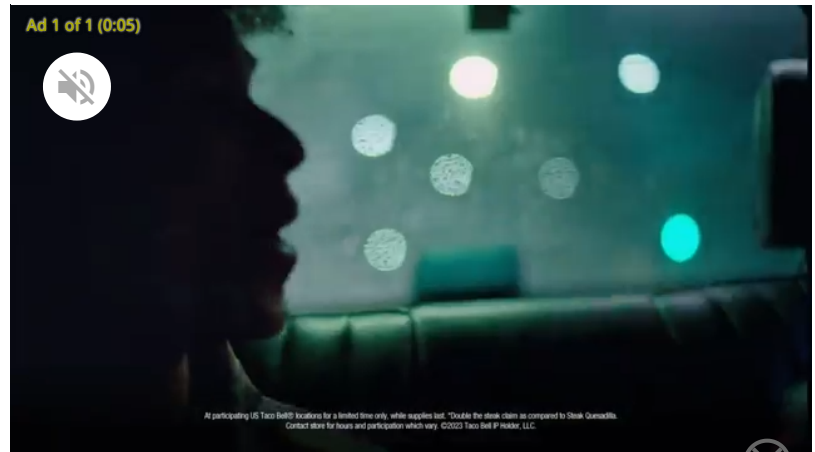


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Your Ultimate Guide to the Mesa Music Festival: Lineup, Schedule, and More

BENJAMIN LEATHERMAN | APRIL 14, 2023 | 8:25AM



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Ad 1 of 1 (0:05)

Everclear is scheduled to perform on Saturday, April 15, at the



Some of the Valley's biggest music festival state-of-the-art setups, and blockbuster li a spotlight to local or up-and-coming mu

The Mesa Music Festival, though, won't be accused of this sort of slight anytime soon. The three-day event, which takes over Main Street in downtown Mesa, includes more than 200 performances by burgeoning talents from around Arizona and across the U.S. Sets take place at various businesses, venues, and stages in downtown Mesa



the U.S. sets take place at various businesses, venues, and stages in downtown Mesa.

MMF’s lineup features artists and acts from a wide variety of genres – including rock, pop, folk, punk, hip-hop, and R&B – ranging from bands who have been performing in the Valley for years to many names you’ve likely never heard of before.

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Powered by Foundation

A few nationally known bands headline the Mesa Music Festival each year. At this year’s festival, which runs from Thursday, April 13, to Saturday, April 15, alt-rock favorites Everclear and glam-metal icons L.A. Guns are scheduled to perform.

RELATED STORIES

- [**Your Ultimate Guide to Country Thunder Arizona 2023: Tickets, Schedule, Rides**](#)
- [**Foo Fighters Will Play a Phoenix Concert This Fall — Here's How to Get Tickets**](#)
- [**Arizona State Fair Concerts Are Returning For 2023. Here's the Lineup**](#)

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Best of all, the festival is free to attend.

In addition to all the performances, the festival also features a symposium dedicated to more of the business side of the music industry where artists can learn to network, develop their careers, and grow and maintain their fanbase. Speakers include a number of music industry professionals, including Dani Cutler of local independent radio station KWSS.

“[The festival] fits right with our mission of supporting not just local music, but independent artists everywhere,” Cutler says.

What’s in store for this year’s festival? Check out the following guide with everything you need to know.



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Ad 1 of 1 (0:05)

L.A. Guns are scheduled to perform on Friday, April 14, at The

When and Where is the 2023 Mesa I

The festival is scheduled to run from Thursday to Sunday, April 13-15, at various locations along or near Main Street in downtown Mesa.

What Are the Hours?

Everything kicks off on Thursday evening with a keynote speech by Martin Atkins



(formerly of Public Image Ltd and Killing Joke) from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the second-floor theater of the ASU MIX Center, 50 North Centennial Way in Mesa. The festival continues on Friday, April 14, with a Music Symposium featuring various guest speakers running from noon until 6 p.m. at the ASU MIX Center. Live performances will take place at festival venues from 5 to 11 p.m. on Friday and from 12:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Saturday.

How Much Is Admission?

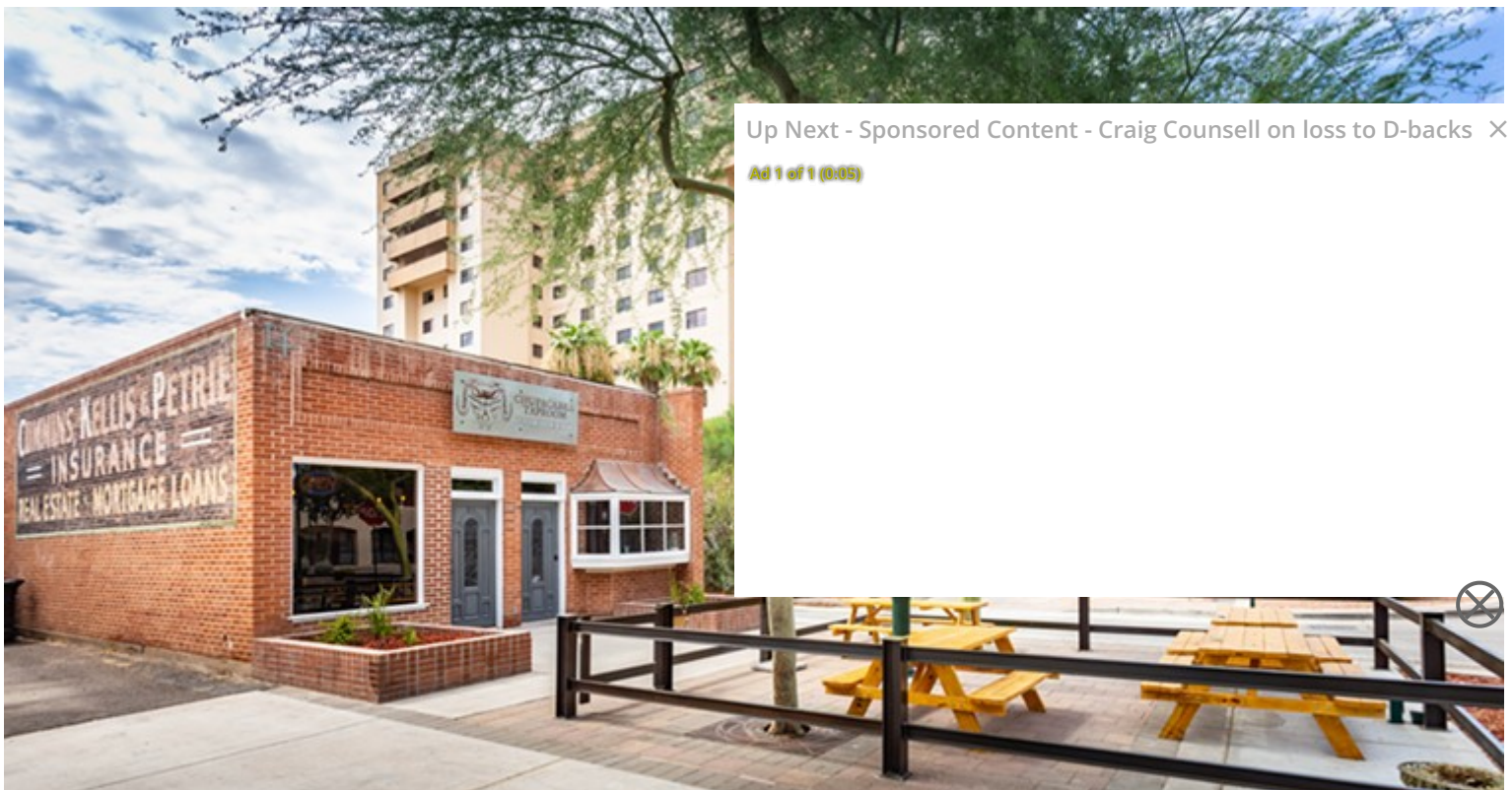
The festival and its various activities and performances are free.

Are There Age Limits?

No. The festival is open to all ages. Keep in mind, though, that the lyrical content of some musicians and bands might be aimed at mature audiences. Also, ear protection is always a good idea for younger ears (especially with some of the louder and noisier bands).

What's the Best Way to Get There?

Valley Metro Rail is the most cost-effective and hassle-free way of getting to and from the festival. There are three stations in downtown Mesa and fares are \$2 per ride or \$4 for an all-day pass. Plus, you won't have to worry about parking or driving after having a few drinks.





Chupacabra Taproom will be one of the performance venues at this year's Mesa Music Festival. **Charles Barth**

Where Can I Park?

More than 5,000 parking spaces are available throughout downtown Mesa, a large majority of which are free to use. A map of parking locations and structures can be [found here](#).

What's the Weather Going to Be Like?

It's going to be ideal festival weather. The [forecast](#) calls for sunny skies, few clouds, and temperatures in the high 80s and low 90s during the daytime. After dark, however, things will get down to around 50 degrees or cooler, so don't forget your hoodie.

Where Can I Purchase Food and Drinks?

Food and beverage trucks will be located along Main Street during the festival. Downtown Mesa also contains a variety of restaurants, cafes, coffeehouses, and breweries ([click here](#) for a full list).

What's the Music Symposium?

According to the festival's website, the Music Symposium on Friday afternoon will offer the "opportunity to learn about various aspects of the music industry and to network with industry professionals." Up Next - Sponsored Content - Craig Counsell on loss to D-backs X
Ad 1 of 1 (0:05)

Cutler thinks it's the sort of thing where local musicians can learn from each other," she says.

Speakers at this year's festival will include Stacy Nupoff of MB Entertainment Group and Powerline Management's Zachary Yoshioka. Cutler is also participating and will offer tips on how musicians and bands can pitch their tunes to radio stations.



Drummer, author, and industrial music guru Martin Atkins. **Kara Hammond**

Who's The Festival's Keynote Speaker?

British-born drummer Martin Atkins – best known for his stints with such influential bands as Public Image Ltd, Killing Joke, and Ministry – is set to be the keynote speaker at this year's festival. In addition to his lengthy career as a musician, he's also written three books, works as the coordinator of music industry studies at Millikin University in Illinois, and created the Mus Up Next - Sponsored Content - Craig Counsell on loss to D-backs X Chicago.

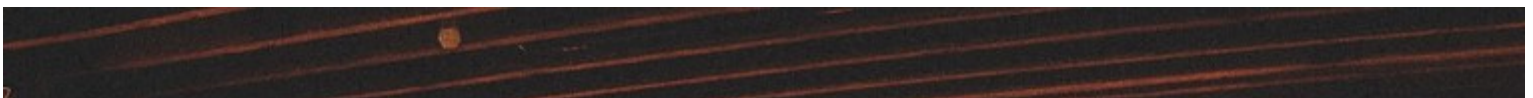
Ad 1 of 1 (0:05)

What Else Can You Do At Besides W

A portion of Main Street in downtown Me feature a vendor village and a variety of a

What Should I Bring?

All the usual stuff for attending a festival, _____, _____, _____ other sun protection, a fully charged cell phone, and a government-issued ID.





Ring Finger No Pinky bring the noise during a recent show. **Jared Zornitsky**

What's the Mesa Music Festival's Schedule?

As we mentioned, more than 200 performances are scheduled to take place across multiple stages and venues throughout the weekend. If you're feeling adventurous, we recommend wandering the festival, opening yourself up to new genres, and discovering as many bands as possible. If you'd prefer to stick with your favorites, here's a complete rundown of who's performing and when and where they'll be at the festival.

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Thursday, April 13:

ASU MIX Center

50 North Centennial Way, Mesa

6:30 to 8:30 p.m. – Keynote Speech by Ma

Friday, April 14:

Music Symposium



ASU MIX Center, 50 North Centennial Way, Mesa

Noon – Satyam Patel (Singer's Connection)
1 p.m. – Les Brown (Source Q Boutique)
2 p.m. – Mike Mumola (attorney/life coach)
3 p.m. – Stacy Nupoff (MB Entertainment Group)
4 p.m. – Dani Cutler (KWSS 93.3 and 99.5 FM)
5 p.m. – Alex Gilbert (TKO Booking Agency)
6 p.m. – Zachary Yoshioka (Powerline Management)

The Nile Theater

105 West Main Street, Mesa

5 to 5:30 p.m. – Deer MX
6 to 6:30 p.m. – Gone Before Us
7 to 7:30 p.m. – Carver Commodore
8 to 8:30 p.m. – Kanak
9:00 to 9:30 p.m. – Christopher Shayne
10 to 11 p.m. – L.A. Guns

The Underground

105 West Main Street, Mesa

5:30 to 6 p.m. – Autopilot
6:30 to 7 p.m. – Ring Finger No Pinky
7:30 to 8 p.m. – Snailmate
8:30 to 9 p.m. – Bakesale
9:30 to 10 p.m. – Winterhaven

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Oro Brewing Company

210 West Main Street, Mesa

5 to 5:30 p.m. – Just Tommy
5:50 to 6:20 p.m. – The Black Hole
6:40 to 7:10 p.m. – Fat Gray Cat
7:30 to 8 p.m. – Luau
8:20 to 8:50 p.m. – CW & Twenty Hands High
9:10 to 9:40 p.m. – Secret Harbor



Chupacabra Taproom

14 North Robson, Mesa

5 to 5:30 p.m. – Meghan Pulles

5:50 to 6:20 p.m. – Slap Daddy

6:40 to 7:10 p.m. – Danimals and the Bearded Men

7:30 to 8 p.m. – Arlan Feiles

8:20 to 8:50 p.m. – Aaron Ball Band

9:10 to 9:40 p.m. – Redoubt

Jarrold's Coffee, Tea & Gallery (Outdoors)

154 West Main Street, Mesa

5:30 to 6 p.m. – New Veins

6:30 to 7 p.m. – Moontour

7:30 to 8 p.m. – Chris Bowen Vibes

8:30 to 9 p.m. – Captain Sarcasmo

9:30 to 10 p.m. – The Joeys

Jarrold's Coffee, Tea & Gallery (Indoors)

154 West Main Street, Mesa

5 to 5:30 p.m. – Randy the Poet

6 to 6:30 p.m. – Arilexx

7 to 7:30 p.m. – Rosahlee

8 to 8:30 p.m. – Bogan Via

9 to 9:30 p.m. – Sassidy

Mesa Mural Stage

63 West Main Street, Mesa

5 to 5:30 p.m. – Indigenous Robot

5:50 to 6:20 p.m. – Greasy Parcheesi Alliance

6:40 to 7:10 p.m. – Sick in the Head

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7:30 to 8 p.m. – CFA

8:20 to 8:50 p.m. – Funerelles

9:10 to 9:40 p.m. – Theriaca

12 West Brewing

12 West Main Street, Mesa

5 to 5:30 p.m. – Tia Penny

5:50 to 6:20 p.m. – The Frequency Principle

6:40 to 7:10 p.m. – Jordy Alejandro and the JNX

7:30 to 8 p.m. – Scott & Sabrina

8:20 to 8:50 p.m. – Pushing Pluto

9:10 to 9:40 p.m. – OG Clinto

The Alley Stage

154 West Main Street, Mesa

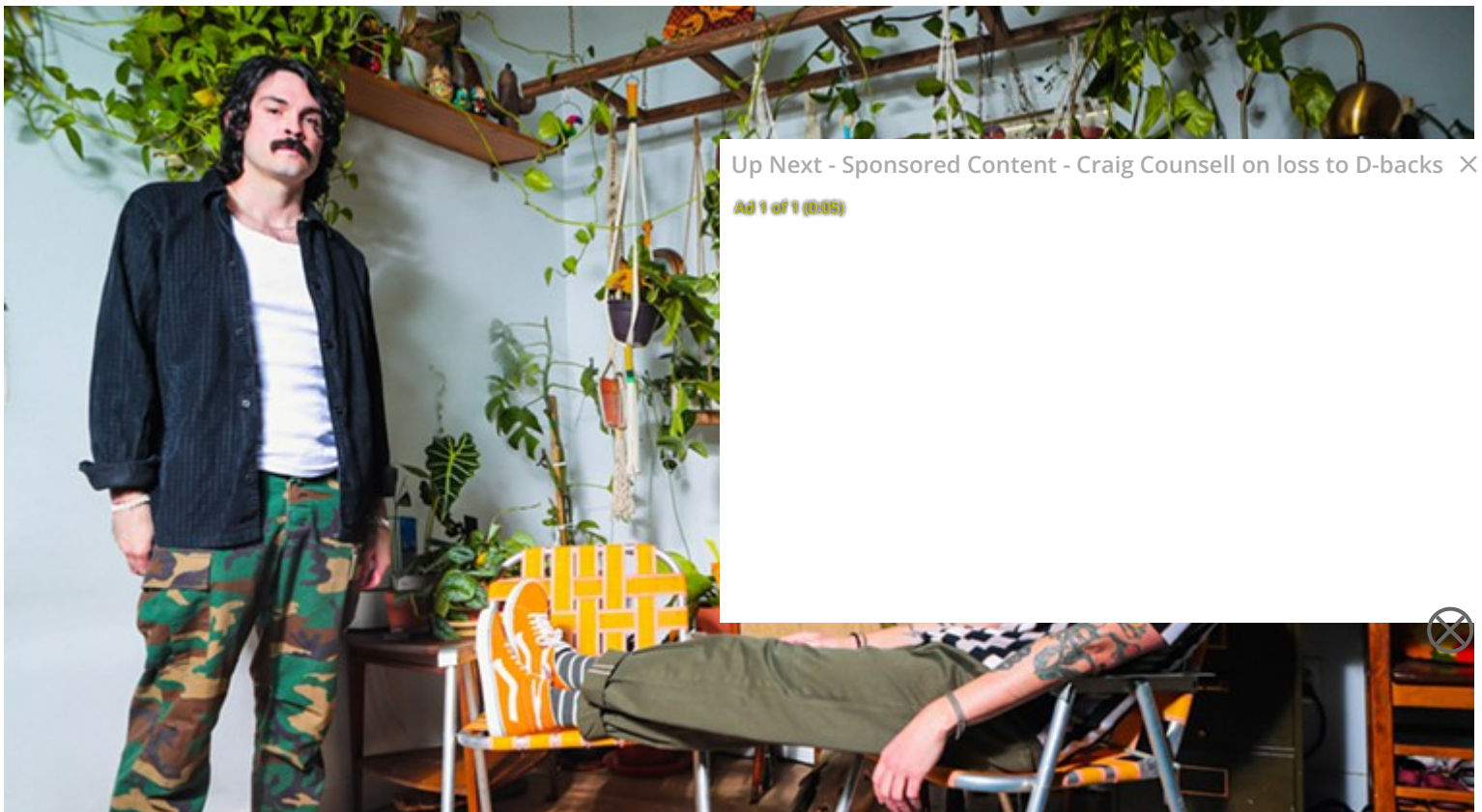
5:30 to 6 p.m. – Mesa Community College DJ Program

6:30 to 7 p.m. – Oeankaleido

7:30 to 8 p.m. – Jahbree

8:30 to 9 p.m. – Trip Rexx

9:30 to 10 p.m. – Class Acts!





Slade Echeverria (left) and Danny Stravers of Anarbor. **Yellowbox Films**

Saturday, April 15

Main Stage/Mesa Sessions Stage

Main Street and MacDonald

12:30 to 1 p.m. – Just Bella

1:30 to 2 p.m. – Autopilot

2:30 to 3 p.m. – Mallory Merk

3:30 to 4 p.m. – Dorsten

4:30 to 5 p.m. – Kanak

5:30 to 6 p.m. – Creature Canyon

6:30 to 7 p.m. – The Cardinal Kids

7:30 to 8 p.m. – This Modern

8:30 to 10 p.m. – Everclear

The Nile Theater

105 West Main Street, Mesa

2 to 2:30 p.m. – Bethany Home

3 to 3:30 p.m. – Moontour

4 to 4:30 p.m. – The Ragetones

5 to 5:30 p.m. – Loser Parade

6 to 6:30 p.m. – Bummer Girl

7 to 7:30 p.m. – Lucius Arthur

8 to 8:30 p.m. – Popsiclestickairport

9 to 9:40 p.m. – Anarbor

10 to 11 p.m. – Dreamers

The Underground

105 West Main Street, Mesa

2:30 to 3 p.m. – Sugar Skulls

3:30 to 4 p.m. – From Slaves

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3:30 to 4 p.m. – Easy Sleeper
4:30 to 5 p.m. – HVSHI
5:30 to 6 p.m. – Tarot Blood
6:30 to 7 p.m. – TREASVRE
7:30 to 8 p.m. – Theriaca
8:30 to 9 p.m. – Deer MX
9:30 to 10 p.m. – The Better Tomorrow

Oro Brewing Company

210 West Main Street, Mesa

12 to 12:30 p.m. – The Psychedelephants
12:50 to 1:20 p.m. – Thrice Sovereign
1:40 to 2:10 p.m. – Indigenous Robot
2:30 to 3 p.m. – What If We Were Robots
3:20 to 3:50 p.m. – Method to the Madness
4:10 to 4:40 p.m. – Sam Slick
5 to 5:30 p.m. – The Vinyl Faces
5:50 to 6:20 p.m. – Christie Huff
6:40 to 7:10 p.m. – Luke Batcha
7:30 to 8:00 p.m. – Slap Daddy
8:20 to 8:50 p.m. – Amazing Exploding
9:10 to 9:40 p.m. – Weapon of Pride

Chupacabra Taproom

14 North Robson, Mesa

Noon to 12:30 p.m. – Nicole & Scotty
12:50 to 1:20 p.m. – Scott & Sabrina
1:40 to 2:10 p.m. – Insomniacs
2:30 to 3:00 p.m. – Without A Doubt
3:20 to 3:50 p.m. – Fat Gray Cat
4:10 to 4:40 p.m. – Aaron McCall Band
5 to 5:30 p.m. – Manic Monkeys
5:50 to 6:20 p.m. – CW & Twenty Hands High
6:40 to 7:10 p.m. – Fair Child
7:30 to 8 p.m. – Route 48
8:20 to 8:50 p.m. – The Great Unknown

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9:10 to 9:40 p.m. – Morgan's Bluff

Jarrood's Coffee, Tea & Gallery (Outdoors).

154 West Main Street, Mesa

12:30 to 1 p.m. – Arlan Feiles

1:30 to 2 p.m. – Nicole & Scotty

2:30 to 3 p.m. – Shane Zen

3:30 to 4 p.m. – Baja Caravan

4:30 to 5 p.m. – People Who Could Fly

5:30 to 6 p.m. – The Frequency Principle

6:30 to 7 p.m. – YUS

7:30 to 8 p.m. – Harlow's Monkeys

8:30 to 9 p.m. – New Royals

9:30 to 10 p.m. – Loch Seed

Jarrood's Coffee, Tea & Gallery (Indoors).

154 West Main Street, Mesa

Noon to 12:30 p.m. – Basmini Music

1 to 1:30 p.m. – Kelsea Robin

2 to 2:30 p.m. – Dylan Rainbolt

3 to 3:30 p.m. – Maria Brzykcy of The Water Dogs

4 to 4:30 p.m. – Shayne Zen

5 to 5:30 p.m. – Meghan Pulles

6 to 6:30 p.m. – Imani Graham

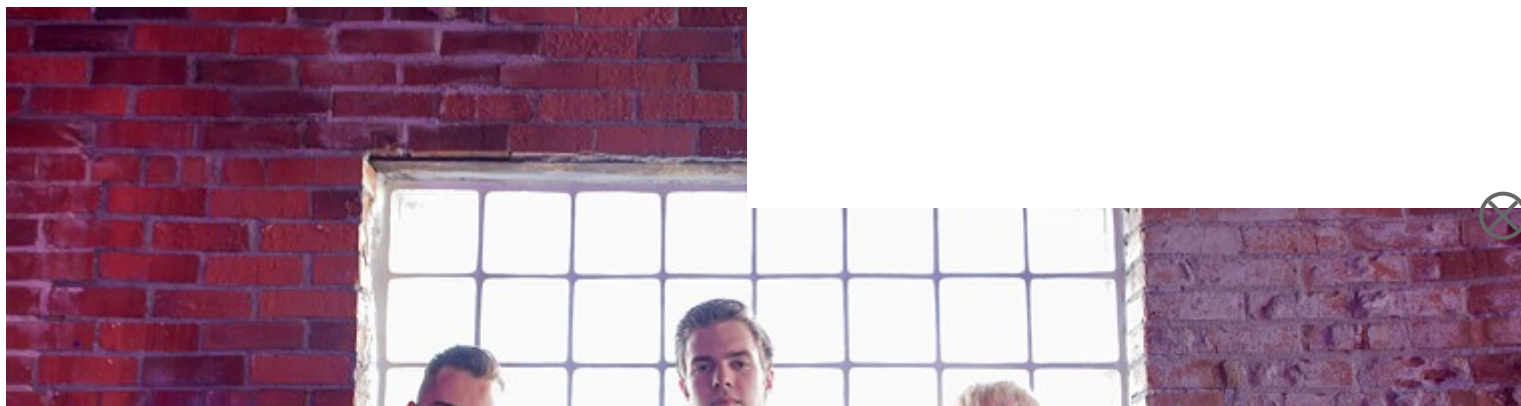
7 to 7:30 p.m. – IIWAA

8 to 8:30 p.m. – Sydney Swanson

9 to 9:30 p.m. – One Way Sky

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The Joeys are scheduled to perform on Friday, April 14, and Saturday, April 15, at the Mesa Music Festival. **Neil Schwartz**

Mesa Mural Stage

63 West Main Street, Mesa

- Noon to 12:30 p.m. – The Joeys
- 12:50 to 1:20 p.m. – Summer and the Rain
- 1:40 to 2:10 p.m. – Safety Patrol
- 2:30 to 3 p.m. – The Fast 86'ers
- 3:20 to 3:50 p.m. – In Memory Of
- 4:10 to 4:40 p.m. – 3idragon
- 5 to 5:30 p.m. – Escape The Hive
- 5:50 to 6:20 p.m. – Ninefinger
- 6:40 to 7:10 p.m. – Arsenic Kitchen
- 7:30 to 8 p.m. – ECNUO
- 8:20 to 8:50 p.m. – Avarist
- 9:10 to 9:40 p.m. – Pushing Veronica

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Smitholator Cookie Shop

124 West Main Street, Mesa

- Noon to 12:30 p.m. – Greg Guba
- 12:50 to 1:20 p.m. – Aubrey
- 1:40 to 2:10 p.m. – Arilexx
- 2:30 to 3 p.m. – Emby Alexander
- 3:20 to 3:50 p.m. – Rosahlee
- 4:10 to 4:40 p.m. – ...



4:10 to 4:40 p.m. – Sydney Swanson
5 to 5:30 p.m. – Randy the Poet
5:50 to 6:20 p.m. – Secret Harbor
6:40 to 7:10 p.m. – Adam Gabriel
7:30 to 8 p.m. – Maria Brzykcy
8:20 to 8:50 p.m. – Lisa Oorlog

Organic Bean Café

40 North MacDonald

Noon to 12:30 p.m. – Christie Huff
12:50 to 1:20 p.m. – Fair Child
1:40 to 2:10 p.m. – Shane Zen
2:30 to 3 p.m. – Imani Graham
3:20 to 3:50 p.m. – Adam Gabriel
4:10 to 4:40 p.m. – Luke Batcha
5 to 5:30 p.m. – TBA
5:50 to 6:20 p.m. – Greg Guba
6:40 to 7:10 p.m. – Warick Pond
7:30 to 8 p.m. – Kelsea Robin
8:20 to 8:50 p.m. – Sammi Martinez

12 West Brewing

12 West Main Street, Mesa

Noon to 12:30 p.m. – Emby Alexander
12:50 to 1:20 p.m. – Znora
1:40 to 2:10 p.m. – Huzzah!
2:30 to 3 p.m. – Crab People
3:20 to 3:50 p.m. – Morticulture
4:10 to 4:40 p.m. – The Fabulous Boring B
5 to 5:30 p.m. – Aaron Ball Band
5:50 to 6:20 p.m. – Thrice Sovereign
6:40 to 7:10 p.m. – The Last Glimpse
7:30 to 8 p.m. – Easy Sleeper
8:20 to 8:50 p.m. – Burn'd Bridges
9:10 to 9:40 p.m. – Crossing I's Dotting T's

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The Alley Stage

154 West Main Street, Mesa

12:30 to 1 p.m. – Mesa Community College DJ Program

1:30 to 2 p.m. – Mesa Community College DJ Program

2:30 to 3 p.m. – Mesa Community College DJ Program

3:30 to 4 p.m. – Chocolate Jesus

4:30 to 5 p.m. – Büg Byte

5:30 to 6 p.m. – Class Acts!

6:30 to 7 p.m. – Nxrvous

7:30 to 8 p.m. – Trip Rexx

8:30 to 9 p.m. – Burr

9:30 to 10:00 p.m. – OCEANKALEIDO

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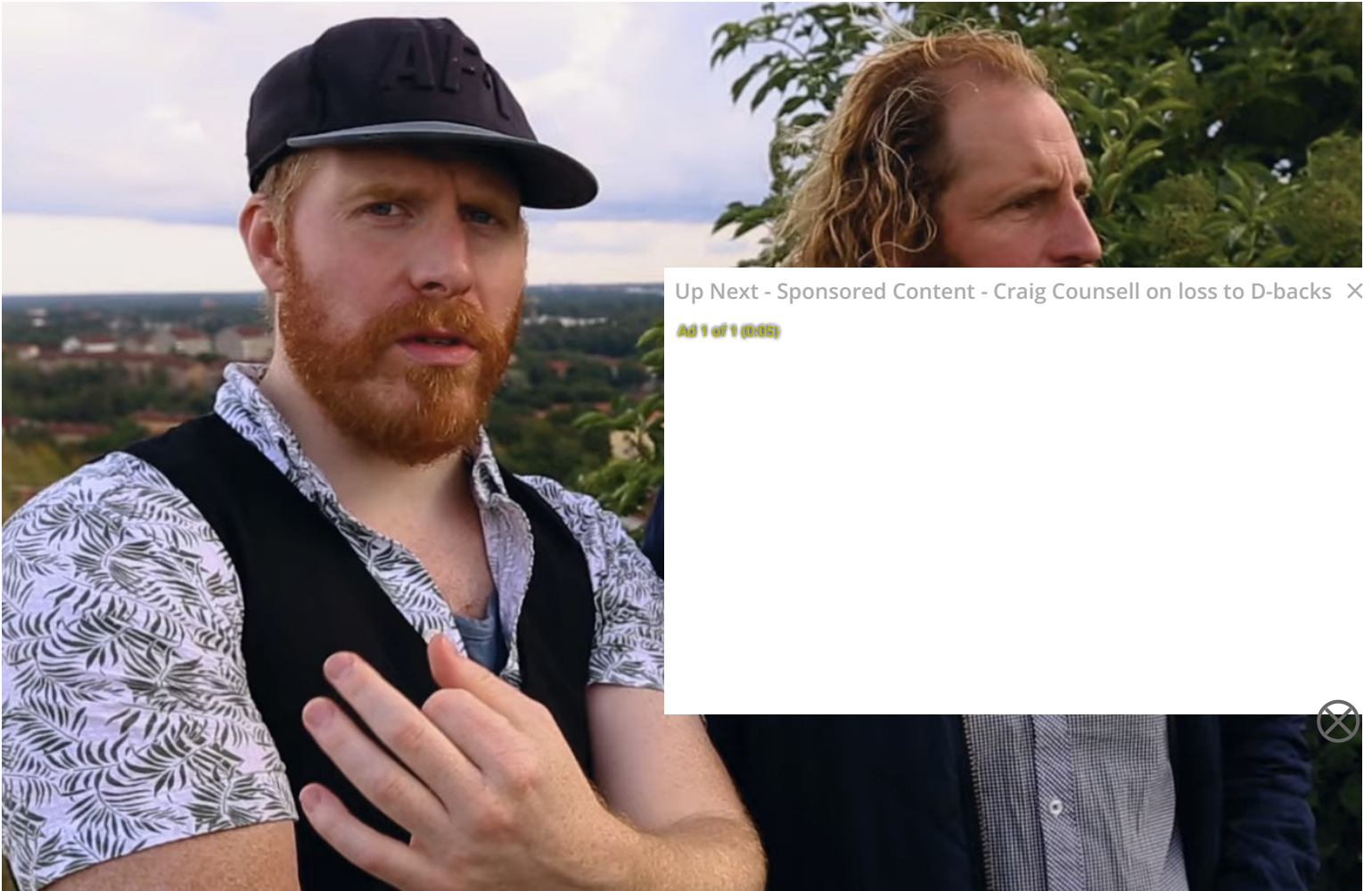
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| **CONCERTS** |

Two *Hardy Bucks* Visit the Irish Cultural Center in Phoenix

TOM REARDON | **APRIL 13, 2023** | **9:00AM**



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Martin Maloney (left) and Stephen "Cowboy" Kelly (right) of Ireland's *Hardy Bucks* visit the Irish Cultural Center on April 14, 2023 at 7pm. **Courtesy of Martin Maloney**



Who doesn't like a good coming to America story?

For Martin Maloney, the one-time star of Irish TV's *Hardy Bucks*, coming to Phoenix is like a dream come true. The Irish actor and musician is currently living in Stockholm, Sweden, but thanks to his friend, Matt Strangways (formerly of the excellent valley band, Greenhaven), Maloney will be performing at the Irish Culture Center on Friday, April 14, with fellow *Hardy Bucks* alum, Stephen "Cowboy" Kelly, at 7 p.m.

"It's probably the first time I've been to the States for 10 years. I've always been intrigued by Phoenix and it looks like a really cool city. I look forward to meeting everyone," says Maloney during a Zoom meeting while he was on the train in Stockholm.

Something of a class clown while growing up, Maloney was always drawn to performance of one kind or another. As a young man, he tried the band thing, doing music in his late teens, but found his first taste of success leading the cast of *Hardy Bucks*, which ran on RTE (Raidió Teilifís Éireann) in Ireland (as well as YouTube, Tubi, and Amazon Prime now) from 2010 to 2018.

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"Well, I was always a bit of a class comedian. I wanted to be like Chris Evans, who was a popular character on *Coronation Street*, so I was like, 'Hey, I'll take that.' I got into playing music at 17 and became a star, but that didn't really pan out, but then I got on *Hardy Bucks* and we got to live a little bit of the show. We've had a taste of the wild life. You'll hear about that onstage (at Irish Cultural Center)," says Maloney.

According to Maloney, he and Kelly will be doing a fair amount of comedy and music

during their performance, and he “guarantees” a good time.

“Plenty of laughs, that’s the first guarantee. There will be some humor based upon our experience of landing [in America] based on our observations and there will be stories and multimedia about our experiences in Ireland and growing up. There will be stand-up comedy and then a few songs at the end to wrap it up. We are really looking forward to meeting the crowd [in Phoenix] for the first time,” says Maloney, who seems genuinely excited about his first trip to the desert.

Thanks to Strangways, who has dual American and Irish citizenship, reaching out to Maloney on LinkedIn a few years ago, the show was able to come together.

“I have dual citizenship with the U.S. and Ireland, so I keep up with the fun things happening overseas. I was already following Martin and Cowboy on Instagram, and presumably, via the Irish folks I’m connected to on LinkedIn, [Maloney] came up as a recommendation, so I reached out. We’re both into Komodo dragons and rock music, so we became pals,” says Strangways.

You can hear the excitement for the show in both of the men's voices when you speak to them, and the Irish Cultural Center, which is located on North Central Avenue in Phoenix, will be an excellent venue for the event. Maloney, who is also hoping to sample some great local beer and chicken wings during his visit is ready to soak it all in. When he heard there were some excellent

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Ad 1 of 1 (0:05)

“That’s music to my liver. I’m looking forward to trying that out, as well. We might have to shoot a few balls over the bar and see if w

For those interested in learning more about Maloney, Kelly, and their show, *Haley Bucks*, you can check out full episodes on YouTube, Tubi, and Netflix as well as downloading them (for a fee) on Amazon Prime. There are four seasons to enjoy, and the humor is somewhat reminiscent of Canada’s *Trailer Park Boys* series, but with a

distinctly Irish feel.

Maloney is hoping for a few “gray” days while in Phoenix, but the weather might just disappoint him on that wish. The forecast is for clear and warm during the time he and Kelly are in town.

“I was in Mexico last year and I came back looking like a grilled lobster. I don’t want that happening again. I might just have to find myself one of those 10-gallon (cowboy) hats,” Maloney says.

Martin Maloney and Stephen “Cowboy” Kelly appear at Irish Cultural Center on Friday, April 14, 2023 at 7pm. The Irish Cultural Center is located at 1106 North Central Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona 85009. Tickets are available [here](#).

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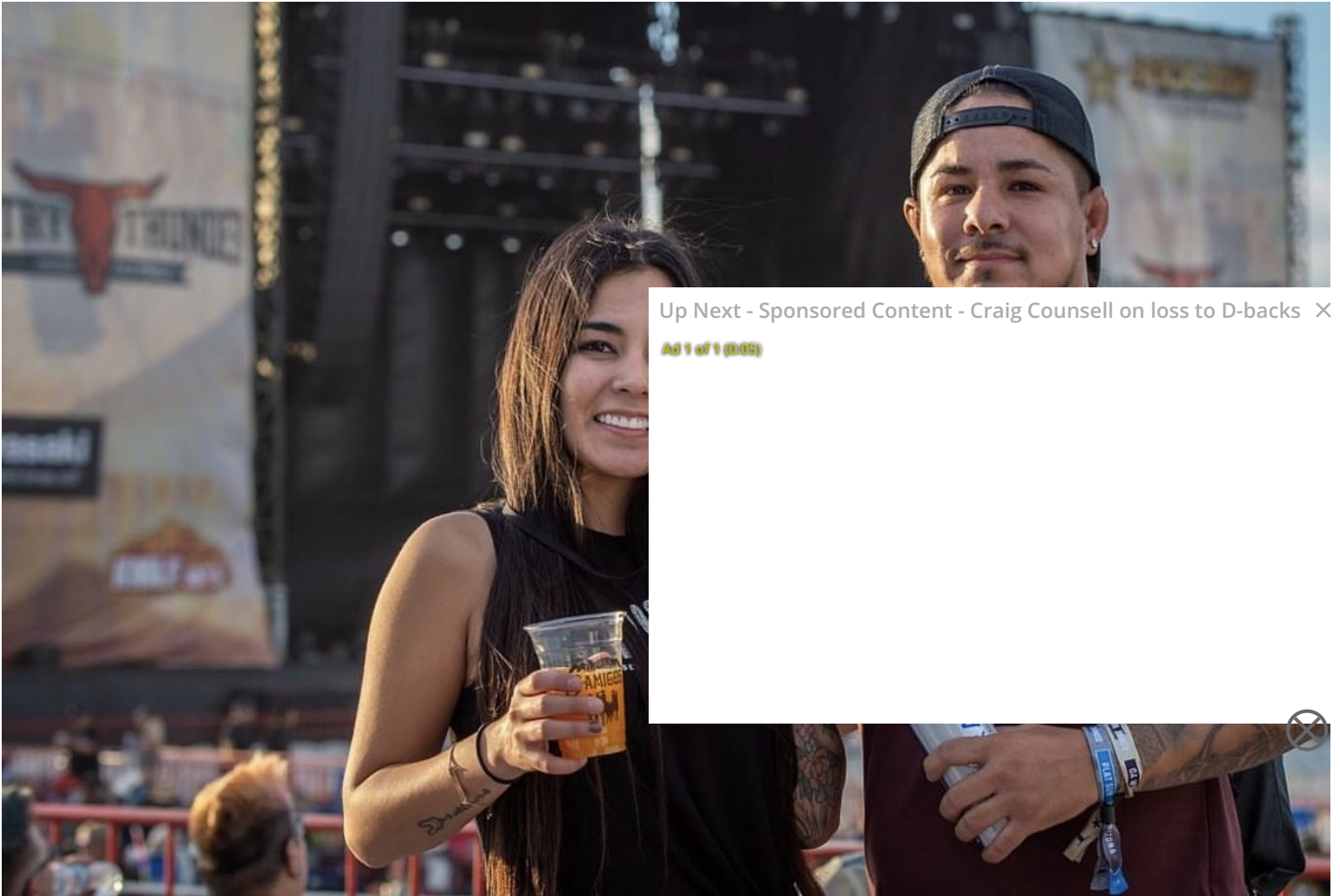
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Your Ultimate Guide to Country Thunder Arizona 2023: Tickets, Schedule, Rides

BENJAMIN LEATHERMAN | **APRIL 12, 2023** | **6:38PM**



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Ad 1 of 1 (0:05)



Country Thunder Arizona is back for 2023. **Country Thunder**



The population of Florence, Arizona, is about to triple this weekend. That's because upward of 30,000 people will gather on the grounds of Canyon Moon Ranch on the outskirts of the small Arizona town for this year's **Country Thunder Arizona** festival.

The four-day event – which runs from Thursday, April 13, to Sunday, April 16 – is the largest country music festival in the state.

According to Megan Benoit, a Country Thunder spokesperson, promoters are expecting a big crowd at this year's festival – and they're coming from everywhere to attend.

“It definitely goes beyond Phoenix and this specific area,” Benoit says. “We see a lot of people come from California or around the Southwest, which is cool. Plus, there are people coming from different countries. I've gotten messages from someone coming all the way from Brazil. So it's pretty cool to have that international audience.”

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And they'll be coming for an extended week of music featuring a dozen big-name recording artists, including Cody Johnson, Bailey Zimmerman, Midland, Mackenzie Carpenter, and Ashley McBryd.

What else should you expect at the four-day festival? Here's our complete guide to Country Thunder Arizona 2023.





Dierks Bentley is scheduled to perform on Sunday, April 16, at Country Thunder Arizona. **New Times archives**

When and Where Is Country Thunder Arizona 2023?

This year's festival is scheduled to take place from Thursday, April 13, to Sunday, April 16, at Canyon Moon Ranch, 20585 East Water Way in Florence.

What Are the Hours?

The will-call booth and Canyon Moon Ranch's front gate will be open from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily from Wednesday, April 12, to Up Next - Sponsored Content - Craig Counsell on loss to D-backs X
9 a.m. daily. Ad 1 of 1 (0:05)

Meanwhile, the festival's main area (or "bo" attractions, is scheduled to open at 1 p.m. Performance times vary per day. The Elec from 11:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. nightly from Thu p.m. to 1:30 a.m. on Sunday, April 16.

How Much Is Admission?

If you're buying online, single-day general admission tickets are \$175 per day, and weekend general admission tickets, which include entry for all four days of the festival. are \$330 each. Both options will get you into the festival bowl. general ⊗

...and, the perks such as beer options that get you into the festival zone, general admission areas, and the campgrounds, but offer no perks beyond that. If you're planning to attend, better scoop some up quickly, as single-day tickets tend to sell out.

Tickets for the VIP-style "**Platinum Experience**" (which offers the chance to view performances from an exclusive skybox to view performances, as well as access to luxury restrooms and a private bar) are available are \$300 per day or \$600 for all four days of Country Thunder.

(Note: Prices increase if you purchase your tickets at the on-site Country Thunder box office.)

Reserved seating tickets are officially sold out, but you might be able to buy some through various resellers or on **Craigslist**. (Members of various **Country Thunder Arizona groups** on Facebook are also known to sell their unwanted tickets). Keep in mind, though, prices will be a bit steeper and the festival doesn't endorse any of these options.

Is Camping Still Available?

Officially, no. Campground spots at this year's festival have been sold out for months. While it's possible to find spots available on Craigslist or elsewhere, Country Thunder's organizers also tend to frown on the practice.

Are There Age Limits?

Nope. "Country Thunder is open to all ages," says Benoit. Kids 10 and under can get into the festival, but you have to be of legal drinking age to buy and

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Dress for warm weather during the day and chilly temperatures at night. **Country Thunder**

What's the Weather Going to Be Like?

There will be clear skies and sunny weather all four days of the festival.

Temperatures will be in the high 80s or low 90s when the sun's out but will dip into the 50s after dark. In other words, it's going to be nice festival weather, but dress accordingly and bring sun protection (including cowboy hats) for the daytime and a hoodie or light jacket for the nighttime.

How Do I Get to the Festival?

Anyone coming from the Valley or Tucson is in for a long haul. If you're coming from the Valley, take the eastbound U.S. Highway 60 (or Superstition Freeway) for approximately 40 miles until it ends. From there, continue on for another 13 miles until you reach Florence Junction, and then head south along State Highway 79 for 17 miles. Hang a left at Price Station Road and

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Will There Be Shuttle Service to Cou

Yes. Stagecoach Express Shuttle is offerin two east Valley destinations throughout th convenient option for people who don't w says.

Stagecoach's shuttles will depart from the walmart at 240 West Baseline Road in Mesa at 11 a.m., 2 p.m., and 5 p.m., and from the Goodwill at 185 West Apache Trail in Apache Junction at 11:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m., and 5:30 p.m. Fares for the first person are \$49 from the Walmart, \$39 from the Goodwill, and \$23 for each additional person

from either location. More information is [available here](#).



The main stage crowd at last year's Country Thunder Arizona. **Country Thunder**

Where Can I Park at Country Thunder?

Single-day parking passes are \$25 per vehicle, per day, and weekend passes covering all four days of the festival are \$60 per vehicle. If you'd like to park overnight, an additional \$80 pass is required.

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What Will Getting Inside the Festival

A government-issued photo ID is required at all entrances for general admission patrons attending the festival. A separate entrance for ADA and 115+ patrons is located on the northwest side. Security will conduct bag checks on all patrons upon entry.

What's Country Thunder Arizona's Bag Policy?

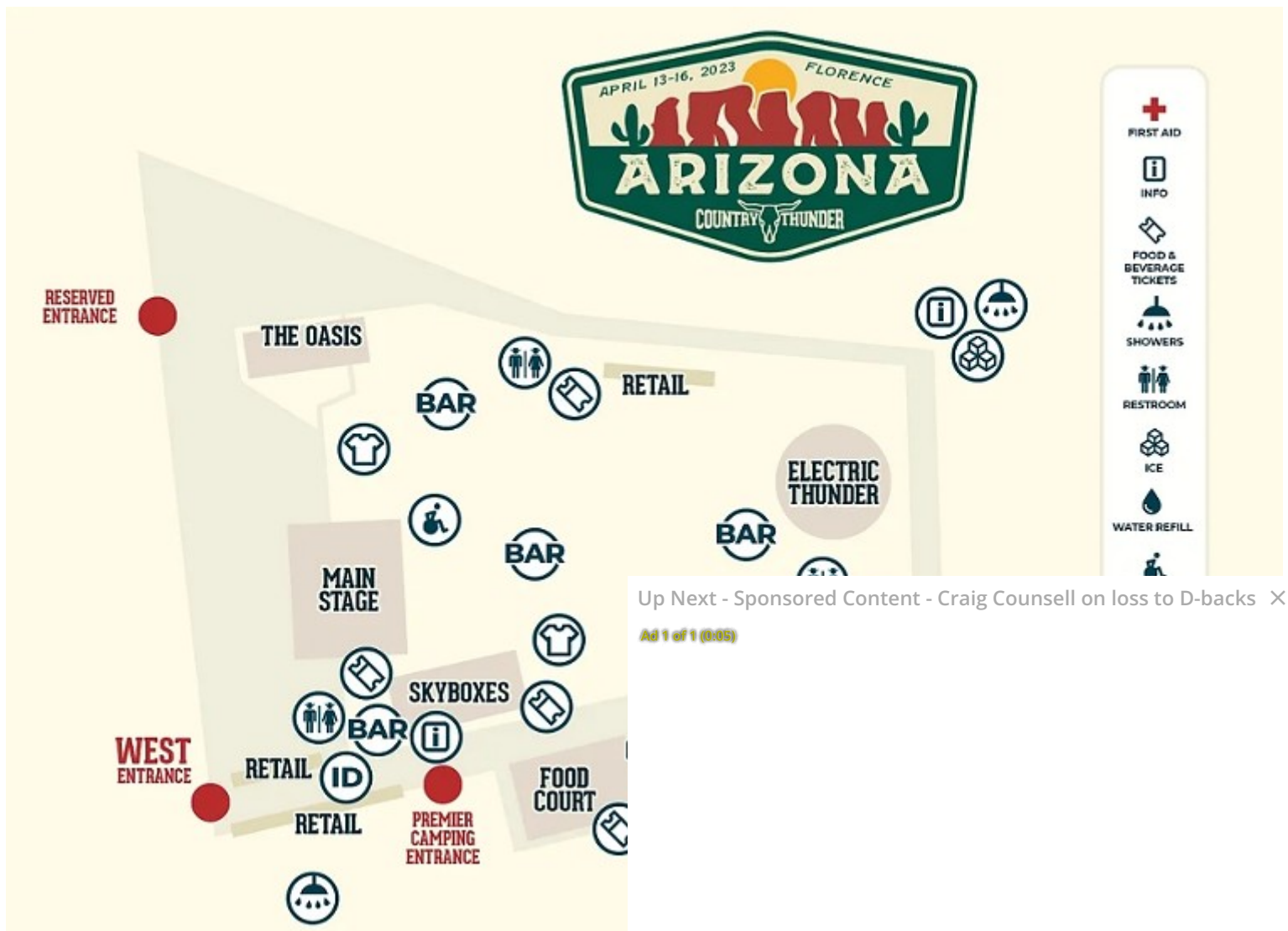
According to Benoit, security will allow clear bags up to 14 inches by 17 inches by 6 inches, one-gallon disposable freezer bags, and small clutches no larger than 4.5



inches by 6.5 inches. “So you can bring in a small clutch, wallet, or fanny pack into the festival, she says.

What Else Is Allowed at Country Thunder?

Sun protection like hats, sunblock, and sunglasses are allowed (and highly recommended) at the festival. Beyond that, you can bring in cellphones (make sure they’re fully charged), beach towels, fanny packs, non-professional or disposable cameras, and lighters. Blankets, soft lawn chairs, and strollers are also permitted but will be searched upon entry. Prescription medication is okay (as long as the name on the bottle matches your government-issued photo ID), as are over-the-counter meds (provided they’re new and factory sealed).



A map to Country Thunder's festival bowl. **Country Thunder**

What Isn't Allowed?

Weapons like firearms or anything with a blade is forbidden at Country Thunder. Laser pointers, fireworks, noisemakers, illegal substances, selfie sticks, drones,



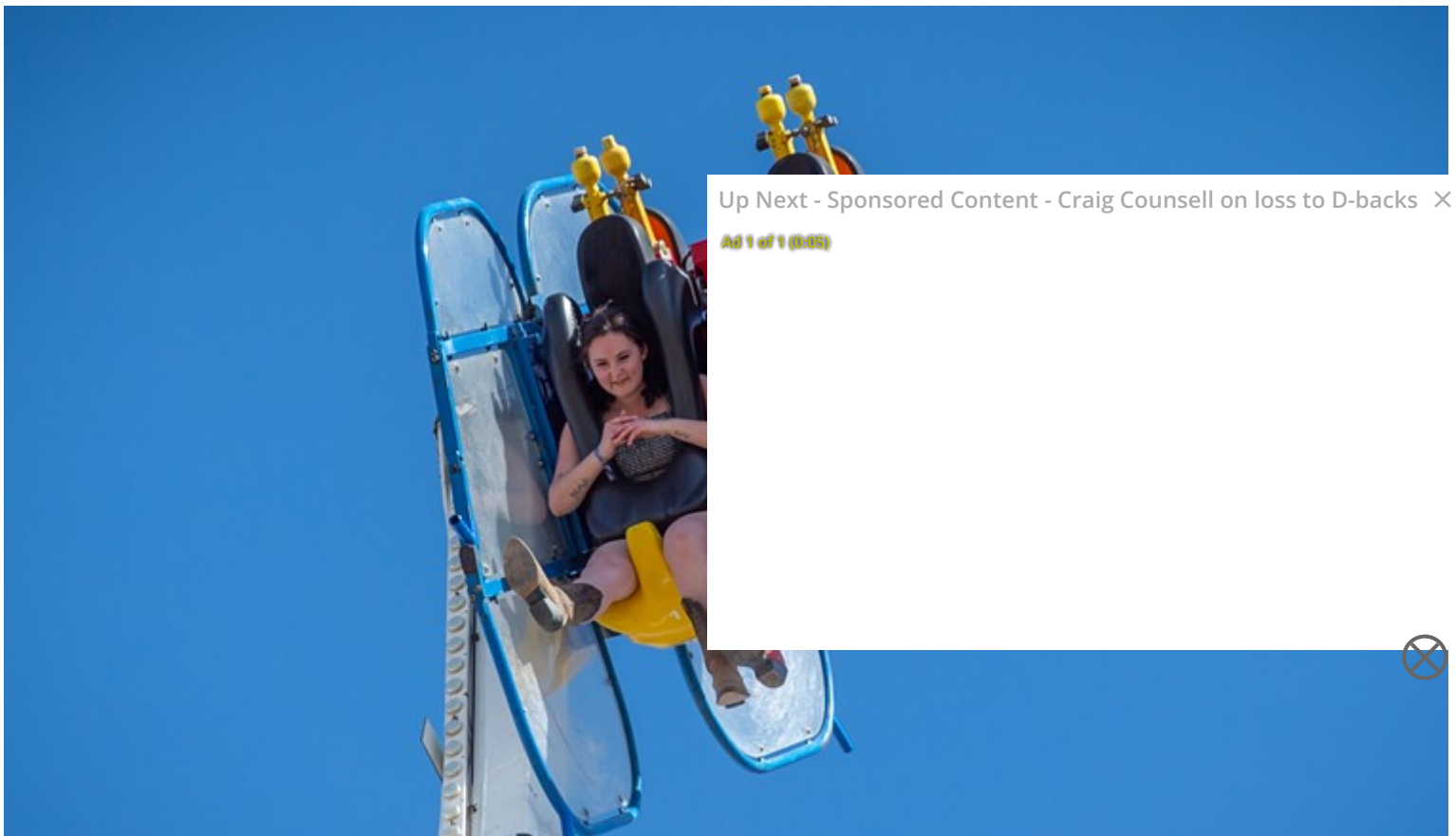
backpacks or large bags, glass containers, monopods or tripods, umbrellas, laptops, radios, outside food and drink, chairs with canopies, and non-service animals are also strictly verboten.

Will Food and Drinks Be Available?

Of course. A food court will be set up on the south side of the festival grounds. You can purchase food and drink tickets or use your credit/debit card. When it comes to alcohol, Benoit says there will be multiple bars, a separate beer garden, and a space for “Platinum Experience” ticketholders called The Oasis. “The beer hall is our big bar tent and it's got seating there,” she says. “And then for our premium ticket holders, we have an area called The Oasis, and it's totally covered and it's a little getaway from the crowds and the sun.”

What About Water?

Each attendee will be allowed to bring in one factory-sealed bottle of water, as well as refillable plastic and aluminum bottles. Benoit says a free refill station will be available near the festival’s east entrance. Vendors will also have water available for purchase.





Country Thunder Arizona will also feature a couple of thrill rides. **Country Thunder**

What Else Can I Do at Country Thunder?

In addition to two stages of performances, Country Thunder will also feature two carnival-style thrill rides, The Blackout and The Speedride. Benoit says each will operate during festival hours and will require an additional fee to ride. Tickets are \$10 for The Blackout and \$15 for The Speedride.

What's Electric Thunder?

It's a nightclub-like area inside an enormous tent located on the east side of the festival bowl. During the daytime, it will host line-dance lessons and dance competitions or will operate as a space where attendees can hang out. At night, the tent will feature DJ Slim McGraw spinning up country, rock, and dance music from 11:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. nightly from Thursday through Saturday, and from 10:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. on Sunday, April 16.





Midland is scheduled to perform on Thursday, April 13. **Harper Smith**

What's the Schedule for Country Thunder Arizona 2023?

It's going to be busy, to say the least. This year's headliners will perform on the main stage while the Copperhead stage will host sets by country, Americana, and acoustic musicians and bands from around Arizona. Here's a full rundown of who's playing during all four days of the festival

Thursday, April 13:

Copperhead Stage

- 3:30 p.m. – 10th & Main
- 5:30 p.m. – Parker Jenkins Band
- 7 p.m. – Jim Bachmann
- 9 p.m. – Mark Miller Band
- 11:30 p.m. – 10th & Main

Main Stage

- 3:30 p.m. – Shane Profitt
- 5 p.m. – Tracy Byrd
- 6:30 p.m. – Parmalee
- 8 p.m. – Midland
- 10 p.m. – Jon Pardi

Friday, April 14

Copperhead Stage

- 2 p.m. – Austin Lindstrom
- 3:30 p.m. – Ryan and the Renegades
- 5:30 p.m. – Siena
- 7 p.m. – Ryan and the Renegades
- 9 p.m. – Jaty and the Black Stallions
- 11:30 p.m. – Nathan Dean and the Damn B.....

Main Stage

- 2 p.m. – Josh Ross

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3:30 p.m. – Mackenzie Carpenter

5 p.m. – Nate Smith

6:30 p.m. – Lonestar

8 p.m. – Ashley McBryde

10 p.m. – Luke Bryan



Hailey Whitters is scheduled to perform on Saturday, April 15. [Up Next - Sponsored Content - Craig Counsell on loss to D-backs](#) X

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Saturday, April 15:

Main Stage

2 p.m. – The Reklaws

3:30 p.m. – Hailey Whitters

5 p.m. – Randall King

6:30 p.m. – Jackson Dean

8 p.m. – Parker McCollum

10 p.m. – Cody Johnson

Copperhead Stage

9 p.m. – Darius Rucker



2 p.m. – Bobby Joe Bell
3:30 p.m. – 10th & Main
5:30 p.m. – Caiden Brewer
7 p.m. – 10th & Main
9 p.m. – Shari Rowe
11:30 p.m. – Drew Cooper

Sunday, April 16:

Main Stage

2:30 p.m. – John Morgan
4 p.m. – Chase Matthew
5:30 p.m. – Bailey Zimmerman
7 p.m. – Kip Moore
9 p.m. – Dierks Bentley

Copperhead Stage

2:30 p.m. – Ryan and the Renegades
4:30 p.m. – Pompous Beggars
6 p.m. – Caiden Brewer
8 p.m. – Mark Miller Band
10:30 p.m. – Kianna and the Grant Brothers

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