

# THE LANE LIST

## MAJOR MUSIC FESTIVALS IN KENTUCKY

Kentucky communities host major music festivals from May to October that create tens of millions of dollars in economic impact. Here is the 2018 list of festivals.

### MAY

#### **Lower Town Arts & Music Festival, Paducah**

May 18-19  
lowertownamf.com

*The Lower Town Arts & Music Festival in Paducah features regional music, art, theater, food.*

#### **Kentucky Reggae Festival, Louisville**

May 25-27  
kentuckyreggaefestival.com  
*Reggae celebration.*

#### **The Great American Brass Band Festival, Danville**

May 31-June 3  
gabbf.com  
*A one-of-a-kind event committed to preserving brass band music through performance and education.*

### JUNE

#### **W.C. Handy Blues and Barbeque Festival, Henderson**

June 13-16  
handyblues.org  
*A weeklong event that features blues and Zydeco bands from across the United States and mounds of barbecue, red beans and rice from local vendors.*

#### **Festival of the Bluegrass, Kentucky Horse Park, Lexington**

June 7-10  
festivalofthebluegrass.com  
*Music and laughter flow as freely as the bourbon and new friends are made around campfires over banquet-size meals while hootin' and hollering' at the artists on stage.*

#### **ROMP, Owensboro**

June 27-30  
rompfest.com  
*Four-day festival celebrating the roots and branches of bluegrass music. A full line-up of artist-led instrument workshops takes place throughout the day. Also features, organic and farm-to-table food vendors, craft vendors, art installations and professionally led children's activities.*

#### **Summer Motion, Ashland**

June 30-July 4  
summermotion.com  
*A free, family-friendly four days of great food, music and entertainment.*

### JULY

#### **Master Musicians Festival, Somerset**

July 13-14  
mastermusiciansfestival.org  
*Master Musicians Festival is dedicated to bringing musical excellence to rural Kentucky.*

#### **Forecastle, Waterfront Park, Louisville**

July 13-15  
forecastlefest.com  
*In addition to featuring a who's who of national music acts, Forecastle has consistently promoted local artists as well as focusing on environmental activism and outdoor recreation.*

#### **Blues, Brews & BBQ, Louisville**

July 20-21  
louisvillebluesandbbqfestival.com  
*Local barbecue and the music of New Orleans and Memphis at the Water Tower.*

### AUGUST

#### **Hot August Blues Festival, Kenlake State Resort Park, Aurora**

Aug. 23-25  
kenlakeblues.com  
*This event has been a tradition for almost 30 years, bringing the best in blues to the Land Between The Lakes the weekend before Labor Day weekend.*

#### **Hoptown Summer Salute, Hopkinsville**

Aug. 24-25  
hoptownsummersalute.com  
*Annual festival features over 150 vendors and live music. Food and merchant vendors, live entertainment, rides and attractions.*

#### **Red, White & Boom, Lexington**

Aug. 31- Sept. 2  
wbul.iheart.com/featured/red-white-boom/  
*The nation's best country musicians live and a long list of others celebrating the end of summer.*

### SEPTEMBER

#### **Rock the Water Tower, Louisville**

Sept. 1-2  
rockthewatertower.com  
*The hottest bands, bourbon-tasting lounge and mouth-watering barbecue.*

#### **Jerusalem Ridge Bluegrass Celebration, Rosinne**

Sept. 13-16  
jerusalemridgefestival.com  
*Bluegrass music will once again ring out at the Bill Monroe Homeplace in the hills of Jerusalem Ridge in Rosine for four days.*

#### **National Jug Band Jubilee, Louisville**

Sept. 15  
jugbandjubilee.com  
*Dedicated to preserving jug band music in the city that started it all, giving some of the world's best music a Louisville pedigree.*

#### **Vine Grove Bluegrass Festival, Vine Grove**

Sept. 20-22  
vinegrovebluegrass.com  
*Referred to as the Best Little Bluegrass Festival in the State, the festival that began in 2000 as a one-day event has extended into three.*

#### **Bourbon & Beyond, Louisville**

Sept. 22-23  
bourbonandbeyond.com  
*Outstanding musicians, the best bourbons, master distillers, national and local chefs, bartenders and many other artisans.*

#### **Louder Than Life, Louisville**

Sept. 28-30  
louderthanlifefestival.com  
*Top bands, food trucks, local breweries and bourbon distilleries will all be on hand to deliver the ultimate whiskey, food and rock and roll experience.*

### OCTOBER

#### **Garvin Gate Blues Festival, Louisville**

Oct. 12-13  
garvingatebluesfestival.com  
*Largest free neighborhood street music festival in Louisville.*

*Source: Kentucky Department of Tourism*