



## CITRUS COUNTY CELEBRATES FESTIVAL SEASON

As autumn arrives and the weather begins to cool, festivals fill [Citrus County, Florida](#). From the historic and artistic, to the just plain fun, there are events for all interests in the charming communities of Crystal River, Homosassa and Inverness. Visitors can come enjoy an authentic experience of the color and charm of Florida's Nature Coast during this season of special events!

A full listing of upcoming events is available on the Citrus County VCB's [online calendar](#) feature, and the following events are highlights from the days ahead:

### October Event Highlights

#### [8th Annual Fine Art and True Craft Show](#) — *Saturday & Sunday, October 9-10*

Browse work by artists selected for quality at this free event just outside Ellie Schiller Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park. Exhibitors will include Ben Essenberg, known for portraying Florida Wildlife; Alicia Lowe, a local potter specializing in Raku and stoneware; and many other accomplished artists.

#### [Tee Off For Kids Black Diamond Golf Tournament](#) — *Monday, October 11*

Many guests ask how they can play at the celebrated—and exclusive—Black Diamond Club. Kids Central's Tee Off For Kids charity tournament offers the chance to enjoy a day of food, fun and incredible golf at Black Diamond's famous Quarry Course, while helping at-risk Central Florida families at the same time. Contact Danielle Damato at 352.387.3479 for more information.

#### [Southern Heritage Festival](#) — *Friday & Saturday, October 22-23*

Enjoy authentic pioneer crafts, square dancers, a Seminole kiosk, live music, down-home food and the Cracker Cattle Drive at this unique Hernando festival.

#### [Get Outside! Day at Potts Preserve](#) — *Saturday, October 23*

Get Outside! for a free family event at Potts Preserve, including a scenic boat tour, guided hikes, an archery adventure and other outdoor activities. Learn more about all of the activities you can enjoy in the [new Potts Preserve video](#).

#### [Haunted Tram Rides](#) — *Friday & Saturday, October 29-30*

A favorite annual Halloween event, Haunted Tram Rides at Ellie Schiller Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park are frightfully fun! See spooky scenarios along Pepper Creek Trail, and enjoy

a haunted house, costume contests, face painters and clowns, refreshments, souvenirs and much more.

[Great American Cooter Fest](#) — *Friday-Sunday, October 29-31*

As seen on *The Daily Show*, Inverness' annual Cooter Fest boasts more activities than you can shake a scaly tail at, including live music by Southern Rock's Finest—a super group of Southern rock legends—the “Cooter Idol” and “Miss Cooter” competitions, the “Cooterween” Halloween celebration and many events for the entire family.

### **November Event Highlights**

[Blues 'N Bar-B-Que](#) — *Saturday, November 6*

Listen to the sounds of classic blues as you savor delicious, down-home Bar-B-Que and Cuban cuisine at the Olde Mill House Gallery and Printing Museum. Performers include Keith Caton and the Accelerators, WSNB and Big Bill Morganfield. The event benefits Camp E Nini Hassee in Floral City.

[Stone Crab Jam](#) — *Saturday, November 6*

Enjoy delicious food from local restaurants and a chowder cook-off. Treats including stone crab claws, crab cakes, clams, chicken and beef. Festivities include art, crafts, and retail vendors, plus 8 live bands to enjoy.

[39th Annual Festival of the Arts](#) — *Saturday, November 6*

The Annual Festival of the Arts provides a friendly setting for artists and craftsmen to show and sell their works. A variety of food and beverages will be available throughout the event.

[36th Annual Homosassa Arts, Crafts & Seafood Festival](#) — *Saturday, November 6*

Visit a rustic river town for a delightful weekend. Old Homosassa will come alive for the 36th Annual Homosassa Arts, Crafts & Seafood Festival sponsored by the Homosassa Civic Club. Juried art shows, exhibits and holiday gifts. Southern delicacies, fresh seafood and arts and crafts booths.

[Manatee Sanctuary Zones](#) — *Beginning Monday, November 15*

The return of manatee sanctuary zones means that Citrus County will soon be poised to host the largest manatee gathering in North America. Come experience these gentle giants up close with a manatee snorkel tour!

[15th Annual Citrus Stampede Rodeo](#) — *Friday & Saturday, November 19-20*

Classic cowboy fun will fill the Citrus County fairgrounds at this thrilling event benefiting the Citrus County 4H Program.

[Yankeetown Seafood Festival](#) — *Friday & Saturday, November 19-20*

Arts, crafts, entertainment, seafood and other culinary treats combine for this local favorite festival that seafood lovers won't want to miss!

*The fun continues into [December](#), when Citrus County is aglow with holiday cheer and activities!*

*Please direct media inquiries to Marla Chancey, director of the Citrus County Visitors & Convention Bureau by calling 352-628-9305 or writing [marla.chancey@visitcitrus.com](mailto:marla.chancey@visitcitrus.com), or contact Keith Gold at GOLD at [gold@strikegold.com](mailto:gold@strikegold.com) or 904-285-5669.*