

# Travel Back in Time at the 28th Annual Arizona Renaissance Festival

Written by Christina Silvestri

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The storied days of kings and queens, and knights and ladies comes alive every year at the Arizona Renaissance Festival.



Now through March 27th, the 28th Annual Arizona Renaissance Festival happens every Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., rain or shine.

The 16th century-inspired Renaissance Festival transports visitors to a European-style fair filled with an agreeable rabble of knights, rogues, royalty and craftsmen, all roaming throughout a 30-acre village filled with delectable sights and sounds tantalizing the senses.

Explore 200 charming craft shops, 13 stages of non-stop entertainment, an arena for full-contact armored jousting, a living fountain, kitchens, pubs, and people powered games and rides.

The entire 30-acre fair grounds are a stage with a cast featuring more than 2,000 brightly costumed actors, dancers, mermaids, acrobats and musicians.



The Renaissance Festival experience is meeting and interacting with a variety of colorful characters, shopping for unique arts and crafts, and taking in a selection of over 150 shows every event day. There is a great variety of food for feasting, and a bevy of beverages including Medieval Margaritas, Da Vinci Coladas, Dukes of Daiquiri, wine, honey mead, beers and ales, along with soft drinks and lemonade.

The Sea Fairies are the newest attraction to the Faire this year, where crowds look on in awe to catch a glimpse at the living mermaids swimming in a 6,000-gallon water tank.

Another popular attraction at the Festival are the live jousting tournaments held three times daily in the 5,000 seat arena, complete with knights on charging horses, clanging weapons and a great deal of braggadocio.



The 16th century Festival is home to many popular traditions including chomping down on a giant roasted turkey leg, adding to your collection of drinking vessels or hair adornments as well as battling wits with the village idiot.

The Faire features demonstrations of time honored crafts such as weaving, jewelry making, glass blowing, blacksmithing and pottery throwing. Shopping is fun and if you are looking for a unique gift; you shall surely find it at this bustling marketplace.

A most special event within this giant event is The Pleasure Feast. This is a one and a half hour, five-course medieval feast with live music and comedy entertainment, all you can eat and drink, plus festival souvenir. With limited seating twice daily, advance feast reservations are recommended.

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## WHEN YOU GO:

What: The 28th Annual Arizona Renaissance Festival

Where: East of Apache Junction on US Highway 60, near the Superstition Mountains.

When: Eight consecutive weekends (Saturdays, Sundays, and Presidents' Day Monday) from February 6 through March 27, 2016. The Festival runs from 10 a.m. until 6:00 p.m., rain or shine.

Tickets: Advance tickets can be purchased at Fry's Food Stores statewide. Advance discount tickets available at Fry's are \$22 for adults, \$10 for kids ages 5 –12, and children under 5 are always FREE.

Tickets purchased at the Festival Box Office are \$2 more.

Discount tickets for seniors (60 and older) are \$21, only available at the Festival Box Office.

[Click here To Purchase Tickets Online!](#)

Parking is FREE courtesy of Fry's.

Information: [www.RenFestInfo.com](http://www.RenFestInfo.com) (520)-463-2700