

# Scarborough Renaissance Festival®

(Scarborough Faire®)

Please DO NOT use  
the term "MEDIEVAL"!

## 2023 Festival Facts

**Dates & Times:** April 8 – May 29, 2023  
Saturdays & Sundays + Memorial Day Monday  
10 am – 7 pm Daily

*Interactive Fun for Everyone!*

**Location:** 2511 FM 66 (just off I-35E) in Waxahachie, Texas  
30 minutes south of the Downtowns of Dallas & Fort Worth  
1 hour north of Waco

**Tickets:**

- \$37 Adults / \$17 Children (5-12) Children 4 & under are always FREE
- Discount Tickets available at Tom Thumb & Albertsons stores or at [SRFestival.com](http://SRFestival.com)
- Military Discount offered all season long - \$3 off at the gate for active military members
- Group discounts and Consignment Programs are also available

**Parking:** FREE

**Theme:** *Step Back in Time for the Time of Your Life at the 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Scarborough Renaissance Festival®!*

**More Information:** *SRFestival.com Facebook, TikTok, Twitter & YouTube: SRFestival*  
**Instagram:** *theSRFestival*

### What is Scarborough Renaissance Festival®:

Scarborough Renaissance Festival® is interactive fun for everyone, 16<sup>th</sup> Century style! Step back in time for the time of your life during the Festival's 42<sup>nd</sup> season and discover a 35-acre re-creation of an English village celebrating the visit of King Henry VIII and his new bride, Katherine Parr (number 6 for those who are counting), their royal court and guests with a festival of entertainment, artisans, food, magic, and merriment! Come join the fun in the "Village of Scarborough".

Enjoy full combat jousting and birds of prey exhibitions; a Mermaid Lagoon, 20+ stages of non-stop Renaissance style entertainment, and the 90+ member performing company. Explore the amazing Artisan's Marketplace with 200+ shoppes of exquisite crafts and incredible artisan demonstrations. Experience Knighting Ceremonies, combat competitions, a Grande Parade, Renaissance rides, games of skill, and so much more.

Feast on food fit for a king with our famous giant smoked Turkey Legs and the largest food-on-a-stick selection in Texas; plus, delectable favorites from the Village Bakery, Pasta Palace, and more! There is also a full-service restaurant and 12 pubs & taverns. For the more discerning palates there are *daily* wine and beer tasting events as well.

Each weekend has a different theme and a variety of special events including the all-new Children's Easter Egg Roll, Viking and Ale weekend, Live the Fantasy Weekend, Celtic Weekend, the Chocolate Sensations Tasting event, and others!

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## 2023 Themed Weekends and Events

- **April 8 & 9**                    **Opening Weekend / Easter**
  - Kid's 12 & Under Free All Weekend – up to 3 kids 12 & under get in free with each paid adult
  - Seniors 65+ get \$10 off their ticket at the gate
  - *All New* Children's Easter Egg Roll
  - Children's Easter Scavenger Hunt
  - Renaissance Easter Service *SUNDAY ONLY*
  
- **April 15 & 16:**            **Artisans' Showcase Weekend / It's a Royal Wedding (*all-new*)**
  - Artisan's Best in Show contest. Shop & Win.
  - *All New* – It's A Royal Wedding
  
- **April 22 & 23:**            **Viking & Ale Weekend**
  - Adult & Children's Viking Themed Costume Contests
  - Stein Holding & Tug O' War Competitions
  
- **April 29 & 30:**            **Live the Fantasy / Spring Celebration Weekend**
  - Adult's & Children's Fantasy Themed Costume Contests
  - Children's Fairy Initiation Ceremony
  - Deaf Day – *SATURDAY ONLY*
  
- **May 6 & 7:**                    **Celtic Weekend**
  - Children's Highland Games
  - Scottish Egg Eating Contest, Bonnie Knees Contest, & Tug O'War Competitions
  - Special Celtic Entertainment
  
- **May 13 & 14:**                **Celebrating Chivalry Weekend / Mother's Day**
  - Kid's Free on Mother's Day! Up to 3 kids 12 & under free with each paid adult – *SUNDAY ONLY*
  - Vow Renewal Ceremony & Chivalry Lessons with the Scarborough Knights
  - The Chocolate Sensations Tasting Event (21+)
  
- **May 20 & 21:**                **Legends of the Seas Weekend**
  - Adult's & Children's Legends of the Seas costume Contests. Navel Enlistment Ceremony.
  
- **May 27, 28 & 29:**            **The Last Huzzah**
  - Topsy Turvy Day – *SUNDAY ONLY*
  - Memorial Day Veterans Parade and Fallen Heroes Tribute. *MONDAY ONLY*

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## 2023 Daily Special Events

- **Full Combat Jousting**
  - 11:00 am, 2:00 pm, and 5:30 pm each day
- **Children's Knighting Ceremony**
  - 4:00 pm each day at the Royal Marquee
  - Children of all ages are invited to be presented to the Royal Court to be recognized for acts of courage and deeds of meritorious service. Each participant receives a seal that names them a protector of the Realm. Included with general admission.
- **Grande Parade**
  - 1:00 pm each day
  - A spectacle of villagers, entertainers, and Courts on the march each day throughout the entire Village of Scarborough
- **Wine Tasting Events** (must be 21 or older to attend)
  - 1:00 pm and 3:00 pm every day at the Cat & Fiddle Vinery
  - An intimate one-hour wine tasting, and educational experience conducted by Scarborough's certified Sommelier.
  - Includes specially paired fruit and cheese plate and souvenir wine glass
    - \$35 per person (in addition to Festival admission). Discount tickets available at SRFestival.com.
    - *Limited seating available – advance ticket purchase recommended*
- **Beer Tasting Events** (must be 21 or older to attend)
  - 12 noon and 3:00 pm every day at the Village Green
  - An intimate one-hour beer tasting, and educational experience conducted by Scarborough's certified Cicerone®. Includes specially paired fruit & cheese plate and souvenir glass
    - \$35 per person (in addition to Festival admission). Discount tickets available at SRFestival.com.
    - *Limited seating available – advance ticket purchase recommended*

## 2023 Daily Wine & Beer Tasting Themes

	<u>Wine Tastings</u>	<u>Beer Tastings</u>
<b>April 8 &amp; 9</b>	Wines of Spain	Beers of Texas
<b>April 15 &amp; 16</b>	Wines of Italy	Beers of Belgium
<b>April 22 &amp; 23</b>	Wines of the New World	Beers of the New World
<b>April 29 &amp; 30</b>	Build Block Blinds	Some Like It Dark
<b>May 6 &amp; 7</b>	Wines of France	Beer Styles of the Celtic Isles
<b>May 13 &amp; 14</b>	Wines of Germany	Beers of Germany
<b>May 20 &amp; 21</b>	Wines Down Under	Blind Date
<b>May 27, 28, &amp; 29</b>	Flynn's Favorites	Seamus Suggests

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## 2023 – New & Notable

### Things to Note

- **Credit Cards accepted throughout the Festival site including at most Food Kitchens and Pubs & Taverns. However, Games & Rides are cash only.**
- Scarborough Renaissance Festival was recently voted as the #1 Renaissance Festival in the Country in 2023's 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Renaissance Festival Awards!
- Scarborough Renaissance Festival® is family friendly with many performances and activities for kids such as the Knighting Ceremonies, the Mermaid Lagoon, Nature of Mercy, Accidental Acrobats, Cirque du Sewer, Ermagerd The Bard's Silly Sing Alongs, Cari's Creatures, Harmless Danger Juggling Show, Kamikaze Fireflies, Terra Prongwort, The Pinwheel Side Show, Sir Real the Puppet Man, Syndicate School of Sword, Renaissance Rides, games of skill, petting zoo, and much more!
- There are some performances that are geared toward a more mature audience (16+). They include: Arthur Greenleaf Holmes the Wildly Inappropriate Poet, Bettina Bawdeville, The Burbage & the Bard, Menage a Moi, Midwife Crisis, and the Royal Pub Sing.
- The members of the Scarborough Academy of Performing Arts (SAPA) bring this period to life with their outstanding portrayals of these historical figures and other period characterizations. Here, you will experience our recreation of an English village in the year 1543 at the beginning of the English Renaissance period celebrating the wedding of their beloved King Henry VIII and his new wife (number 6 for those who are counting) Katherine Parr with a festival filled with entertainment, artisans, and frivolity.

### New Entertainment for 2023:

- New Monarchy! King Henry VIII and Queen Katherine Parr (*portrayed by members of Scarborough Academy of Performing Arts*)
- Six New Stage & Lane Acts
  - Burbage & the Bard (4/8 – 4/30) – Shakespearean song & comedy (PG-16)
  - Cari's Creatures (4/8 – 4/30) – Life-sized puppetry
  - Ermagerd the Bard – Historical musician and wordsmith (4/15 – 4/16, 5/7, & 5/20 – 5/29)
  - Langer's Ball 4/8 – 4/30 – 2-Piece Irish Funk Punk Band
  - Midwife Crisis 5/6 – 5/29 – *Delivering* her teaching of Childbearing (PG-16)
  - Terra Prongwort – Fairy etiquette, funny stories, and a fairy tea party
  - Good Morrow Scarborough! – (performing company) Renaissance Style Morning News
  - Who's Jest Be It? – (performing company) Improvisational chaos

### New Artisans & Shoppes for 2023:

- 2-D Art Prints & coloring books
- Honey products & Mead making supplies
- Hand painted chocolates and chocolate treats
- Soaps, bath bombs, & lotions
- Men's personal care products
- Heraldic banners & flags
- Unique 3-D decorated bottles
- Hand carved wooden utensils & tumblers
- Crocheted dragon sculptures
- Lampworked glass
- Juggling toys
- Boomerangs & other toys that fly
- Hand painted bird whistles
- Leather journals
- Soft dragon sculptures
- 2-D sculptures
- Custom crafted leather hats

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### New Food & Drink for 2023

- New Custom Blended Mead from North Texas' Breaking Brew Meadery
- Chocolate dipped bananas, strawberries & cheesecake
- King's Bacon – thick sliced bacon sprinkled with spice and brown sugar
- Elote in a Cup – corn with mayonnaise, minced garlic & Jalapeno pepper. Topped with cilantro.
- Watermelon & Rootbeer Italian Ice

### Guest Artisans

- Bad Badger Horns – Painted Drinking Horns
- Bewitching Books – Unique Leather Journals *(April 8 – 30 Only)*
- Curious Oddities of Skin & Bone – Sculpture & Jewelry *(May 20-29 Only)*
- Dancing Glass Studio – Macrame Beaded Jewelry *(May 6 – 14 Only)*
- The Feisty Fox – Handcrafted Flags & Banners *(April 22 – 30 Only)*
- Lady Oddball – 2-D Sculpted Fantasy Art *(April 8 – 30 Only)*
- Masquerade Life Castings – Body Castings & Original Sculptures *(May 6 – 14 Only)*
- Medieval Mapmaker – Maps & Scrolls
- Meraki Moon – Macrame Beaded Jewelry *(May 20 – 29 Only)*
- The Quirky Cork – Succulents, Shells, & Gourds
- Saorsa Studio – Macrame Beaded Jewelry *(May 20 – 29 Only)*
- Spellbound Creations – Sculpted Decorative Bottles *(April 8 – 16 Only)*
- Snuggle Dragons – Fiber Sculpted Dragons *(May 6 – 29 Only)*
- Native Texas Craftsman – Wooden Accessories

### Limited Engagement Entertainment:

- Accidental Acrobats – 5/6 – 5/29
- Andrew McKee – the Irish Bard – 5/6 – 5/7
- Bettina Bawdville – 5/6 – 5/29
- Burbage & the Bard – 4/8 – 4/30
- Cari's Creatures – 4/8 – 4/30
- Ermagerd the Bard – 4/8 – 4/16, 5/7 & 5/20 – 5/29
- The Inheritance – 4/29 – 5/29
- Ironhill Vagabonds 4/8 – 4/30
- Lady Prudence 4/15 – 16 and 5/6 – 5/29
- The Langer's Ball 4/8 – 4/30
- Midwife Crisis 5/6 – 5/29
- The Nature of Mercy 5/6 – 5/29
- Passing Winds Recorder Ensemble – 5/6 – 5/7
- Rover's Way 4/8 – 4/30
- Shandon-O'Reagan – 5/6 & 5/7
- Statue Comedius de Marbelous – 4/22 – 5/29
- Victorian Fencing Society – 5/6 & 5/7
- Vince Conaway – 4/29 – 5/29

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## 2023 Festival Facts

### History/Overview

2023 marks the 42<sup>nd</sup> Season of Scarborough Renaissance Festival®. The Festival began on a patch of pastureland and a Pecan Grove with tents and a handful of Renaissance entertainers and artisans. Since that time, it has grown to become one of the largest Renaissance Festivals in the United States as well as one of the country's largest outdoor juried craft shows.

### General Facts

- Began in 1981
- Scarborough Renaissance Festival® is a Renaissance themed festival set in a re-created 16<sup>th</sup> Century English village celebrating with mirth and merriment during the days of King Henry VIII
- The festival runs (8) consecutive weekends and Memorial Day each Spring (April & May)
- One of the largest events and most unique entertainment experiences in North Texas drawing an average of 200,000 people each year
- One of the largest and most popular Renaissance festivals in the country. Consistently voted among the top Renaissance festivals and as well as the top family friendly Renaissance festivals.
- The “village” of Scarborough, the main Festival site, is 35 acres (larger than most shopping malls) set within a 155-acre property
- (225) Renaissance style permanent structures
- The festival employs more than 2,000 performers, artisans, food service staff, grounds crew, customer service, and retail staff – approximately half from the Waxahachie area and the D/FW Metroplex
- (20+) Entertainment stages with more than 300 performers entertaining each day of the Festival
- (90+) Member performing company makes up the “the cast” of Scarborough – the non-profit Scarborough Academy of Performing Arts (SAPA). This includes the characters of the Royal Court, villagers, and more
- Artisan Marketplace featuring (200) Shoppes - Scarborough Renaissance Festival® is one of the largest outdoor “juried” craft shows in the country
- The Artisan Marketplace is comprised of over 200 shoppes and 150 Artisans including over a dozen Artisans demonstrating their crafts each day of the Festival
- (5) Food Areas (Kitchens)
- (12) Pubs & Taverns including (1) full bar & full-service restaurant
- More than (20) tons of the Festival's famous Giant Turkey Legs are devoured annually during the eight-week festival
- An average of (20) Weddings are conducted at Scarborough Renaissance Festival® annually during the course of each eight-week season (*yes these are real weddings – not performances*)
- Average visit is (5) hours
- The festival is a privately held company owned by the same two families since its inception

### National Recognition

- Renaissance Festival Awards
- E! – The Bradshaw Bunch
- Cooking Channel – Carnival Eats
- Travel Channel
- CNN.com
- Food Network
- NBC's First Look

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### Accolades

- **#1 Renaissance Festival in the U.S.** – 2023 Renaissance Festival Awards
- **Top 10 Renaissance Festival in the US** – TravelAwaits.com
- **Top 10 May Festival in the Southwest** - Everfest
- **Best Place to Escape Reality** – Dallas Observer
- **“Top (#2) Family Friendly Renaissance Faire in the U.S.”** – Family Vacation Critic
- **Best Seasonal Event in Ellis Co** – Waxahachie Daily Light
- **Top 5 Things to Do in D/FW** – Dallas Morning News
- **Top 6 Events Not to Miss in D/FW** – Dallas Child
- **Top 10 Things to Do** – Fort Worth Star Telegram
- **Best Bet** – Dallas Voice

### Entertainment

- (20+) Stages of continuous live entertainment with over 200 performances daily
  - Sword Swallowers, Whip Artistry, Comedians, Acrobats, Sword Fighters, Musicians, Singers, Jugglers, Scottish Bagpipes & Percussions, Magicians, Belly Dancing, Renaissance period instrumentals, Court Dancing, Aerialists, Puppeteers, and more
- (3) Full Combat Jousts each day
- Birds of Prey exhibitions conducted by the non-profit “Last Chance Forever” Birds of Prey Conservancy
- Grande Parade, Children’s Knighting Ceremony, Renaissance Rides, Games of Skill, and much more!
- School of Court Dance and Historic Weapons demonstrations
- (90+) Members of the non-profit Scarborough Academy of Performing Arts (SAPA) make up the performing company that become the “characters” of Scarborough including the Royal Court, visiting Nobility, Villagers and Peasants.
  - The majority of the SAPA performers are volunteer actors and perform eight consecutive weekends of 10 hours a day, outdoor improvisational theater on our 35-acre stage
  - SAPA conducts eight weeks of rigorous training and rehearsals *prior* to the festival
  - A number of performances and activities also involve SAPA members: Children’s Knighting Ceremony, Maypole Dance/Ceremony; Combat Competitions, Country Dance, Stoolball, Good Morrow Scarborough, Whose Jest Be It?, Court Dances, Historical Tour of Scarborough, and more.
  - Many SAPA performers have been on cast and/or in “character” for many years (some for over 20 years).

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### Visual Artwork, Crafts & Demonstrations

Scarborough Renaissance Festival® is one the largest outdoor juried craft shows in the country and is the place to go to discover the most unique artwork and handmade crafts in North Texas. The Festival's Artisan Marketplace has over 200 Shoppes featuring one-of-a-kind treasures for every taste and budget. Many of the artisans also demonstrate their crafts throughout the days of the Festival and/or are on hand to talk about the outstanding workmanship and unusual techniques that go into creating every piece.

- **Glass Works** - Full glassblowing and glass sculpting studios at the festival. Blown glass (glasses, mugs, bowls, etc), sculpted glass figurines, jewelry, stained glass, cut glass and more
- **Painters & other visual artists** - Paintings, charcoals, handmade books, etc.
- **Sculpting** - Life castings, bone carvings, intricate stone & wax carvings
- **Jewelry** - Precious stones, intricate beadworks, gold & silver masterpieces, chainmaille, crowns & tiaras, macrame
- **Pottery** - Figurines plus functional pieces – bowls, mugs, pitchers & more
- **Woodworking** – Musical instruments, stick horses, carvings, mugs, bowls, walking sticks, treasure boxes, wands, toys, whistles, swords, bows, wood burned designs, etc.
- **Metalsmithing** - Operational forge & blacksmithing shoppes at the festival with daily demonstrations with pewter, cast iron & steel. Household wares, wine racks, headboards, figurines, etc. Plus, swords & knives.
- **Clothiers, Leatherworks & Hammock Weaving**
  - Fine, handmade clothing – weaving, needlepoint, silk works, cotton, wool & more
  - Clothing: dresses, capes, corsets, shirts, wraps, period attire, kilts, footwear, etc.
  - Accessories: scarves, belts, woven bags, leather pouches, wallets, purses, head-ware, parasols, etc
  - Household items: hammocks, pennants, tabards & tapestries
- **Toys** – Juggling Sticks, Boomerangs, and other toys that fly
- **Miscellaneous** - Soaps, perfumes, lotions, oils, incense, dolls, handmade/painted masks, hand painted bird whistles, hand fans, fairy wings, sea salts, crocheted sculpted dragons, and much, much more

### Food & Drink Fit for a King

- (5) Food court areas (kitchens) are strategically located throughout the Festival site, each offering a completely different, non-traditional “fair” menu selection
- (1) Full-service restaurant
- Daily wine and beer tasting events conducted twice each day
- Plus, our very own Bakery, Pasta Shoppe, and roving specialty food carts
- Festival favorites include:
  - Giant smoked turkey legs, Scottish Eggs, the *largest Food-On-A-Stick selection in Texas* (chicken, steak, sausage, fruit, macaroni & cheese, mushrooms, key lime pie, and more on-a-stick), hand-made Pastas, crab cakes, quiches, crepes, Sheppard's Pie, meat pies, Etouffee, fresh fruit, salads, jumbo fajitas, delectable pastries, and hundreds of other international foods
- (12) Pubs & Taverns and (1) full bar
- New for 2023 season, Scarborough Renaissance Festival® is proud to offer the specialty blended meads from Breaking Brew Meadery.