

A Year of Events in *Bruce County*

Lavender fields, small-town festivals, waterfront markets and a famous groundhog: here is what happens throughout the year, so you can plan your stay around it.

Plan your stay around these local community events. Detailed dates for July and August 2026 are inside, along with the annual highlights to watch for the rest of the year.





BEFORE YOU PLAN

Bruce County, Twelve Months a Year

Bruce County keeps a full calendar of festivals, markets and small-town celebrations in every season. This guide covers the two months with the most confirmed dates right now, July and August 2026, plus the recurring highlights worth watching for later in the year. Bookmark explorethebruce.com/things-to-do/festivals-events for exact dates as they are announced.

SPRING



SUMMER



FALL



WINTER



July & August

Lavender fields, lakeside festivals, weekly markets and outdoor concerts fill the calendar. Full listings on the next pages.

Coming this winter

Santa Claus parades peninsula-wide, and Canada's most famous groundhog making his prediction in Wiarton every February 2.

Coming this fall

River tours, the Bruce Trail's biggest day of the year, and small-town harvest celebrations across the county.

Looking ahead to spring

Markets and lavender season begin again, and the Bruce Trail Hike-a-thon returns each May.



July 2026 Community Calendar

Every festival and can't miss date this month, mapped out day by day. Full details for each event are on the next page.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 Lighthouse Blues begins Warton Concert 7pm	10 Lighthouse Blues Fest	11 Lighthouse Blues Fest Artists on the River Comicon, Dinner @ Yokasippi
12 Lighthouse Blues ends Flavours of South Bruce	13	14	15	16 Warton Concert 7pm	17 Beef Farmers BBQ Summer Streetfest	18
19	20	21	22	23 Warton Concert 7pm	24 Marine Heritage begins	25 Marine Heritage Fest Music in the Park Lavender Fest begins
26 Marine Heritage ends Lavender Fest ends	27	28	29	30 Warton Concert 7pm	31 Kincardine Cruise Night	

● Festival or one-time event

● Lavender Festival

● Weekly concert series

● See weekly markets, pg. 6

Several July festivals (Lighthouse Blues, Marine Heritage, the Lavender Festival) draw crowds from across Ontario, so nearby parking and restaurant tables fill up fast. Early arrival is the easiest win.



Festivals & Events

THU-SUN

9-12

JUL

MUSIC FESTIVAL

Lighthouse Blues Festival

Kincardine. Thursday, July 9 to Sunday, July 12, 2026

SATURDAY

11

JUL

ARTS

Artists on the River

Paisley. Saturday, July 11, 2026

SATURDAY

11

JUL

COMMUNITY

Bruce County Comicon

Southampton. Saturday, July 11, 2026, 11:00am to 4:00pm

SATURDAY

11

JUL

DINING

Dinner Over the Yokasippi River

Teeswater. Saturday, July 11, 2026, 6:00pm to 8:30pm

SUNDAY

12

JUL

FOOD

Flavours of South Bruce

Teeswater. Sunday, July 12, 2026

FRIDAY

17

JUL

COMMUNITY

Bruce County Beef Farmers BBQ

Chesley. Friday, July 17, 2026, 5:30pm to 7:30pm

FRIDAY

17

JUL

STREET FEST

Summer Streetfest

Walkerton. Friday, July 17, 2026, 10:00am to 3:00pm

FRI-SUN

24-26

JUL

HERITAGE

Marine Heritage Festival

Southampton. Friday, July 24 to Sunday, July 26, 2026

SATURDAY

25

JUL

LIVE MUSIC

Music in the Park

Walkerton. Saturday, July 25, 2026, 1:00pm to 3:00pm

SAT-SUN

25-26

JUL

SIGNATURE EVENT

Wiarton Lavender Festival

Bluewater Park, Wiarton. Saturday, July 25, 9:00am to Sunday, July 26, 3:00pm, 2026

FRIDAY

31

JUL

CAR SHOW

Kincardine Cruise Night

Kincardine. Friday, July 31, 2026, 5:30pm to 8:30pm



August Highlights

The energy carries straight into August, with a beachside arts festival, a home and lifestyle expo, and weekly wildlife programming for younger guests.

SAT

1

AUG

WORKSHOP

"Let's See" Adult Photography Workshop

Ripley. Saturday, August 1, 2026, 10:00am to 2:00pm

SAT-SUN

1-2

AUG

HOME & LIFESTYLE

Peninsula Home & Lifestyle Expo

Warton Arena. Part of Warton Homecoming Weekend. Sat 10:00am to 4:30pm, Sun 10:00am to 3:00pm. Free admission

SAT-TUE

1-4

AUG

ARTS

Southampton Arts Festival

Southampton. Saturday, August 1 to Tuesday, August 4, 2026. Visual arts, live theatre and music over the long weekend

SAT

22

AUG

TOUR

The Greenock Swamp Tours

Walkerton. Saturday, August 22, 2026, 2:00pm to 7:00pm. Legends and lore of Ontario's largest forested wetland

WEEKLY



AUG

WEEKLY

Wildlife Wednesdays

Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre. August 3, 10, 17 & 24, 11:00am to 12:00pm. Members free

Still running from July

All of the weekly markets on page 6 continue through August, and Bluewater Lavender Farm and the other lavender fields stay in bloom well into the month.

FRESH EVERY WEEK



Weekly Markets

Local produce, artisan goods and handmade wares. These run every week throughout the summer, rain or shine.

DAY	MARKET	LOCATION	HOURS
Monday	Market in the Park	Kincardine	9:00am to 2:00pm
Monday & Thursday	Lakeview Vendor Market	Sauble Town Square	9:00am to 4:00pm
Wednesday	Port Elgin Farm & Artisan Market	Bricker & Green St, Port Elgin	9:00am to 2:00pm
Wednesday	Tobermory Marketplace	Tobermory	9:00am to 1:00pm
Wednesday	Lakeview Vendor Markets	Wiarton	10:00am to 4:00pm
Thursday	Saugeen First Nation Night Market	Saugeen First Nation	4:00pm to 7:00pm
Friday	Wiarton Farmer's Market	Wiarton	10:00am to 2:00pm
Friday	Southampton Artisan & Taste Market	Southampton	9:00am to 2:00pm
Saturday	Lion's Head Farmer's Market	Lion's Head	9:00am to 12:00pm
Saturday	Tobermory's All Seasons Market	Tobermory	10:00am to 3:00pm



**Fresh from the county,
every day of the week**



While you're there

Most markets are an easy stop on the way to or from a beach day. Pair Wiarton's Friday market with the lavender fields nearby, or Tobermory's Saturday market with a morning boat tour booking.



IN FULL BLOOM, JUNE THROUGH AUGUST

Unwind at a Local Lavender Field

Colour and fragrance fill Bruce County's lavender farms all summer long, a favourite golden hour stop for guests staying anywhere in the county.

Essentially Lavender

Near Teeswater. Also home to the Flavours of South Bruce event on July 12.

Starry Sky Acres

Near Dyer's Bay, on the Bruce Peninsula.

Bluewater Lavender Farm

Near Wiarton. A short drive from the Wiarton Lavender Festival, July 25 to 26.

Garden Gate Farmstead

In Southampton. Easy to combine with the Marine Heritage or Arts Festival, both running in late July and early August.

[See all lavender field details, hours and photos at explorethebruce.com](https://www.explorethebruce.com)

SUGGESTED DAY TRIP



Paisley & Chesley

- Paddle the Saugeen River at access points 8, 9A, 10 or 11
- Walk the Rail Trail for lookout views over Paisley
- Bite to eat at Bonfire on Queen or the Paisley Common
- Artisan ice cream and market browsing at Orchard's Landing
- Step back in time at the Treasure Chest Museum
- Photo op with Big Bruce, then a coffee flight at Bruud Coffee Bar in Chesley

[More on Paisley](#)

[More on Chesley](#)

COMING THIS FALL



Harvest Season Highlights

As the crowds thin out, Bruce County turns quieter and more local, with river tours, a countywide trail celebration and small-town harvest traditions.

SAT

19

SEP

TOUR **The Greenock Swamp Tours**

Walkerton. Saturday, September 19, 2026, 2:00pm to 7:00pm

SAT

3

OCT

TOUR **The Greenock Swamp Tours**

Walkerton. Saturday, October 3, 2026, 2:00pm to 7:00pm

SUN

4

OCT

TRAIL CELEBRATION **Bruce Trail Day**

County-wide. Sunday, October 4, 2026. The Bruce Trail Conservancy's biggest celebration of the year

ANNUAL

Oct

FESTIVAL **Woolly Bear Festival & Pumpkin Toss**

Lion's Head. A local October tradition. Check explorethebruce.com closer to the date for the 2026 schedule

ANNUAL

Oct

FESTIVAL **Harvest & Pumpkin Chuckin'**

Kemble. A local October tradition. Check explorethebruce.com closer to the date for the 2026 schedule

WED

11

NOV

CEREMONY **Remembrance Day Ceremonies**

Peninsula-wide. Wednesday, November 11, 2026



**Quieter roads, warmer
colours, cozy stops**

COMING THIS WINTER, AND BEYOND



Winter & Spring Highlights

ANNUAL Nov-Dec	PARADE Santa Claus Parades Peninsula-wide. Dates vary by town each year, check local town pages in late fall
TUESDAY 2 FEB '27	SIGNATURE EVENT Wiarton Willie Festival Wiarton. Every February 2, Canada's most famous groundhog delivers his prediction at 8:07am, with a full weekend of family events at Bluewater Park
ANNUAL Feb	FESTIVAL Winter Carnival Tobermory. A late-winter tradition. Check explorethebruce.com for 2027 dates
ANNUAL Feb	FESTIVAL Winterfest Sauble Beach. A late-winter tradition. Check explorethebruce.com for 2027 dates
ANNUAL May	TRAIL EVENT Bruce Trail Hike-a-thon County-wide. A month-long, self-led hiking and fundraising event each May, in support of the Bruce Trail



Trip Planning Starts Here

- Reserve the Grotto and Halfway Log Dump ahead of time through the Parks Canada website.
- Book Lion's Head Lookout, Little Cove Beach, Big Tub Lighthouse, Dyer's Bay and Devil's Monument in advance through the Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula website.
- Book your boat tour in advance, popular sailings sell out on short notice.
- Paid parking is in effect in Tobermory and Lion's Head from May 15 to October 15 each year.

[Full visitor planning details at explorethebruce.com](https://explorethebruce.com)

Sources & Further Reading, Explore The Bruce

Festivals & Events: explorethebruce.com/things-to-do/festivals-events

Lavender Fields: explorethebruce.com/unwind-in-bruce-countys-lavender-fields

Plan Your Visit: explorethebruce.com/plan-your-visit

Paisley: explorethebruce.com/towns-to-explore/towns/paisley

Chesley: explorethebruce.com/towns-to-explore/towns/chesley

Original source: explorethebruce.com