

Fun-Filled Festivals Highlight Northwest Summers

Many cities and small towns across Ohio are famous for hosting annual festivals and events - most with a special theme that makes them unique. So if you're looking for fun this summer, head to northwest Ohio where you'll discover many exciting events sure to

the Miss Lake Festival Scholarship Pageant, and continues with sidewalk sales, craft shows, concessions, and rides. It includes great classic car and motorcycle shows, live entertainment, and a fireworks display. The festival is marked by several water-related activities - such as a boat poker run and the "Amphicar Swim In."

The colorful Flag City Balloonfest takes place in mid-August at Emory Adams Park in Findlay. The festivities center around the display of spectacular hot air balloons. Watch the balloonists compete for prizes, or take a tethered ride yourself! Look for several special exhibits each day of the event.

Bucyrus, Ohio is recognized as the Bratwurst Capital of America, and the town honors that distinction with its annual Bratwurst Festival. Every August tons of bratwurst are roasted by local butchers whose families migrated to the area from Germany, each with their own special recipe. Throw in free entertainment, art and craft shows, rides, games, a beer garden - and you have one of Ohio's most popular events.

In September, the Black Swamp Arts Festival in Bowling Green celebrates artists of various genres. Juried artists in many different mediums display and sell their work. Musical and theatrical performances take the stage, featuring both local talent and national acts.

Tiffin hosts one of Ohio's largest festivals - the Seneca County Heritage Festival. The event features a civil war encampment, with old-time entertainment, skill demonstrations, games, and food. There's also live music, rides, and plenty of arts & crafts at this September favorite.

For exact dates for these and more exciting happenings around Ohio, visit the Ohio Festivals & Events Association website at www.orea.org.



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please the entire family. Here are just a handful of festivals you'll want to consider.

Kick off the summer with the Port Clinton Walleye Festival. This year will mark the 30th edition of the Walleye Festival, held annually in late May. Carnival rides, food vendors, and the Grand Parade are always popular attractions. And don't miss the kids' fishing derby and fabulous live entertainment each night.

In July, head to the shores of Grand Lake St. Marys for the Celina Lake Festival. The event kicks off with