



2014 Festivals and Special Events in Salem, MA

New Seafood and Spice Festivals add flavor to a full year of culture, music, the arts, and culinary celebrations in Salem

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Photos Available

Salem, MA. . . Salem will look at its history and celebrations through a culinary lens in 2014. With a history steeped in the spice trade and a hip, eclectic, and delicious modern restaurant scene, the city of Salem is being noted for both its history and its food. From chocolate and wine in February through two Restaurant Weeks, to a new Spice Festival in September, and an Arts Festival that plans to spice things up in 2014, Salem is a delicious destination year-round.

For a complete list of events, festivals, exhibits, and programs, please visit the calendar on Salem.org or contact Destination Salem for additional information.

Salem Film Fest

March 6 – 13

Come to Salem, see the world during the largest all-documentary festival in New England. Film screenings and talk-backs with the directors are the highlights of the weeklong film fest.

SalemFilmFest.com

Salem Restaurant Week

March 16 - 20, 23 - 27

Salem Restaurant Week is the perfect time to dine out at the dozens of excellent eateries. There will be a wide variety of delicious foods, including steak, seafood, Italian classics, contemporary cuisine, American favorites and exotic ethnic treats. Restaurants will offer multiple choices for appetizers, entrees, and desserts.

Salem-Chamber.org

California Design

March 29 – July 6

More than 200 examples of mid-century modern design reveal the distinctive role California had in shaping material culture from 1930-1965. Featuring a diverse array of furniture, textiles, fashion, industrial and graphic design, ceramics, jewelry, metalwork, film and architecture, this exhibition celebrates the innovation and pervasiveness of mid-century modern design. The work of legendary designers such as Charles and Ray Eames, Richard Neutra, and Greta Magnusson Grossman are explored, as is the sociological and geographical context which gave rise to this unprecedented design movement. Organized by the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA), this exhibition is the first major study of California mid-century modern design.

pem.org

Massachusetts Poetry Festival**May 2-4**

The sixth Massachusetts Poetry Festival will bring an extraordinary group of poets to Salem, including Kim Addonizio, Lucie Brock-Broido, Rafael Campo, Carol Ann Duffy, Oliver de la Paz, Cornelius Eady, Rhina Espaillat, Forrest Gander, David Ferry, Ilya Kaminsky, Li-Young Lee, Philip Levine, Susan Rich, Marge Piercy, Vivian Shipley, and C.D. Wright.

MassPoetry.org

Turner and the Sea**May 31 – September 1**

In the first full-scale examination of Joseph Mallord William Turner's lifelong preoccupation with the sea, this exhibition features iconic works spanning the artist's career from his transformative Academy paintings of the late 1790s and early 1800s, to the unfinished, experimental seascapes produced towards the end of his life. At turns dramatic, contemplative, beautiful and sublime, the sea's mercurial properties captivated Turner and his contemporaries who repeatedly returned to the subject. Iconic Turner masterpieces are exhibited alongside works by other major European and American artists, providing a rich artistic context for Turner's groundbreaking maritime vision.

pem.org

Salem Arts Festival**June 6-8**

For three days each summer, this free festival transforms downtown Salem into an opportunity for the local arts community to showcase their talents. The 2011 festival was attended by more than 5,000 people, featured more than 80 artists, a juried art show, outdoor performance at the East India Square Stage, interactive art presentations, and artists located in 20 downtown businesses. People of all ages and backgrounds enjoyed viewing art, participating in art making and purchasing art.

SalemArtsFestival.com

The Great Salem Fire Centennial**June 20 – 25**

On June 25, 1914 a devastating fire ignited on Boston Street in Blubber Hollow, the leather-manufacturing district of Salem. Over the course of two days, this massive fire destroyed 1,376 buildings and left 18,000 people, almost half of Salem's population, homeless and many without jobs. The City of Salem will commemorate the centennial of the Great Salem Fire in June of 2014 with a Symposium, walking tours, lectures, photography exhibits, and more.

Salem.org/SalemFire

North Shore Pride Parade**June 21**

Join dozens of local businesses, faith groups, and community organizations for the third annual North Shore Pride Parade and Festival. All are welcome to attend this day-long event celebrating unity in the community.

NorthShorePride.org

Salem Celebrates the 4th!**July 4**

Bring your beach blankets and folding chairs to enjoy the 42-piece Hillyer Festival Orchestra on Derby Wharf at the Salem Maritime National Historic Site for a grand celebration of our nation's Independence Day. Featuring a Pops concert, a Kid Space play area, and fireworks launched over Salem Harbor, this is a quintessential celebration of the 4th of July.

Salem.com

Salem Willows Seafood Festival**July 11-13**

Indulge yourself at the Salem Willows Seafood Festival! The North Shore's top restaurants will be serving-up their famous seafood specialties. Lobster galore, fried clams, and all the New England Favorites! On-going entertainment, Culinary Chef Demonstrations, KiddieLand, Beverage Court and Fireworks!

FestEventsNE.com

Salem Heritage Days**August 1 – 10**

Celebrate the past and the present during the annual Salem Heritage Days. Featuring food, fun, and activities for all ages, highlights include the Essex Street Fair, the Ice Cream Bowl, and the Car Show on Chestnut Street.

Salem.com

Salem Maritime Festival**August 2**

Celebrate ships, sailors, sawdust and song at this annual free family festival. Hosted by the National Park Service, the festival features live music, historical re-enactors, tall ships, demonstrations, and interactive programs and crafts for families.

nps.gov/sama

Salem Jazz & Soul Festival**August 16 - 17**

The Salem Jazz and Soul Festival recreates and renews the vibrant jazz scene that began at the Salem Willows in the 1920s, when Duke Ellington and other musicians from the Big Band era played at the seaside park in Massachusetts. The festival builds on this rich jazz history — adding soul, blues and funk to the mix — and shining the spotlight on talented musicians from Boston's North Shore and beyond.

SalemJazzSoul.org

Antique & Classic Boat Festival**August 23 – 24**

A rare chance to see vintage motor yachts and sailboats, board vessels, meet skippers and crews and vote for your favorite boat! A crafts market, artists, old-time band music, children's activities, the Blessing of the Fleet and more! The vessels will be on display to the public over the weekend at Brewer Hawthorne Cove Marina.

BoatFestival.org

Calder and Abstraction: from Avant-Garde to Iconic Exhibition**September 6 – January 4, 2015**

Alexander Calder's abstract works revolutionized modern sculpture and made him one of the most celebrated artists of the 20th-century. In collaboration with the Calder Foundation, this exhibition brings together over 40 of the artist's mobiles (kinetic metal works propelled by air) and stabiles (dynamic monumental sculptures) to explore how Alexander Calder introduced the visual vocabulary of the French Surrealists into the American vernacular.

pem.org

First Annual Salem Spice Festival**September 13-14**

Celebrate Salem's long and fascinating history with exotic exports from around the world at Salem's first Spice Festival. Spices, herbs and teas in food, drink, medicines, and arts and crafts will be explored. Crafts, food samples and demonstrations, live music and fascinating lectures, workshops and storytelling will all be featured. At Salem 1630: Pioneer Village. Tickets: \$5.00 adults, \$3.00 children

PioneerVillageSalem.org

Pickwickian Endeavors: The First Biannual North American Dickens Conference**September 26 - 28, 2014**

This three day conference on Charles Dickens will be held on at Salem State University, Salem, MA. The weekend will include Dickens talks, lectures, performances, and workshops.

DickensNorthofBoston.com

33rd Annual Salem Haunted Happenings**October 1 – 31**

A festive celebration of Halloween and fall in New England, more than 250,000 people come to Salem Haunted Happenings each year. Events include a Grand Parade, the Haunted Biz Baz Street Fair, Family Film Nights on Salem Common, costume balls, ghost tours, haunted houses, live music, and chilling theatrical presentations. An ABA Top 100 Event.

HauntedHappenings.org

Salem Literary Festival**November 7 – 9**

The Salem Literary Festival was founded in Salem, Massachusetts in 2008. A celebration of all thing literary, the festival brings authors, workshops, and events for writers and book lovers to venues around downtown.

SalemLitFest.org

Salem Restaurant Week**November 9 – 13, 16 – 20**

Salem Restaurant Week is the perfect time to dine out at the dozens of excellent eateries. There will be a wide variety of delicious foods, including steak, seafood, Italian classics, contemporary cuisine, American favorites and exotic ethnic treats. Restaurants will offer multiple choices for appetizers, entrees, and desserts.

Salem-Chamber.org

Salem Holiday Happenings**November 29 – January 1, 2015**

Celebrate, shop, and dine in Salem during the holiday season. Festival highlights include Historic Salem, Inc.'s annual Christmas in Salem Historic House Tour and Santa's arrival atop the Hawthorne Hotel. New for 2014, join us for a Holiday Stroll on December 13-14, and don't miss the second annual Launch! celebration on New Year's Eve.

Salem.org

Salem So Sweet**February 6-15, 2015**

Chocolate, ice sculptures, and a Golden Ticket take center stage at Salem's annual Valentine celebration in February. Always a sell-out, the Chocolate & Wine Tasting at Colonial Hall opens the festival on February 6 at Colonial Hall. Ice sculptures – at least a dozen of them – will be installed around Salem on February 7, and the Golden Ticket Raffle will run February 7 – February 15. Downtown businesses will offer promotions, events, tastings, and great shopping throughout the festival.

SalemMainStreets.org , Salem-Chamber.org , Facebook.com/SalemSoSweet

This is a sampling of the diverse programming found in Salem, Massachusetts each year. In addition to these annual events and incredible exhibitions, programming at Salem State University, Salem Theatre Company, the House of the Seven Gables, the Hawthorne Hotel, Historic New England's Phillips House, and the many restaurants and bars guarantee a different experience for every visit. Visit Salem.org any time to find more information on all of the programs, events and festivals in Salem, Massachusetts.

Join the conversation with Destination Salem on Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, and Instagram! Follow @destsalem and hashtag #SalemMA.

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Contact

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About Salem: Salem, Massachusetts, is a destination recognized around the world for its rich history, which includes the tragic Salem Witch Trials of 1692, the glorious maritime era that left its indelible mark on Salem through architecture, museums, and artifacts, and for its month-long celebration of Halloween. Today nearly one million people visit Salem annually, generating more than \$99 million in tourism spending.

About Destination Salem: As the destination marketing organization for the City of Salem, Destination Salem cooperatively markets Salem as one of Massachusetts' best destinations for families, couples, domestic, and international travelers who are seeking an authentic New England experience, cultural enrichment, American history, fine dining, unique shopping and fun. For more information, visit Salem.org.