

# Niagara Falls Blues Festival returns to Old Falls Street with world-class musicians performing Sept. 16-17

Now in its 13th year, the annual Niagara Falls Blues Festival returns to Old Falls Street this weekend after a two-year interruption due to the coronavirus. Festival organizers said they are thrilled to bring the popular event back, noting the large draw of attendees from all over the country.

“Typically, we have crowds of 20,000 over the course of the two-day festival,” organizer Sharen Kushner said. “The festival is a draw for people from all over, because we get national acts plus some local acts – and it’s a totally free event.”

Destination Niagara USA said, “With nationally known acts such as the award-winning Mud Morganfield Band, led by Larry ‘Mud’ Morganfield, son of Muddy Waters, and legendary R&B performer Otis Cadillac and the El Dorados, the two-day event is sure to delight blues fans in attendance. Locally known artists such as the Thurman Brothers Band and the Jammin Gypsy Review with the

Buffalo and WNY All Stars bring some local flavor to the festival.

“Speaking of flavor, no festival is complete without delicious food options to round out the experience. Some local favorites will be on site throughout the weekend, including Solidays, the Spicy Pickle, and LuGià’s Ice Cream on Wheels, with Old Falls Street selling beer and wine.”

Destination Niagara USA President and CEO John Percy said, “Supporting free programming is an integral component to the mission on Old Falls Street. The Niagara Falls Blues Festival has a long history in the City of Niagara Falls, and we are happy to partner with the Niagara Festival and Entertainment Group to bring the popular event back after two years.”

The Niagara Falls Blues Festival will run from 5-11 p.m. Friday, and from 1-11 p.m. Saturday. For more information, visit <http://www.niagarafallsbluesfest.org/>.

Niagara Falls Blues Festival photo courtesy of Destination Niagara USA



## Niagara Wine Trail hosts annual Harvest Festival food pairing weekend Sept. 24-25

It’s harvest season along the Niagara Wine Trail – time to celebrate fall at participating wineries at the trail’s annual Harvest Festival. The event is set for 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 24, and from noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 25.

Tickets guests can enjoy samplings of three selected wines at each participating winery, along with a harvest-themed appetizer or dessert sample. Tickets are \$30

each for this self-led weekend, and are valid for both days.

“The Niagara Wine Trail’s Harvest Festival is planned to inspire guests to delight in the tastes of the season,” said Susan Swiatkowski, executive director of the Niagara Wine Trail. She noted wine always makes a great gift. “We hope that guests will purchase a bottle or two so they can recreate these pairings at their own dinner par-

ties during the upcoming holiday season.”

Participating wineries and featured pairings include

- √ 810 Meadworks (Medina) – Savory pumpkin bites with local chèvre and walnuts
- √ Honeymoon Trail Winery (Lockport) – Sample a variety of cheeses
- √ Long Cliff Vineyard and Winery (Sanborn) – An assortment

of autumn-flavored macarons, including pumpkin cheesecake, caramel apple, and peaches and cream

- √ Mayer’s Lake Ontario Winery (Hilton) – Harvest apple butternut squash flatbread with harvest apple butternut squash soup
- √ Schulze Vineyards & Winery (Burt) – Cherry barbecue meatballs with barbecue sauce from Cherry Republic

√ Vizcarra Vineyards at Becker Farms (Gasport) – Apple crumb pie

- √ Victorianbourg Estate Winery (Wilson) – Crostini topped with extra-sharp cheddar cheese, local apples, bacon crumbles and maple syrup
  - √ The Winery at Marjim Manor (Appleton) – Noodle kugel
- To purchase tickets, visit [www.NiagaraWineTrail.org](http://www.NiagaraWineTrail.org).

## Tourism economy rebounding well in Niagara County

Submitted by Destination Niagara USA

In August, New York state released a tourism economics re-

search study for 2021, detailing the economic impact of tourism across the state. The study re-

vealed the total traveler spend in Niagara County in 2021 reached \$831 million, which is an increase of 9.3% relative to 2019. Traveler spend was heavily impacted in 2020 due to the coronavirus pandemic, but tourism spending surpassed prepandemic levels in 2021.

Other key highlights from the 2021 report include:

- √ \$52 million was collected in local taxes (a 24.9% increase over 2020).
- √ The tourism industry generates 13.2% of Niagara County’s labor income.

√ Were it not for tourism generated state and local taxes, Niagara County residents would pay an additional \$1,007 to maintain the same level of government revenue.

Destination Niagara USA President and CEO John Percy said, “Niagara County has fared much better than other destinations across the state in terms of the rebounding tourism economy. The 109.3% growth in tourism spend in 2021 over 2019 shows that the industry is not only recovering, but it is thriving here. The county is positioned well for continued

growth, as we expect to welcome more international tourists as COVID restrictions continue to lift.”

Tourism Economics, headquartered in Philadelphia, is an Oxford Economics company that is one of the world’s leading providers of economic analysis and forecasting. For more information, visit [tourismeconomics.com](http://tourismeconomics.com).

The mission of Destination Niagara USA is to expand the economic prosperity of the Niagara Falls USA communities by generating individual and group visitation. For more information, visit [niagarafallsusa.com](http://niagarafallsusa.com).

**WHITE CHAPEL MEMORIAL PARK**  
**3210 Niagara Falls Blvd. • Amherst • 716-692-5353**

White Chapel Memorial Park is Western New York’s Finest Burial Park  
 IT IS A NON-SECTARIAN CEMETERY AND OPEN TO EVERYONE

There are only a few cemeteries as unique as our open, picturesque, landscaped memorial park. The feeling is majestic and peaceful as you traverse through this serene setting without the obstruction of raised memorials.

**10% SINGLE GRAVESITE OFF** With this ad. Expires 9/30/22

**BUY ONE GRAVESITE, GET THE 2ND ADJACENT SITE 50% OFF** With this ad. Expires 9/30/22

**WCMPC3210.com • wcmp3210@aol.com**  
 OFFICE: M-F 9am-Noon & 12:30-4; Sat. By Appt. Only • PARK: May 1 - Sept. 30 8am-8pm; Oct. 1 - Apr. 30 8am-5pm

**WXRL CLASSIC COUNTRY**  
**1300 AM & 95.5 FM**  
**WXRL RAMBLIN’ LOU TOURS**  
 Join your hosts: Joanie & Linda Lou

Oct. 12-14 - Trains & Trolleys of Pennsylvania  
 Oct. 19 - Seneca Alleg. Casino (\$25 Bonus) Sprague’s (turkey dinner)  
 Oct. 21 - Lucy Tour - Nat. Comedy Ctr./Museums/ Lunch - Jamestown  
 Nov. 7-9 - Amish-Lancaster, PA-“DAVID”/Christmas Show “Waiting List”  
 Nov. 16-18 - Fest. of Lights/Oglebay Park - Wheeling, WV  
 Dec. 1-5 - Nashville Country Christmas/Grand Ole Opry/Gen. Jackson Showboat Lunch/Cruise/Oak Ridge Boys Christmas Show

It’s the 53rd Annual Christmas Show & Live Radio Broadcast with the  
**RAMBLIN’ LOU FAMILY BAND**  
 “WNY’s First Family of Country Music”  
 Featuring 3 Generations of Family Entertainment  
**Saturday, December 10th**  
 2 Hr Christmas Show from 11am-1pm, followed by a delicious turkey meal at 1pm. Classics V Banquet Ctr-Niagara Falls Blvd., Amherst, NY  
 Tickets \$40 each. For tickets, send a check to: WXRL Radio, P.O. Box 170, Lancaster, NY 14086 Don’t miss this WNY Family Tradition!!!

Just Announced - POLKA WEEKEND in the Catskills - April 14-16, 2023  
 Jimmy Sturr & His Orchestra, Mollie B, Joe Stanky & Concertina All-Stars. Includes on-site lodging at Villa Roma Resort, 6 meals, all shows & events, dancing, Polka Mass & more. BOOK NOW - SPACE IS LIMITED.

Visit [WXRL.com](http://WXRL.com) for more details  
 Listen to WXRL 24/7 on 1300AM/95.5FM & Streaming LIVE @ WXRL.com  
 For a FREE brochure, call 716-681-1313 Mon-Fri 9am-4pm

**THE SOUND OF THE CITY**  
**WEBR AM 1440**

**Wake Up With Wahl**  
**Kelly Wahl**  
**Saturday Mornings**  
**7am to 11am**  
**WEBRRadio.com**

**HELP WANTED**

Busy editorial department covering Erie and Niagara counties has an opening for an outside freelance writer. Position entails government reporting at town, village and/or school board meetings, other reporting assignments in our coverage areas and the preparation of news copy for our respective news products and website. Candidate must be dependable; have strong writing skills; and the ability to work and meet deadlines in a fast-paced environment.

Submit a cover letter, resume, and writing samples to [nfpassist@wnypapers.com](mailto:nfpassist@wnypapers.com)  
 Niagara Frontier Publications  
 Grand Island, NY 14072

**WWW.WNYPAPERS.COM**

**Don’t miss a thing!**  
**Local News • Stories • Classifieds**  
**Coupons • Service Directory**  
**Plus Exclusive Photos, Videos, & More!**

**facebook** **BECOME A FAN!**  
 Personally interact with us, find direct access to your favorite stories, and share your favorite links.

**follow us on twitter** **BREAKING LOCAL NEWS!**  
 Tweet! Tweet! Receive need-to-read news links and breaking stories via Tweet.

**You Tube** **SEE WHAT’S HAPPENING!**  
 Broadcast Yourself  
 Hometown videos posted regularly.