

Out and About: Check out day trip ideas, festivals and more

Aug. 23-Oct.19

Get lost in time during a fall weekend at the Maryland Renaissance Festival. From entertainment such as jousting matches to medieval food like meat-on-a-stick, the festival is great for family members of all ages. Tickets can be purchased at the gate at the Crownsville Fairgrounds, 1821 Crownsville Rd., Annapolis, Md. For more information, visit rennfest.com.

Sept. 12-Sept.20

From antique cars to carnival rides, there will be plenty to do at The Great Frederick Fair, to be held daily at the Frederick Fairgrounds, 797 East Patrick Street, Frederick, Md. Tickets are required and can be purchased online in advance. www.thegreatfrederickfair.com

Sept. 20

Want to enjoy some live music and BBQ? St. Peter the Apostle, Libertytown, will host a BBQ & Bluegrass event at the parish, located at 9190 Church St. Union Bridge, Md. Call 301-898-5111 for tickets. <https://bit.ly/stpeterevent>

Sept. 20-21

Take pleasure in Maryland wine with tastings from 30+ wineries, live music, foods from local restaurants, arts and crafts and wine education seminars at the Maryland Wine Festival at the Carroll County Farm Museum in Westminster.

\$30 for general admission, \$65 for the premier tent. Saturday 10-6, Sunday 12-6 For more information, visit www.marylandwine.org/mwf/#

Sept. 26-27

Looking to hop across the Maryland line for a fun day trip? Take the family to the 14th annual Sweet Potato Festival in Stewartstown. The event at the Wellness Farm, 19310 Dutton Road, Stewartstown, Pa., will feature contests, games, vendors, fruit and vegetable sales, and a wide variety of food made from sweet potatoes. Admission is \$3 - children and those over 70 are admitted free. For more, visit www.pasweetpotatofestival.com



Sept. 26-28

Embrace your inner bookworm at the Baltimore Book Festival. The three-day event will have book signings, readings, live music and much more. The festival, which will take place in the Baltimore Inner Harbor, is free and open to the public. www.baltimorebookfestival.com



Sept. 27

Looking for a day trip or an activity to do with the grandkids? The Maryland Zoo in Baltimore will hold the grand opening of its Penguin Coast Sept. 27. A ribbon-cutting event will take place at 9 a.m. and the exhibit opens to the public at 10 a.m. To read more, visit: bitly.com/baltimorepenguins

Also on Sept. 27, the Catholic Community of South Baltimore will hold its Oktoberfest Street Party at 300 E. Gittings Street between Riverside and Battery Ave., from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. with German food and beer, live music, wheels, games, raffle and kids corner. Free admission. Visit www.southbaltcatholic.org

Oct. 11

Dr. Richard Guy Wilson will lead a Gothic Architecture Lecture on “Maximilian Godefroy & St. Mary’s Chapel: The Invention of the Gothic Revival for America” at 2 p.m. in the historic seminary chapel, located at 600 N. Paca St. in Baltimore, with a reception to follow. The event is free and open to the public, tickets are required, call 410-728-6464.

Oct. 3-31 (every Friday and Saturday)

Come with Historic Annapolis and Watermark on a special ghost tour of Annapolis during the festive month of October. This special Historic Hauntings tour takes guests inside one of Annapolis’ most notorious houses- the William Paca House and into the sick room where many entered but some never escaped alive. William Paca House and Garden, 186 Prince George St. in Annapolis, from 7:30 -9 p.m. For details on cost and how to book your tour, visit; annapolistours.com

Also see:

Aging artfully: Three retirement community residents still testing talents

Three takeaways from symposium for black Catholics

Locust Point parish basks in Star-Spangled glow