



DOOR COUNTY FOLK FESTIVAL (DCFF)

Get Your Foot in the Door! Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ-1)

What is the Door County Folk Festival?

- The Door County Folk Festival (DCFF) is one of the most fun-filled, enjoyable and educational dance weekends held in the Midwest. Each year, the DCFF attracts hundreds of participants from all around the U.S., Canada and often other countries.
- The Festival continues a tradition of enjoyable, extended July weekends where you can dance late into the night, sing, play, learn, share experiences, eat, party and make new friends in a congenial, relaxed, community atmosphere. The Festival is staffed by some of the best local dance leaders, teachers and callers in the Midwest.
- The festival also features musicians and orchestras from around the Midwest and on occasion, guests from the east and west coasts. The Festival offers **workshops** in Balkan, International, Israeli, Contra, Square, Clogging, and English & American Country Dance; **workshops** in Balkan & Eastern European Singing; Late Night Parties every evening, Culture Sessions; Mini-Concerts, Youth Activity Programs; Lunchtime Dance Sessions and the infamous "Larry Hoey Memorial Folk Dance Olympics".
- **Door County Folk Festival Tickets/Passes are valid at any Door County Contra Dance Weekend event held at the same time and vice versa.**

Where and when is the Folk Festival held?

- The Door County Folk Festival is held in Baileys harbor, Ephraim, and Sister Bay - Northern Door County, Wisconsin.
- The Door Peninsula, mid-America's favorite vacation area, is located in Northeast Wisconsin between Green Bay and Lake Michigan. Door County, often alluded to as "the Cape Cod" of the Midwest, has something for everyone: Sandy beaches, rocky shores, scenic trails & vistas, state parks, art galleries, music & theater, water sports, golf, unique shopping opportunities and a large selection of restaurants, including one with "goats on the roof".
- Activities are held in various locations, including the Baileys Harbor Town Hall, Baileys Harbor Park, Sister Bay Village Hall, Sister Bay Waterfront Park, Ephraim Village Hall, First Baptist Church of Sister Bay.
- **The 38th Annual Door County Folk Festival dates are Wednesday-Sunday, July 12-16, 2017.**
- The Annual **Door County Contra Dance Weekend** dates are Friday-Sunday, July 14-16, 2017.

What kinds of activities does the Festival offer?

- **The Festival offers a variety of learning opportunities in over 15 Ethnic Folk Dancing and Singing workshops for both new and experienced dancers and singers. If you like to party, there are ethnic dance parties every night (Wednesday through Sunday), with Live music at the Friday & Saturday Parties.**
- The Contra Dance Weekend offers 9 Contra, Square, English & American Country and Clog dance workshops. If you like to party, there are Contra/Square Dance parties with live music on Friday and Saturday nights.
- Lunchtime: Dance/Stress Relief sessions (Thu-Sat), Middle East/Bhangra/Folkloric Dance Session (Fri), Line Dance Session (Sat).
- Throughout the weekend there is a Silent Auction of donated ethnic or dance-related items to support the scholarship fund.
- For socializing & eating, attend the Traditional Door County Fish Boil Dinner (Sat) in Baileys Harbor Park
- There are also free Youth Activities that include crafts, story-telling, sing-alongs, creative games and dancing.
- **What's New This Year?:** www.dcff.net/whatsnew.

Why do people want to dance anyway?

- Participating in dance and music celebrations is a strong unifier within the Folk Dance and Contra Dance communities. One of the world's best-kept secrets is how much folks in these communities find unity in learning and enjoying dances and music of cultures not necessarily part of their own heritage.
- The Door County Folk Festival is a safe haven where folks of all backgrounds and origins are accepted. No one has to give up or change their own identity/ethnicity to participate. As a participant you can:
 - *Establish or re-establish contact with your own roots*
 - *Meet an interesting cross-section of people*
 - *Find new friends and make new relationships*
 - *Indulge in healthy physical exercise and mental activity*
 - *Enjoy in the traditional celebrations of other cultures*
 - *Learn dances and songs from different traditions*
 - *Challenge yourself to learn out of the mainstream dance forms*
 - *Have Fun*

Are there Concerts or Performances during the Festival?

- Mini-Concerts - These events feature music, singing, impromptu dancing and youth group performances and are open to the general public for a voluntary donation. DCFF produces two mini-concerts – (www.dcff.net/concert):
 - Thursday, 10:00-11:00am at the Scandia Senior's Residential Community in Sister Bay.
 - Friday, 12:00pm-1:30pm at the Senior Citizen's Luncheon at Baileys Harbor Town Hall.



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Are these activities for adults, children, and/or families?

- There are plenty of activities for adults, children and families. While adults are the primary audience for Weekend's dance and party activities, we encourage youth to participate in all events.
- DCFF offers free Youth Activities in Sister Bay Waterfront Park on Fridays and Saturdays. DCFF also works with the Northern Door YMCA to provide opportunities for day campers to participate in creative activities, dance workshops and performances and in open recreational dancing at the DCFF mini-concerts.
- NOTE: DCFF Youth Activities are not a baby-sitting service. Youth can be involved in these activities with parental permission and consent and their own willingness and ability to participate and interact with others.
- In Door County, there are a multitude of indoor and outdoor activities and opportunities for non-dancing family members..

Can non-dancers attend or participate? What dance experience do I need?

- Non-dancers are welcome – You don't need any dance background or experience – Just a willingness to try something different! There are many workshops geared specifically to new dancers. Weekend participants are friendly and will help encourage you to join in the easier dances at the parties. There are at least two types of "non-dancers":
 - For "non-dancers" who do not feel that they know how to dance, but who would like to learn how or are willing to try, the Weekend offers dance workshops specifically designed for beginning-level dancers. The Contra/Square Dance and Beginning-Level Ethnic Dance workshops are easily accessible for new dancers.
 - For "non-dancers" who just do not dance at all, Door County offers many other activities, including: sandy beaches, rocky shores, scenic hiking trails & vistas, bike trails, canoeing, sailing & boating, state parks, fishing, "pick your own" orchards, guided and self-guided scenic tours, museums, art galleries, music & theater, water sports, golf, unique shopping opportunities, an outdoor drive-in movie park, and a large selection of restaurants including one with "goats on the roof". Quite often non-dancing spouses and children of registered dancers come along for the experience.
 - Listings of many of these "other things to do" can be found in the free guides that we feature on display at the Festival, including: The Door County Chamber's "GoGuide", "Door County Vacation Guide", "Resorter Reporter", "Door Voice" and "Peninsula Pulse". You can also find links and contact information for many other activities on-line in the DCFF website at the Door County Resource Links Page: www.dcff.net/resources.

How do I get information?

Website	www.dcff.net	Online Registration	www.dcff.net/registration
Activity Descriptions	www.dcff.net/activities	Registration Form	www.dcff.net/regform
Staff Bios	www.dcff.net/staff	Fish Boil	www.dcff.net/fishboil
Schedule	www.dcff.net/schedule	Youth Activities	www.dcff.net/youth
What's New?	www.dcff.net/whatsnew	Work Scholar Program	www.dcff.net/sorkscholar
Silent Auction	www.dcff.net/auction	FB Discussion Page	www.facebook.com/groups/dcffmail
Get a Brochure	www.dcff.net/brochure	FB Fan Page	www.facebook.com/dcfolkfest
Get on the Mailing List	www.dcff.net/contactinfo	Twitter Page	www.twitter.com/dcfolkfest

Where do I stay in Door County?

- **You may book a lodging package that includes a Weekend Pass directly with DCFF (One-Stop Shopping), in partnership with Coachite Inn & Suites, Bluffside Motel, Aqualand Campground (Sister Bay) and Ridges Inn & Suites (Baileys Harbor).**
- You may book your own lodging (there are many motels, hotels, resorts, condos, campgrounds in Door County), and register for the Weekend separately
- There is camping in Peninsula State Park and in other private campgrounds. Most parks and campgrounds are able to accommodate RV "camping", but there are usually special rules for that. You will need to contact the campground operators for specific information about RV hookups, etc. Street parking is tight in some commercial areas. However most towns and malls have parking lots that can accommodate large RVs.
- With the exception of the Ridges Inn and Aqualand, motels used by DCFF **do not** allow pets. Pets must be kept on leashes and may not be left unattended. For a list of motels with "pet friendly" policies check out the Visitor Bureau "Pets Allowed" Webpage.
- Other motel listings can be found at:
 - Door County Visitor Bureau - 920-743-4456 or 1-800-527-3529 - <http://doorcounty.com>
 - Baileys Harbor Community Association – 920-839-2366 - www.doorcounty.com/baileys-harbor
 - Sister Bay Tourist Information Center – 920-854-2812 - www.cometosisterbay.com/services/sister-bay-information-center
 - Ephraim Visitor Information Center – 920-854-4989 - <http://ephrain-doorcounty.com>
 - Pet-Friendly Motels: <http://doorcounty.com/where-to-stay/pets-allowed>.
- **Get Your Foot in the Door!** Ask your friends who've attended to tell you about the good times they've had.