San Jose's mix of annual festivals and marquee events celebrates our cultural diversity and provides year-round entertainment in every neighborhood.

**JAN/FEB**

**San Jose Mariachi & Folklorico Festival**
Latin contemporary and traditional music takes over the Mexican Heritage Plaza and stages downtown showcasing mariachi's energetic music and vivacious culture, with performances by Grammy winners.

**Vietnamese Tet Festival**
Celebrate the fortunes of the new year by getting together with friends, families and the community. It’s a holiday based on history but has also evolved into a modern celebration that incorporates new elements to produce new traditions.

**San Jose Jazz Winter Fest**
The Winter Fest concert series is a more intimate counterpart to the flagship Summer Fest, showcasing living legends alongside buzzing artists who are pushing the boundaries of jazz music.

**San Jose Tet Festival**
This festival celebrates the union of nature, human culture, the living and the dead. There are many traditions being carried out during this special occasion, which include family reunions, giving lucky money in red envelopes to children and seniors, ancestor worship, and clearing out debts and misdeeds.

**Meet the Brewers Craft Beer Festival**
Celebrate the best local beer from Monterey to Livermore, and enjoy live music with great mobile eats for the South Bay's celebration during SF Beer Week. Enjoy craft beers from over 30 local breweries, within 150 miles of San Jose.

**Women in Tech Festival by Silicon Valley Forum**
Silicon Valley Forum’s Women in Tech Festival celebrates women in STEM, and business careers that work to inspire, engage, and empower other women.

**Bacon and Beer Classic**
Party on the field at Levi’s Stadium and sample over 100 beers from regional breweries and indulge in unlimited bacon with over 30 bacon-infused dishes from local chefs.

**MAR/APRIL**

**Cinequest Film & VR Festival**
Dubbed best film festival by USA Today, Cinequest Film & VR Festival celebrates independent film making with more than 200 screenings over 13 days and attracts more than 600 filmmakers. This year a new element of virtual reality has been added to the festival.

**Nikkei Matsuri**
San Jose Japantown embraces the community’s love and appreciation of Japanese-American culture and heritage with Nikkei Matsuri showcasing traditional Japanese cuisine, cultural performances and arts and crafts vendors with a focus on Japanese American tradition and contemporary style.

**Azteca Mexica New Year Macuilli Calli**
Celebrate Aztec New Year beginning with a sunrise ceremony on Saturday at approximately 5:00am and enjoy entertainment showcasing traditional dances from Native Mexican and American culture.

**Whiskies of the World, San Jose**
Whiskies of the World San Jose features more than 200 expressions of Scotch, Bourbon, Irish, Canadian, among others as whiskies are paired with seminars, food and cigars.

sanjose.org
Events and Festivals

MAY/JUNE

San Jose Greek Festival
Experience the culture and hospitality of the Greek people in an outdoor, open market setting with homemade food from local Greeks, using family recipes, live music and award-winning dance groups.

AMGEN Tour of California
San Jose is a familiar host to the world’s elite cyclists. It has been the frequently featured city since the Amgen Tour of California began.

Taco Festival of Innovation
Sample the best of the Bay Area as Moveable Feast curates a selection of 35 taco trucks. Choose from a selection of short rib tacos, nacho tacos, Vietnamese shrimp tacos, and ice cream tacos.

SubZERO
SubZero celebrates of Silicon Valley’s underground arts scene, where street meets geek. Enjoy artists, DIY artisans and technologists and live music.

Silicon Valley Music Festival
The Silicon Valley Music Festival brightens San Jose each year with high quality classical chamber music. Concert themes for the festival are The Impressionist Theme, A Prodigy Reborn, and Finale: Father Beethoven.

Fountain Blues Festival
Since 1981, Fountain Blues Festival has brought some of the biggest names in blues to San Jose including Bo Diddley, Buddy Guy, Otis Rush, Clarence “Gatemouth” Brown, Canned Heat, Robert Cray and Elvin Bishop.

Junteenth in the Park
Juneteenth is the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the ending of slavery in the United States and San Jose hosts the largest Juneteenth Celebration in the Bay Area.

July/Aug

Tahiti Fete
Tahitian dance companies around the world travel to San Jose for the largest Tahitian cultural exposition outside the islands for a weekend of festivities including workshops in dancing, drumming, costume design, language and music.

Rose, White and Blue Parade
The Rose, White and Blue Parade and Festival held annually on the 4th of July in San Jose, California is a revival of the historic Rose Carnival of 1896.

Baconland
San Jose Bacon Festival of America, one of the city’s largest annual food events, brings two days of carnivorous fun to Plaza de Cesar Chavez.

Chachos Taco Festival
San José is home to the only Major League Eating sanctioned Taco Eating Contest in Northern California. Professional eaters are challenged to eat 101 tacos in less than 8 minutes as they compete for title of “Chachos Taco Champion.”

Italian Family Festa San Jose
The Italian Family Festa is the premier signature event of the Italian American Heritage Foundation (IAHF). The members of the IAHF are proud to bring you this lively event as a way to share our Italian heritage with you.

San Jose Jazz Summer Fest
Drawing over 100,000 people, the festival features 80 performances across 10 stages throughout downtown. Sample all types of jazz tastes with music all day and evening entertainment.

San Jose Renaissance Faire
Visit the days of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth I at the San Jose Renaissance Faire as 800 costumed performers bring Shakespeare’s England to life with parades, pageants, and fun townsfolke.

SJ Tamale Festival
The Tamale Festival’s weekend long multicultural where participants come to showcase their families favorite tamale recipes in hopes of winning the coveted Best Tamales title.

Dia de Portugal Festival
Dia de Portugal Festival is one of the largest Portuguese events in California celebrating Portuguese culture through art and cuisine. Dia de Portugal Festival is part of a week-long series of events held throughout California.
Silicon Valley Pride
Silicon Valley Pride celebrates its 41st anniversary. This year’s festival promises to be like none other, with a kick-off celebration on Saturday night, August 27th starting at 6:00 pm and running into the night. The celebrations rev up again on Sunday morning, August 28th with the return of the parade down Market Street.

Summer Kraftbrew Beer Fest
Silicon Valley Beer Week celebrates all the vibrant brewing traditions of this region. For eight days, beer-lovers get to experience tap takeovers, seminars, demonstrations, brew master dinners and new release nights.

Obon Festival
San Jose’s Japantown throws a huge annual festival with two days of food booths, cultural exhibits and demonstrations, as the Chidori Band, San Jose Taiko and over 1,000 dancers entertain crowds with cultural performances each evening.

Dine Downtown “Restaurant Week”
San Jose’s best restaurants roll out the red carpet for customers during “Restaurant Week”. For 12 days in June, patrons can sample three-course prix-fixe specialty meals at great savings.

San Jose Bark in the Park
Bark in the Park San Jose is the United States largest dog festival with more than 15,000 dog lovers and 3,900 dogs. Enjoy dog costume contests, dog/owner look-a-like contest, tail wagging contests and many more activities.

SEPT/OCT
Rock ‘n’ Roll Half Marathon
The Bay Area’s largest half marathon rocks out with live music from bands staged along multiple racecourses for participants of all ages and skill levels. Not running? There are also over 60 health and fitness exhibits to enjoy too.

Little Italy San Jose Street Festival
Enjoy authentic Italian foods, fantastic live entertainment, and stroll the strip arts and crafts merchants or enjoy the zany antics of a traditional Italian grape stomp at the Italian Family Festa.

C2SV
C2SV is a three-day tech and cultural event, featuring renowned keynotes, fast-moving industry panels, interactive demos, networking cocktail parties and live music performances.

Día San Jose
Día San José is a celebration of Día De Los Muertos with entertainment, singing, dancing and celebrating of loved ones throughout the night.

San Jose International Short Film Festival
The San Jose International Short Film Festival connects brilliant short form filmmaking to appreciative audiences in San Jose. The festival has grown from a single screening to a four day event.

NOV/DEC
Christmas in the Park
Anchored by festive tree lighting and displays, Christmas in the Park is a fond family tradition in Silicon Valley that transforms Plaza de Cesar Chavez into a winter wonderland and runs through the holidays.

Downtown Ice
Skate under the palm trees at the South Bay’s largest seasonal outdoor skating rink set in the Circle of Palms between the Fairmont Hotel and San Jose Museum of Art.

San Jose Bike Party
Join San Jose Bike Party on the third Friday of every month at 8pm and ride alongside thousands of bikers through San Jose. Be sure to theme your outfit.

San Jose Flea Market
Open Wednesday, Friday and Weekends, The San Jose Flea Market presents colorful alleys and treasure-laden corridors with jewelry, fashion clothing, fine collectibles and a variety of ethnic foods.