

Tampa Bay

June 2026

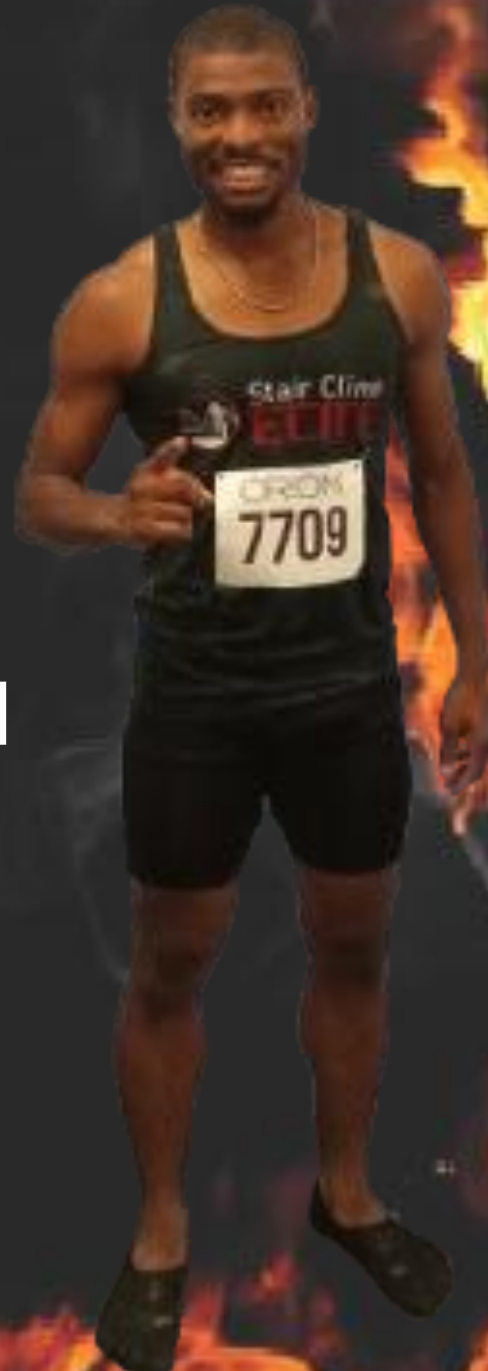
SPORTS

&
Entertainment Magazine

Tampa's Own:

Troy Alston

**Climbing for Gold
and Charity**



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Please check with all venues for exact times and dates.

June Holidays

Month

June 4	National Cheese Day / Hug Your Cat Day
June 5	World Environment Day
June 8	National Best Friends Day
June 14	Flag Day
June 16	Islamic New Year
June 17	National Mascot Day
June 19	Juneteenth
June 21	Summer Solstice
June 22	National Limoncello Day
June 29	National Camera Day
June 30	World Social Media Day





A Regal Experience: Cruising the Western Caribbean in Style

There is something special about stepping aboard a cruise ship and leaving the worries of everyday life behind. From May 2-9, we had the opportunity to sail the Western Caribbean aboard the Regal Princess, and it proved to be one of the most enjoyable cruises we have experienced.

The seven-day itinerary included three sea days and visits to Cozumel, Mexico; Belize City, Belize; and Roatan, Honduras. Cozumel and Roatan offered easy access for passengers, as the ship docked directly at the pier. Belize required passengers to tender ashore, adding a little extra adventure to the day. Each destination offered its own unique charm, but for us, the ship itself was every bit as much a destination as the ports we visited.

This voyage was particularly memorable because we booked a suite, which came with a variety of exclusive benefits that elevated the entire experience. One of our favorite perks was the ability to enjoy breakfast each morning in Sabatini's Italian Restaurant. Despite the restaurant's Italian theme, breakfast featured a traditional Western-style menu served in a quiet, relaxed atmosphere far removed from the crowds often found elsewhere on the ship. It quickly became one of our favorite parts of each day.

Suite guests also had access to a private concierge lounge. Throughout the day, the lounge offered light snacks and refreshments, while evenings featured complimentary beverages and hors d'oeuvres. Having a dedicated concierge available to assist with questions, reservations, and onboard needs added another layer of convenience that made the vacation feel truly luxurious.

What impressed us most, however, was the exceptional service. In an era when customer service often seems to be declining, the crew aboard the Regal Princess delivered a level of hospitality that exceeded expectations. Every crew member we encountered was friendly, professional, and genuinely interested in ensuring guests enjoyed their vacation.

The first day of the cruise was especially meaningful, as it coincided with our wedding anniversary. Upon returning to our suite that evening, we were greeted by a beautiful towel sculpture created by our stateroom steward. While towel animals and sculptures have become something of a cruising tradition, this was surprisingly the first one I had ever received in 36 cruises with Princess. The thoughtful gesture transformed an already special anniversary into a memorable moment we will not soon forget.

Of course, there was no shortage of entertainment, dining, and activities available throughout the week. Whether enjoying a quiet afternoon at sea, taking in one of the ship's performances, or simply relaxing on deck while watching the Caribbean waters roll by, there was always something to do—or nothing to do at all, which is sometimes even better.

By the end of the week, it was clear why so many travelers return to Princess Cruises year after year. The combination of beautiful destinations, outstanding service, excellent dining, and thoughtful amenities created an experience that was both relaxing and memorable. For those considering a Caribbean getaway, the Regal Princess offers a wonderful blend of elegance, comfort, and hospitality that is difficult to beat.



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Vertical Ascent: The Relentless Climb of Troy Alston



In the world of elite athletics, most champions are crowned on grass, hardwood, or tracks. But for Florida-based endurance athlete Troy Alston, the arena is concrete and steel. For fifteen years, Alston has dominated a grueling discipline that largely operates in the shadows of the mainstream spotlight: competitive stair climbing.

While many view the climb to the top as metaphorical, Alston's journey is literal, physical, and record-breaking. With a career defined by staggering consistency and an almost mathematical precision in winning, he has transformed a niche sport into a showcase of human endurance.

Alston's resume reads like an impossible leaderboard. Over a decade and a half of competition, he has entered **148 stair-climbing** events across the United States and the international stage. His win rate is nothing short of historic. Out of those 148 starts, he has secured **128 first-place finishes**. In his home state of Florida, Alston is particularly dominant. He has claimed the top spot in 69 Florida events, including 49 victories from the American Lung Association's "Fight for Air Climb" series. These are not just wins; they are often masterclasses at vertical speed, setting multiple course records across various cities.

Alston's rise was not an overnight phenomenon. It was a 15-year steady progression that began in the stairwells of Florida office buildings. By embracing the "long-term progression" of the sport, he gradually moved from local dominance to the international stage.

That persistence has recently culminated in the highest form of athletic recognition. Alston was recently recognized by Atlas World Records as a 3x World Record Holder. With his third record set to be officially certified in May, he has cemented his status as one of the greatest vertical athletes in history.

Beyond the hardware and the world records, Alston's career is deeply intertwined with philanthropy. His long-standing connection to the American Lung Association has provided an additional layer of motivation. In a sport that literally tests the capacity of the lungs, Alston's participation in charity-driven events has turned his competitive fire into a vehicle for raising awareness of respiratory health.



"Much of my journey has been built on consistency and long-term progress," Alston notes. "The connection to charity-driven events has added another level of meaning to the journey beyond competition itself."

Stair climbing is a sport of solitude and high-intensity pain, a battle against gravity with no place to hide and no way to coast. For Troy Alston, it is a craft he has perfected over 15 years of relentless upward motion. As he prepares to certify his latest world record, Alston remains a testament to the power of showing up year after year and finding greatness in the most demanding of places: the next flight of stairs.



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|----------------|--|
| June 9 | Lucy Darling in <i>VIVA</i> |
| June 19 | Vince Gill |
| June 26 | Travis Tritt |
| June 27 | The Music Of Led Zeppelin (Featuring The Florida Rock Symphony) |
| July 10 | Tori Amos (with special guest Barteas Strange) |
| July 11 | Willy Chirino: Celebrating 50 years of music & Freedom |
| July 17 | Infinity Rising: The Music Of Journey (Featuring The Florida Rock Symphony) |
| July 24 | The Australian Pink Floyd Show |
| July 25 | The 2nd Annual Yacht Rock Summer (Pablo Cruise, Orleans, & David Pack) |



The **2026 FIFA World Cup** officially kicks off in June 2026, marking the largest tournament in history with 48 teams competing across the US, Canada, and Mexico. While Florida's hosting duties take place over at Hard Rock Stadium in Miami, the entire Tampa Bay area is turning into a massive soccer hub for the month. Because the matches run all day long throughout June, the local events are centered around massive, high-energy **Fan Fests and Watch Parties** rather than static theater schedules.

Key Group Stage Match Dates to Watch For:

If you are trying to plan which days to hit the local watch parties, these are the high-profile matches expected to draw the absolute biggest crowds in town:

- **Thursday, June 11: The Opening Match** (Mexico plays in Mexico City, kicking off the entire tournament).
- **Friday, June 12: Team USA's Opening Match** (Playing at SoFi Stadium in Los Angeles).
- **Friday, June 19: Team USA's Second Match** (Expect the Friday evening watch parties at Jannus Live and Sparkman Wharf to be completely slammed).
- **Thursday, June 25: Team USA's Final Group Match** (Crucial prime-time game to determine if they advance to the knockout rounds).



Date Range / Event	Location	What to Expect
Daily: June 11 – June 27 <i>(Group Stage Window)</i>	Sparkman Wharf (Downtown Tampa)	The Waterfront Fan Zone: The giant LED screen on the lawn will broadcast all major afternoon and evening matches. Expect themed food trucks, outdoor bars, and soccer-tennis courts set up on the wharf.
U.S. Match Days <i>(June 12, June 19, June 25)</i>	Jannus Live (Downtown St. Pete)	The Courtyard Mega-Screen: An intense, stadium-like atmosphere in an open-air courtyard. Features live DJs during halftime, drink specials, and massive crowds specifically pulling for the USMNT. <i>(21+ Event)</i>
Daily: June 11 – June 30	MacDinton's & The Soho District (South Tampa)	The Authentic Pub Experience: The official gathering spot for local chapter fan groups (including American Outlaws). If you want synchronized chanting, flags, and a packed packed-room vibe, this is the spot.
Weekend Matches	Perry Harvey Sr. Park (Tampa)	Community Youth Soccer Fests: Alongside the big screen broadcasts, the city is hosting pop-up mini-pitches, soccer skills clinics for kids, and local food vendors during the opening weekend.



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SAT: 10:30-4:00

SUN: 11:00-3:00



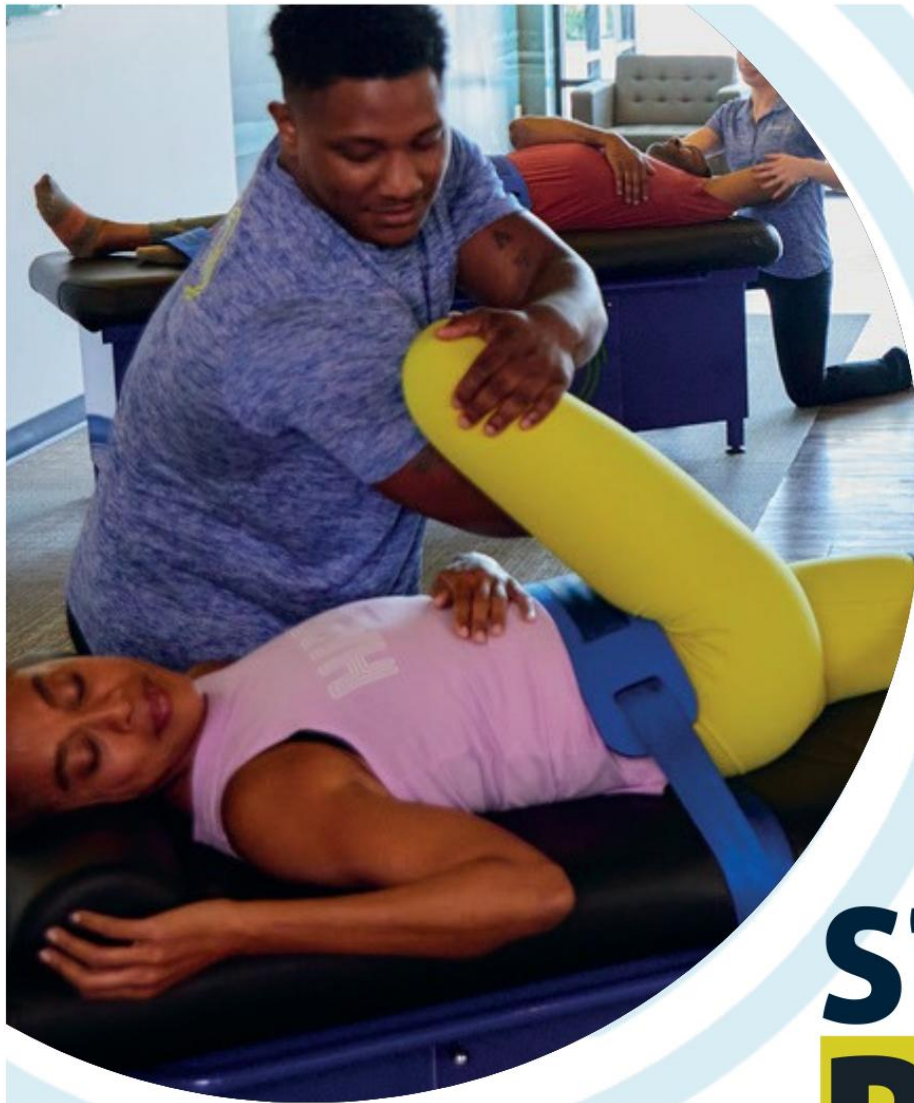


TAMPA

Box Office: (813) 627-7718

Venue General Info: (800) 745-3000

Thu, June 18	7:00 PM & 9:45 PM	Marcello Hernández	Event Center (SNL Comedian)
Sat, June 20	1:00 PM, 4:00 PM & 7:00 PM	\$25,000 Drag Bingo Hosted by Veronica Foxx	Event Center
Sun, June 21	11:00 AM	Love Out Loud: Drag Queen Brunch	Hard Rock Cafe
Sun, June 21	9:00 PM	Ký Ức 2: The Memory Concert	Event Center (Vietnamese Variety Show)
Wed, June 24	8:00 PM	Jessi Uribe	Event Center (Latin/Ranchera)



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The 6th Annual Tampa Bay Juneteenth Festival hosted by Roc The Block Inc. is a week-long celebration taking place from **June 15 to June 20, 2026**. The festivities lead up to the main Cultural Festival on **Saturday, June 20**, at Raymond James Stadium. . The week-long series of free community events features educational conferences, a health summit, a KidZone, and retail and food vendors

Schedule of Events

The week features the following free community programming:

Monday, June 15: Youth Summit

Tuesday, June 16: Health & Wellness Conference

Wednesday, June 17: Community Symposium

Saturday, June 20: Main Juneteenth Festival (2:30 PM – 9:30 PM)

The Main Festival (June 20)

Location: Raymond James Stadium, 4201 N Dale Mabry Hwy, Tampa, FL

Time: 2:30 PM to 9:30 PM (Early admittance starts at 2:00 PM)

Features: Live DJs, musical guests, a KidZone, an Art District, and an expansive market featuring Black-owned retail and food vendors.

Ticketing & Parking

General Admission: Free to attend. A reserved stadium seat can be purchased for around \$7.00.

Parking + Seat: Reserved parking and general admission seat bundles start at \$20.00.

Premium Options: Uncovered cushioned lounge/patio seating is available for a higher cost, which includes a drink ticket, bottled water, and a towel.

For more details on the vendor lineup, programming, and tickets, you can visit the [Roc the Block Festival Page](#) or their official [Roc The Block Inc.](#) website.

For more events and celebrations visit:

<https://www.juneteenthevents.us/tampa>

As there are multiple events planned! The Tampa Museum of Art, the Marti Maceo Cuban Club, Tampa Heights Cultural Fest, The Arts Legacy Remix, and Tampa Bay Juneteenth Coalition all have things planned!

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Flag Day 2026

Flag Day (Sunday, June 14) is traditionally a quieter holiday compared to the 4th of July, so you won't find major city-wide parades or massive fireworks displays. However, there are a few themed community events, veterans' ceremonies, and family gatherings happening around the Tampa Bay area:

Local Events & Gatherings

Tampa Paint Party: American Flag Edition

What: A festive Flag Day "paint and sip" event. You get all the materials and guidance needed to paint your own artistic rendition of the American flag on canvas.

When: Sunday, June 14 | 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Where: New World Tampa (810 Skagway Ave, Tampa)

Elks Lodge Flag Day Ceremonies

What: The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks actually prompted the creation of Flag Day. Local chapters across the bay area—including the **Tampa Elks Lodge #708** (Gandy Blvd) and **Brandon Elks Lodge #2383**—host their annual formal Flag Day ceremonies. These usually include the history of the flag, patriotic music, a guest speaker, and a community lunch or dinner.

When: Sunday, June 14 (Times vary by lodge, usually late morning or early afternoon)

Veterans Memorial Park & Museum (Tampa)

What: Located off Highway 301, this park is the hub for patriotic holidays in Hillsborough County. While they save their massive festivals for Memorial Day and Veterans Day, the park and outdoor museum are open on Flag Day for families to do self-guided tours of the memorials, the field of flags, and the outdoor military equipment displays.

When: Open daily until more formal ceremonies are scheduled by the county.

Looking Ahead: Tampa's Massive U.S. 250th Milestone

If you are looking for a massive, red-white-and-blue celebration, the city is heavily focusing its energy on the upcoming Independence Day, which marks a major milestone this year:

Liberty by the Bay: America's 250th Anniversary Celebration

The Vibe: The biggest patriotic event of the summer. To mark the semi-quincentennial (250th birthday) of the United States, the City of Tampa is throwing a massive waterfront festival. It will feature a **250-drone synchronized light show** honoring American history, a massive fireworks finale, a "Patriotic Pet Show," a water ski show on the Hillsborough River, and a Kids Liberty Procession.

When: Saturday, July 4 | 4:00 PM – 9:30 PM

Where: Julian B. Lane Riverfront Park, Tampa (Extending across the Tampa Riverwalk)

Stayed tune for all the events from the bay and beyond in the July 2026 Edition!



- June 5** **Stewart Copeland** – *Have I Said Too Much? (The Police, Hollywood, & Other Adventures)*
- June 11** **Steve Earle**
- June 13** **VOYAGE** – *Celebrating The Music of Journey*
- June 25** **Todd Rundgren** (*Hits Show* – Night 1)
- June 26** **Todd Rundgren** (*Hits Show* – Night 2)
- June 27** **Classic Albums Live: The Beatles** – *The White Album*
- June 28** **Micky Dolenz** – *60 Years of The Monkees*
- July 2** **Joe Jackson**
- July 10** Summer Movie Series: *Armageddon* (1998)
- July 11** Summer Movie Series: *An American Tail: Fievel Goes West*
(1991)
- July 12** **Billy Bob Thornton & The Boxmasters** (*2026 Morro Rock Tour*)

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Father's Day Around the Bay

Father's Day falls on **Sunday, June 21, 2026**, and the Tampa Bay area has a diverse mix of events lined up for the weekend—ranging from outdoor markets and sports to unique food and drink experiences.

Outdoor & Community Events

2026 Tampa Bay Father's Day Beach Market

What: A lively, coastal outdoor market featuring local vendors, handmade goods, apparel, and plenty of local food trucks and snacks. It's a great casual spot to take Dad for some sunshine and beachside vibes.

When: Saturday, June 20 & Sunday, June 21 | 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Where: Cypress Point Park (5620 W Cypress St, Tampa)

Cost: Free admission

A Father's Day Festival: "The Men We All Need"

What: A community gathering and celebration honoring fathers and father figures with live music, speakers, and local entertainment.

When: Sunday, June 21 | Starts at 5:00 PM

Where: Centro Asturiano de Tampa (Ybor City)



Sports & Entertainment

Tampa Bay Rays vs. Washington Nationals

What: If Dad is a sports fan, the Rays are playing a home series at Tropicana Field over Father's Day weekend. They play afternoon games on both Saturday and Sunday, making it a perfect family outing.

When: Sunday, June 21 | 1:40 PM

Where: Tropicana Field, St. Petersburg

Wild Weekend Buffet Brunch at ZooTampa

What: ZooTampa at Lowry Park hosts a specialty buffet brunch over the weekend, allowing you to treat Dad to a great meal and then spend the rest of the day exploring the zoo.

When: Sunday, June 21 | Seatings at 10:00 AM and 12:30 PM

Where: ZooTampa at Lowry Park, Tampa

Food, Brews & Unique Brunches

Father's Day Reggae Brunch at Jerk Hut

What: For a high-energy culinary experience, Jerk Hut is hosting an all-you-can-eat Caribbean buffet (\$29.95) complete with live reggae music and tropical drink specials like bottomless rum punch.

When: Sunday, June 21 | Brunch starts at 11:00 AM (Live music 12:00 PM – 4:00 PM)

Where: Jerk Hut (1241 E Fowler Ave, Tampa)

Father's Day at Latitude 28 (Clearwater Beach)

What: If you want to head to the coast for dinner, the JW Marriott on Clearwater Beach is hosting a special Father's Day dinner menu that actually includes a *complimentary family portrait session* with your reservation so you can capture the memory.

When: Sunday, June 21 | Reservations start at 5:30 PM

Where: JW Marriott Clearwater Beach

The Local Brewery & Food Crawl

What: If Dad prefers a more laid-back day of food and local beers, a highly recommended DIY route is hitting the **Tampa Riverwalk**. You can grab a Florida-inspired lunch at **Ulele** (which features its own on-site brewery), walk it off along the river to **Armature Works** for snacks and cocktails, and wrap up the afternoon with a tour at **Cigar City Brewing**.

Busch Garden's Father's Day

Busch Gardens Tampa Bay has a packed lineup specifically for Father's Day weekend (**Saturday, June 20 & Sunday, June 21, 2026**). They are running a mix of special limited-time events, new park additions, and seasonal summer perks that make it a great time to take Dad.

Here is what you can expect over Father's Day weekend

Father's Day Lunch + Mini-Golf Special

Busch Gardens hosts a dedicated Father's Day lunch buffet package. It features a heavy, dad-friendly food spread paired with craft brews (including non-alcoholic craft beer flights from *Best Day Brewing*).

Booking the lunch package also includes **unlimited free mini-golf** for the day over at the Gwazi Event Pavilion for some friendly family competition.

Pro-Tip: This requires a separate reservation on the Busch Gardens website alongside your park admission.

Giraffes Galore / Giraffe Celebration Weekend

Because Father's Day lands exactly on the Summer Solstice (which is also *World Giraffe Day*), the park is hosting a special **Giraffes Galore** weekend.

The Vibe: The Serengeti Plain will feature specialized giraffe-themed photo ops, educational keeper talks, and unique family activities. If you want to splurge on Dad, booking a *Serenetti Safari* tour to let him hand-feed the giraffes is the premier experience this weekend.

"Free Beer Is Back" & America's 250th Celebration

Busch Gardens is running its highly popular **Free Beer** promotion for all park guests (ages 21+) through early July. Dads can grab a complimentary cold pour at the Springs Taproom to beat the midday heat.

This lines up with the park's *250th Celebration* (marking the U.S. semi-quincentennial milestone), meaning you'll see plenty of patriotic decor, special summer eats, and limited-edition merchandise around the park.

Brand New Animal Habitat: Lion & Hyena Ridge

If Dad hasn't been to the park recently, this summer marks the grand opening of **Lion & Hyena Ridge**. It is the park's largest, most ambitious multi-species predator habitat expansion in over a decade, giving everyone a brand-new area to explore.

Busch Gardens Summer Nights

You don't have to rush home when the sun goes down. Father's Day weekend falls right in the middle of *Summer Nights*, meaning the park stays open late with extended hours.

Dad can ride massive coasters like *Iron Gwazi* or the new *Phoenix Rising* in the dark, check out the *Rhythm of Nature* ice-skating show, join the *Boom Box Dance Party* in Stanleyville, and watch a massive fireworks spectacular over the festival field to close out the night.

Don't forget to Reserve your spot for the
Father's Day Lunch!

<https://buschgardens.com/tampa/events/fathers-day/>



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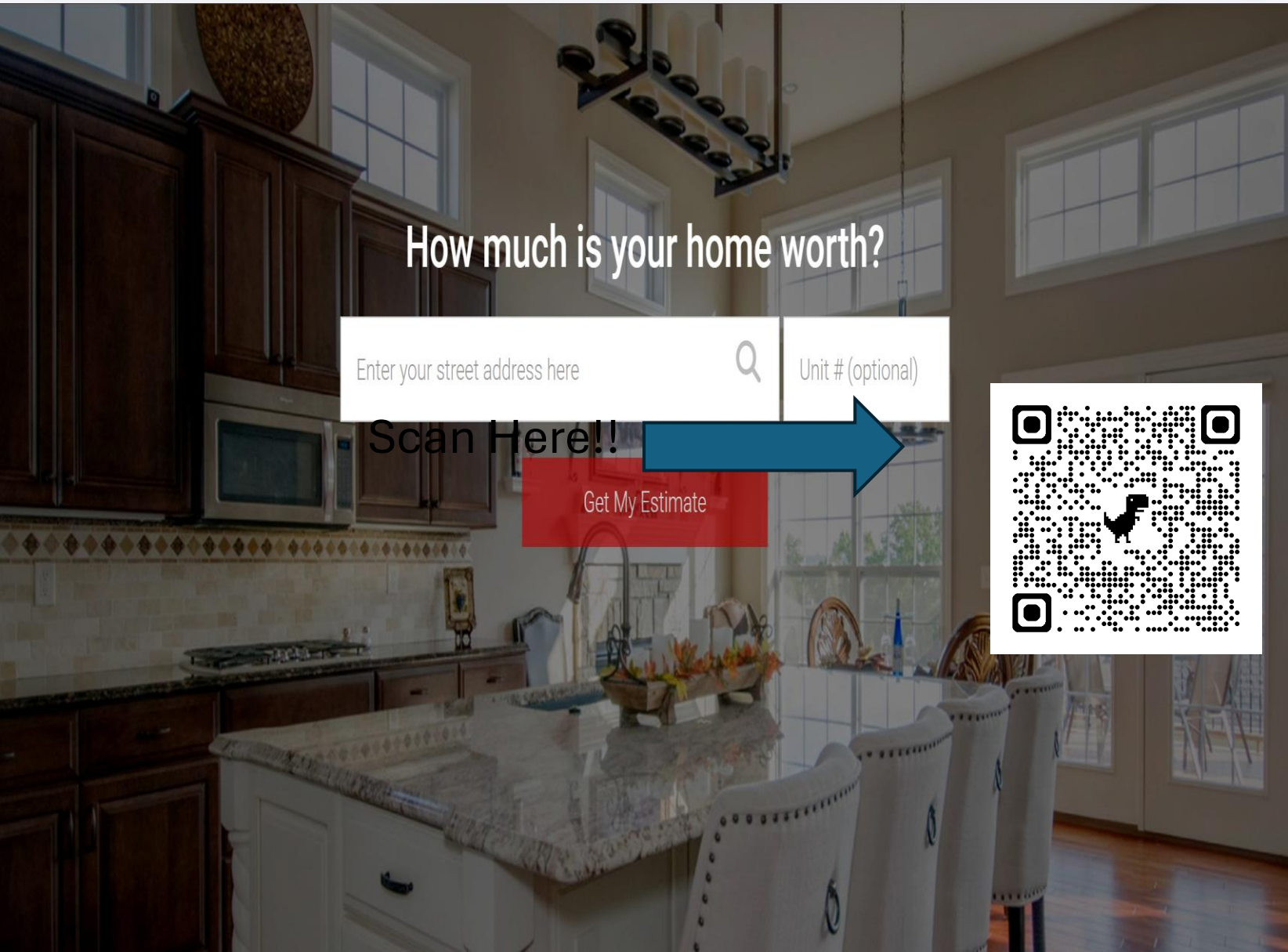
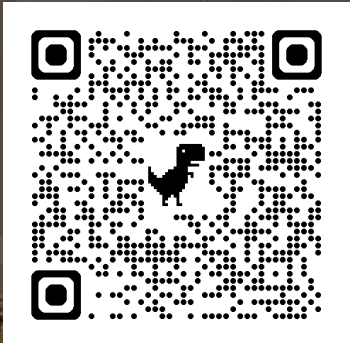
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July 9

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Tame Impala

July 15

8:00 PM

J. Cole

July 17

7:00 PM

Megan Moroney

July 22

7:30 PM

Lionel Richie

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Social





June 2026

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Date	Time	Event / Artist
Tue, June 2	5:30 PM	Dance Gavin Dance
Wed, June 3	5:30 PM	Young the Giant
Fri, June 5	8:00 PM	Moon Taxi
Thu, June 11	6:00 PM	KBong & Johnny Cosmic
Fri, June 12	7:00 PM	Landon McNamara
Sat, June 13	7:00 PM	Fortunate Youth
Thu, June 18	7:00 PM	The Runarounds
Fri, June 19	1:30 PM	USA Soccer Watch Party Series
Thu, June 25	7:00 PM	Thievery Corporation
Sun, June 28	6:00 PM	Ahmed Saad

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Fri, June 5	7:00 PM & 9:45 PM	Justin Silva
Sat, June 6	6:30 PM & 9:15 PM	Justin Silva
Sun, June 7	6:30 PM	Laugh for a Cause (<i>Benefit Show for 'Aid to The Bennetts'</i>)
Thu, June 11	7:00 PM	Trixx
Fri, June 12	7:00 PM & 9:45 PM	Connor Wood
Sat, June 13	6:00 PM & 8:45 PM	Trae Crowder (<i>The Liberal Redneck</i>)
Wed, June 17	7:00 PM	Natasha Chandel
Thu, June 18	7:00 PM	Christopher Titus
Fri, June 19	7:00 PM & 9:45 PM	Joe Torry
Sat, June 20	6:30 PM & 9:15 PM	Joe Torry
Wed, June 24	7:00 PM	Florida's Funniest Comedian Contest (<i>West Coast Semi-Finals</i>)
Fri, June 26	7:00 PM & 9:45 PM	Godfrey
Sat, June 27	6:30 PM & 9:15 PM	Godfrey
Sun, June 28	6:30 PM	Godfrey

Allie Serrano
PORTRAITS



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2026 NHL Draft Schedule



The **2026 NHL Entry Draft** is taking place in late June.

The official event is being hosted by the Buffalo Sabres at the **KeyBank Center** in Buffalo, New York.

It will feature the NHL's new **decentralized format**—meaning that while the prospects, fans, and league media gather in Buffalo, the 32 individual team executives and front offices will be drafting remotely from their own home markets.

Date	Time (EST)	Event Details	TV Broadcast / Streaming
Mon, June 1 – Sat, June 6	<i>All Week</i>	NHL Scouting Combine Physical testing, interviews, and medical assessments for the top ~100 prospects. Held at LECOM Harborcenter in Buffalo.	<i>Coverage via NHL Network & NHL.com</i>
Fri, June 26	7:00 PM	NHL Draft: Round 1 The main event evening featuring all thirty-two first-round draft picks.	ESPN, ESPN+, Sportsnet, TVA Sports
Sat, June 27	11:00 AM	NHL Draft: Rounds 2–7 The draft wraps up with the remaining six rounds of selections back-to-back.	NHL Network, ESPN+, Sportsnet

Tampa Bay Lightning 2026 Draft Board



Because of aggressive roster building and several high-profile trades over the last few seasons, the Tampa Bay Lightning enter the 2026 NHL Entry Draft with a significantly altered schedule of picks. The Bolts do not own a first-round selection this year, as their original **No. 25 overall pick** was officially transferred to the Seattle Kraken. This was part of the 2025 trade deadline acquisition of forward Oliver Bjorkstrand, which carried a condition that Seattle would receive the 2026 first-rounder if Tampa Bay qualified for the playoffs.

As the draft order currently stands, here is when the Lightning are scheduled to be on the clock:

Round	Actual Pick #	Status / Details
Round 1	<i>None</i>	Traded to the Seattle Kraken (No. 25 overall pick).
Round 2	#58	Tampa Bay's Selection. (Their original second-round pick went to Nashville in the Tanner Jeannot deal, but they recovered this late second-rounder via trade).
Round 3	#90	Tampa Bay's Selection.
Round 4	<i>None</i>	Traded to the Detroit Red Wings.
Round 5	TBD	Tampa Bay's Selection. Slotted in the latter third of the round based on their regular-season finish.
Round 6	TBD	Tampa Bay's Selection. Slotted late in the round.
Round 7	TBD	Tampa Bay's Selection. Slotted late in the round.

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Veteran's Corner: June 2026 Resource Roundup

VA launches MDMA-assisted mental health therapy trial

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs today announced a new clinical trial to evaluate the safety and efficacy of methylenedioxymethamphetamine-assisted therapy, or MDMA-assisted therapy, for the treatment of severe mental health disorders, including posttraumatic stress disorder and alcohol use disorder.



Veteran care will improve with Federal EHR updates

The Federal Electronic Health Record (EHR) received critical updates this month enabling the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) health care teams to make more informed decisions that improve Veteran care. The Individual Longitudinal Exposure Record (ILER), which was created by VA and the Department of War (DOW), provides an electronic record of each service member's occupational and environmental health exposures over the course of their career.



Why is it taking so long to identify America's unknown fallen heroes?

According to the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, there are still more than 80,000 U.S. service members who remain unaccounted for since World War II. The DPAA estimates that 38,000 of them are recoverable. Most of the rest were lost at sea. The agency identified the remains of 231 service members in fiscal year 2025—the highest number ever for the DPAA or its predecessor agencies.



Official trailer for Jimmy Stewart biopic released

“My father didn’t speak about his war experience very much,” his daughter, Kelly Stewart-Harcourt, told Military Times. “After he died, my sister found a journal, a handwritten journal that he had kept during the war” alongside his flight logbook filled with little scribbles, drawings and sketch marks from both Stewart and his men.



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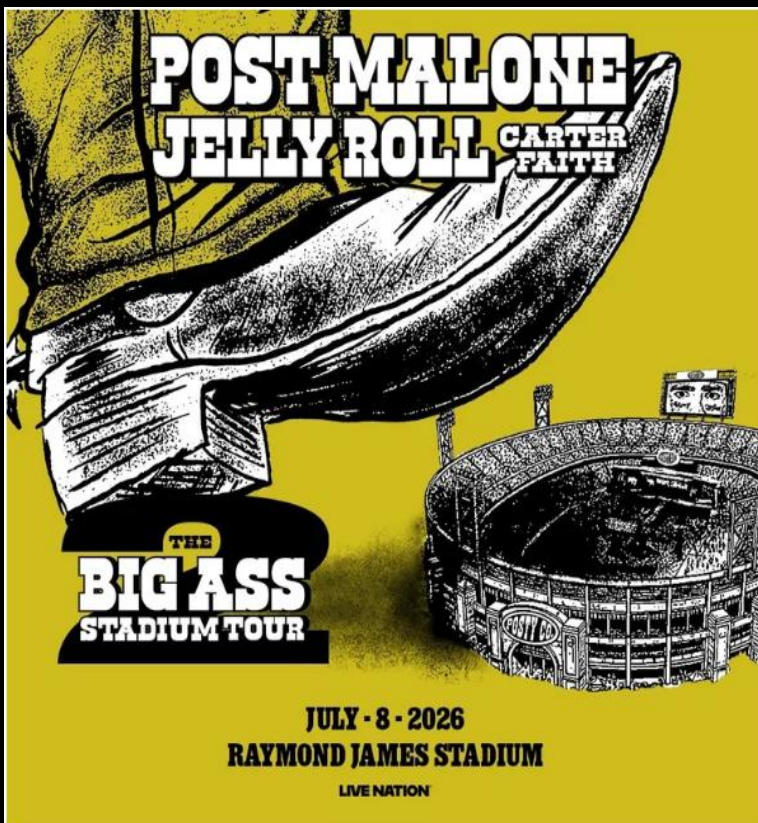


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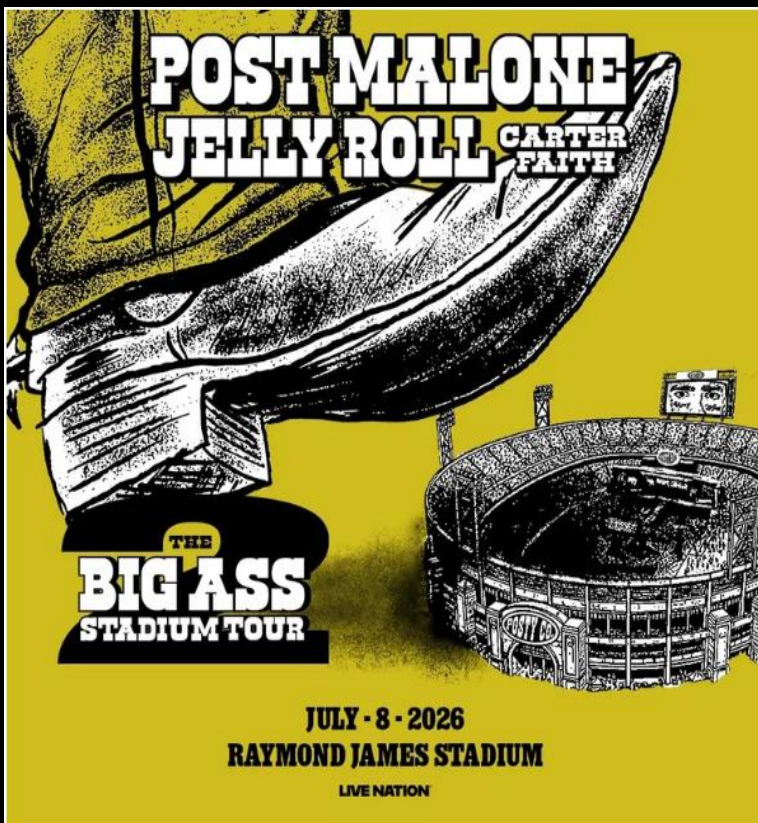
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Beyond the Milk and Bread: The Modern Tampa Bay Guide to Hurricane Prep

For years, hurricane preparation in the Tampa Bay area followed a predictable, old-school rhythm: rush to the grocery store, clear out the water aisle, buy a few loaves of bread, and wait. But as our summers become more unpredictable and our coastline grows more densely populated, that reactive approach doesn't cut it anymore.

Living in paradise—whether you are nestled in Apollo Beach, high up in a downtown Tampa high-rise, or sitting in a historic bungalow in St. Pete—means accepting a seasonal reality. Hurricane season officially begins on June 1st.

Instead of panic-buying at the last minute, here is a modern, strategic playbook designed specifically for Tampa Bay residents to get ahead of the storm.

Know Your Real Evacuation Zone (It Changed!)

One of the most dangerous mistakes a local can make is saying, "*I've lived here ten years and my house has never flooded.*" Hurricane Ian and Hurricane Idalia proved that storm surge patterns are changing rapidly across the bay.

Furthermore, evacuation zones are updated frequently based on new topographical data. **Don't confuse your flood zone with your evacuation zone.** Flood zones are for insurance mapping; evacuation zones (A through E) are based strictly on life-threatening storm surge.

Check the map directly. Do not guess. Use the **Hillsborough, Pinellas, or Pasco County disaster management portals** to plug in your exact address.

Have a "Tens" vs. "Hundreds" Plan: If you are in Zone A or B, you need an evacuation plan that takes you *tens of miles* away (to a friend's house on high ground in Brandon or Lakeland), not *hundreds of miles* away into a massive interstate traffic jam on I-4 or I-75.

The Digital Prep: Secure Your Data, Not Just Your Windows

In 2026, a modern hurricane kit isn't just physical—it's digital. If you have to evacuate unexpectedly, your smartphone and digital access will be your lifeline.

The "Grab-and-Go" Flash Drive: Scan your essential documents (passports, home insurance policies, medical records, pet vaccinations) and save them onto an encrypted, waterproof USB drive. Better yet, back them up to a secure cloud server.

The Insurance Photo Walk: Before a single cloud enters the sky, take your phone and record a continuous, high-definition video walkthrough of your entire home. Open closets, film appliances, and zoom in on electronics. If you ever have to file a claim, this video is undeniable proof of your home's pre-storm condition.

Download Local Apps Early: Download the **Ready Tampa Bay** or **Pinellas County Disaster Native** apps, alongside your local utility apps (TECO or Duke Energy) so you can track power outage maps in real-time.

Mitigate Your Home's Vulnerabilities Now

Waiting until a tropical storm enters the Gulf to clear your yard is a recipe for disaster. Projectiles cause massive structural damage during high-wind events.

Aggressive Tree Trimming: Look at the oak canopy above your roof. Trim back dead limbs and thin out heavy branches now so the wind can blow *through* the trees rather than knocking them over.

Clear the Drainage: Check the street gutters and storm drains outside your house. If they are packed with yard debris and dead palm fronds, clear them out. Localized street flooding happens in Tampa Bay during normal summer thunderstorms; a tropical system will completely submerge your street if the drains are blocked.

The Garage Door Weakness: Your garage door is the largest vulnerable opening on your house. If wind breaches the garage, it can create a pressure pocket strong enough to lift your entire roof off. If you don't have a modern, impact-rated garage door, look into a vertical bracing kit.

Stay Informed, Stay Calm

The secret to surviving hurricane season in Tampa Bay without crippling anxiety is simple: **Preparation replaces panic.** When you already know where you will go, what you will take, and how you will protect your home, a shifting weather forecast becomes a logistical plan to execute, rather than a reason to fear.

Take one afternoon this weekend to check your zones, buy a few extra supplies, and log your home inventory. Your future self will thank you.

Emergency Management Numbers: Hillsborough (813) 272-6600
Pinellas (727) 464-3800



Date	Time	Event	Venue / Location
Sat, June 6	7:30 PM	Free Symphony by the Sea (<i>Film scores, Broadway hits, & classics</i>)	The BayCare Sound (Clearwater)
Sun, June 7	2:00 PM	Defying Gravity: The Music of Stephen Schwartz & Friends	Carol Morsani Hall / Straz Center (Tampa)

Fri, Oct 2	7:30 PM	Opening Night! Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture (<i>Featuring Rossini's William Tell</i>)	Mahaffey Theater (St. Pete)
Sun, Oct 4	2:00 PM	Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture	Mahaffey Theater (St. Pete)
Wed, Oct 7	11:00 AM	Once Upon a Time in Paris (<i>Morning Matinee – Debussy, Moulin Rouge & more</i>)	Ruth Eckerd Hall (Clearwater)
Thu, Oct 8	11:00 AM	Once Upon a Time in Paris (<i>Morning Matinee</i>)	Mahaffey Theater (St. Pete)
Fri, Oct 9	7:30 PM	Revolution: The Music of The Beatles (Ferguson Hall / Straz Center (Tampa)
Sat, Oct 10	7:30 PM	Revolution: The Music of The Beatles	Mahaffey Theater (St. Pete)

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The 14th Annual Tampa Bay Caribbean Heritage Festival

Organized by the Caribbean American National Development Organization (CANDO), this single-day heritage celebration differs from the massive spring masquerade carnivals. Instead, it functions as an open, family-friendly cultural immersion experience focused heavily on the region's authentic food, history, and performing arts.


Festival Overview:

- **Date:** Saturday, June 6, 2026
- **Time:** 4:00 PM – 10:00 PM
- **Location:** University Area Community Center (14013 North 22nd Street, Tampa, FL 33613)
- **Admission:** Open to the public / General registration available via Eventbrite.

Schedule of Experiences & Activities

While the event runs continuously across a single 6-hour block, attendees can expect a fluid rotation of the following scheduled programs:

- **Live Music Showcases:** Continuous performances across the evening featuring a diverse lineup of genres including Reggae, Soca, Afro-Cuban Jazz, and traditional drumming circles.
- **Cultural Dance & Folklore:** Dedicated performance slots showcasing traditional Caribbean dancing, including Afro-Caribbean and regional folkloric dance troupes.
- **Interactive Workshops:** Interactive breakout mini-sessions sprinkled throughout the evening where attendees can learn basic drumming rhythms, dance steps, and Caribbean culinary/cooking basics.
- **The Food Village:** Open for the duration of the event, showcasing local culinary vendors cooking authentic regional staples like jerk chicken, roti, and coconut rice.
- **Artisan & Craft Fair:** A dedicated market space featuring local Caribbean-diaspora merchants selling handmade jewelry, textiles, and fine art pieces.

 **Note for Attendees:** The event is hosted as an outdoor multi-day-style block party, so the organizers highly recommend bringing your own lawn chairs to sit back and comfortably enjoy the stage performances.



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Mark Christopher

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**Jake
Clark**



Fri - Jun 12th 8:30pm
Sat - Jun 13th 8:30pm

Jake Clark

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SERIES

**Donald
Evans**



Fri - June 19th 8:30pm
Sat - June 20th 8:30pm

Donald Evans

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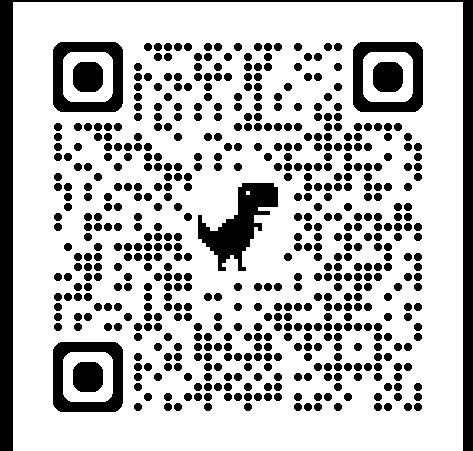
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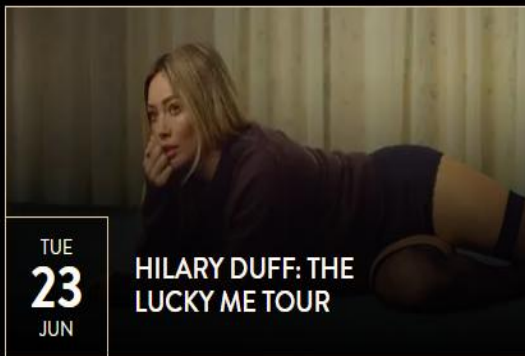
FRI
12
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**EVANESCENCE 2026 WORLD
TOUR WITH SPIRITBOX AND...**



SAT
13
JUN

**KALI UCHIS: FOR THE GIRLS
TOUR WITH SPECIAL GUEST...**



TUE
23
JUN

**HILARY DUFF: THE
LUCKY ME TOUR**



FRI
10
JUL

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YEARS IN THE ATMOSPHERE**



TUE
14
JUL

**NE-YO & AKON: NIGHTS
LIKE THIS TOUR 2026**



WED
15
JUL

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WINDY CITIES TOUR**



SAT
18
JUL

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STRAZ CENTER

Date(s)	Event	Stage / Venue	Production Type
Sun, June 7	Defying Gravity: The Music of Stephen Schwartz & Friends	Carol Morsani Hall	Symphonic Concert
June 9 – June 14	BEETLEJUICE: The Musical	Carol Morsani Hall	Broadway Encore Tour
June 11 – June 28	Come From Away	Shimberg Playhouse	Local Theater (mad Theatre)
Sun, June 14	A Journey Home (Tampa Bay Taps)	Jaeb Theater	Tap Dance & Live Band
July 15 – Aug 9	Green Day's AMERICAN IDIOT	Jaeb Theater	Rock Musical (Jobsite Theater)
Aug 9 – Sept 6	Penelope	Shimberg Playhouse	Contemporary Musical

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MAR 7 at BIRMINGHAM LEGION FC

MAR 21 vs. PITTSBURGH

MAR 28 vs. LOUDOUN UNITED FC

APR 4 at SPORTING CLUB JAX

APR 11 vs. OAKLAND ROOTS SC

APR 18 at CHARLESTON BATTERY

APR 25 vs. SARASOTA PARADISE*

MAY 2 vs. INDY ELEVEN

MAY 9 at RHODE ISLAND FC

MAY 16 at MIAMI FC*

MAY 20 at NEW MEXICO UNITED

MAY 23 vs. PHOENIX RISING FC

MAY 30 at LOUISVILLE CITY FC

JUNE 6 at SPORTING CLUB JAX*

JUNE 10 vs. CHARLESTON BATTERY

JUNE 13 vs. HARTFORD ATHLETIC

JUNE 20 at BROOKLYN FC

JULY 4 vs. LEXINGTON SC

JULY 11 vs. FC NAPLES*

JULY 25 at MIAMI FC

AUG 1 vs. LOUISVILLE CITY FC

AUG 8 at ORANGE COUNTY SC

AUG 15 vs. RHODE ISLAND FC

AUG 22 at DETROIT CITY FC

AUG 29 at PITTSBURGH

SEPT 5 vs. BROOKLYN FC

SEPT 12 at HARTFORD ATHLETIC

SEPT 16 at LOUDOUN UNITED FC

SEPT 19 vs. BIRMINGHAM LEGION FC

SEPT 26 at SAN ANTONIO FC

OCT 3 vs. MIAMI FC

OCT 10 at INDY ELEVEN

OCT 17 vs. DETROIT CITY FC

OCT 24 vs. SPORTING CLUB JAX





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Date(s)	Showtimes	Headliner / Performer
Thu, June 4	7:30 PM	Kyle Kinane
Fri, June 5	7:30 PM & 10:00 PM	Kyle Kinane
Sat, June 6	6:00 PM	Lisandra Vazquez
Sat, June 6	8:00 PM & 10:30 PM	Kyle Kinane
Sun, June 7	6:00 PM	Stephan Dyer <i>(Show presented in Spanish)</i>
Fri, June 12	7:00 PM & 9:30 PM	Quinn Dale
Sat, June 13	5:30 PM & 8:00 PM	Quinn Dale
Sun, June 14	6:00 PM	Quinn Dale
Thu, June 18	7:30 PM	Arynne Wexler
Fri, June 19	7:00 PM & 9:30 PM	Nick Thune
Sat, June 20	6:00 PM & 8:00 PM	Nick Thune
Sun, June 21	7:00 PM	Sam Miller <i>(Father's Day Show)</i>
Thu, June 25	7:00 PM	Joe Machi
Fri, June 26	7:00 PM & 9:30 PM	Joe Machi
Sat, June 27	6:00 PM & 8:00 PM	Joe Machi
Sat, June 27	10:30 PM	Kim Congdon & Uncle Lazer
Sun, June 28	6:00 PM	Joe Machi

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Ferg's
PAVILLION

Date(s)	Time	Event / Performer	Details
Fri, June 5	7:00 PM	Quiet Riot & Vixen <i>(with special guests Saints of Saturn)</i>	Main Concert Stage: A massive night of classic 80s heavy metal and hard rock.
Mon, June 8	6:00 PM	Rays vs. Red Sox Watch Party	Sports Bar & Grill: A massive game-day crowd gathering with food and drink specials as the Rays take on Boston right across the street.
Thu, June 25	8:00 PM	USA vs. Turkey World Cup Watch Party	Pavilion Big Screens: A massive, high-energy 21+ viewing party as the US Men's National Team takes the pitch.
Fri, June 26 & Sat, June 27	Fri: 8:00 PM Sat: 7:00 PM & 9:15 PM	Ferg's Upperdeck Comedy Weekend <i>(Presented by St. Pete Stand Up)</i>	Upper deck Stage: A dedicated weekend of stand-up comedy showcasing premier local and regional comics. Tickets include an exclusive \$1 wing deal during the shows.

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Rays Riding High While New Ballpark Plans Take Shape

If there is one word that best describes the Tampa Bay Rays in 2026, it is resilience.

After years of uncertainty surrounding their stadium future, a temporary relocation, hurricane-related disruptions, and countless rumors about where the franchise might ultimately call home, the Rays have once again done what they seem to do better than anyone in Major League Baseball: win baseball games.

As May ends, Tampa Bay sits atop the American League East with a 35-19 record, holding a narrow lead over the New York Yankees in what many experts predicted would be one of the toughest divisions in baseball. The Rays have accomplished this despite entering the season with relatively modest expectations. Instead, Manager Kevin Cash has guided another balanced roster that combines strong pitching, timely hitting, aggressive base running, and the type of organizational depth that has become the franchise's trademark.

The Rays have been particularly impressive at home, turning Tropicana Field into one of the toughest places in baseball for visiting teams. Strong performances from veterans and emerging young talent have helped Tampa Bay remain among the American League's elite through the first two months of the season. Their ability to develop players and maximize talent continues to set the standard for small-market franchises across the sport.

While the team is making headlines on the field, significant developments are also taking place off it.

The long-discussed plan to build a new ballpark in St. Petersburg officially collapsed after the Rays withdrew from the project in 2025. Rising construction costs, delays, and complications stemming from hurricane damage ultimately ended what had been envisioned as a transformative redevelopment project for the Historic Gas Plant District.

Now, attention has shifted across the bay.

In recent weeks, Hillsborough County and local officials approved a non-binding memorandum of understanding supporting a proposed \$2.3 billion stadium and entertainment district near Hillsborough Community College's Dale Mabry campus.

The location would place the Rays in the heart of Tampa's sports corridor, near Raymond James Stadium and the Yankees' spring training complex. While many hurdles remain before construction can begin, supporters believe the project could finally provide the franchise with a modern home and a long-term solution to decades of stadium uncertainty.

For now, however, Rays fans have plenty of reasons to focus on the present.

The club has positioned itself as a legitimate contender in the American League, and meaningful baseball is already being played in Tampa Bay. Whether the season ultimately ends with a division title, a postseason run, or even a World Series appearance remains to be seen.

But one thing is certain: while discussions about the future ballpark continue, the Rays are proving that their present is already worth watching. And for a fan base that has endured years of stadium debates, that's a welcome change of pace.

For more information, please visit the Tampa Bay Rays website:

<https://newballpark.raysbaseball.com/>





MARCH - APRIL

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
22	23	24	25	26 STL	27	28 STL
29 STL	30 MIL	31 MIL	1 MIL	2	3 MIN	4 MIN
5 MIN	6 CHC 4:10	7 CHC 6:40	8 CHC 8:40	9	10 NYY 7:10	11 NYY 8:10
12 NYY 1:40	13	14 CWS	15 CWS	16 CWS	17 PIT	18 PIT
19 PIT	20 CIN 6:40	21 CIN 8:40	22 CIN 1:10	23	24 MIN 7:10	25 MIN 4:10
26 MIN 1:40	27 CLE	28 CLE	29 CLE	30		

JULY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 KC	2 KC	3 HOU	4 HOU
5 HOU	6 NYY 6:40	7 NYY 8:40	8 NYY 8:40	9 NYY 1:10	10 SEA 7:10	11 SEA 4:10
12 SEA 1:40	13	14	15	16	17 BOS	18 BOS
19 BOS	20 TOR	21 TOR	22 TOR	23 TOR	24 CLE 7:10	25 CLE 6:10
26 CLE 1:40	27	28 TEX 6:40	29 TEX 8:40	30 TEX 12:10	31 CWS 7:10	

MAY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 SF 7:10	2 SF 8:10
3 SF 1:40	4 TOR 6:40	5 TOR 8:40	6 TOR 1:10	7 BOS	8 BOS	9 BOS
10 BOS	11 TOR	12 TOR	13 TOR	14	15 MIA 7:10	16 MIA 4:10
17 MIA 1:40	18 BAL 6:40	19 BAL 8:40	20 BAL 1:10	21	22 NYY	23 NYY
24 NYY 1:40	25 BAL	26 BAL	27 BAL	28	29 LAA 7:10	30 LAA 4:10
31 LAA 1:40						

AUGUST

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 CWS 4:10
2 CWS 1:40	3 COL	4 COL	5 COL	6	7 SEA	8 SEA
9 SEA	10 ATH	11 ATH	12 ATH	13	14 BAL 7:10	15 BAL 8:10
16 BAL 1:40	17 BAL 6:40	18 TOR 6:40	19 TOR 8:40	20 TOR 1:10	21 BAL	22 BAL
23 BAL	24 DET	25 DET	26 DET	27	28 SD 7:10	29 SD 4:10
30 SD 1:40	31 NYM 6:40					

JUNE

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 DET 6:40	2 DET 8:40	3 DET 1:10	4	5 MIA	6 MIA
7 MIA	8 BOS 6:40	9 BOS 8:40	10 BOS 1:10	11	12 LAA	13 LAA
14 LAA	15 LAD	16 LAD	17 LAD	18	19 WSH 7:10	20 WSH 4:10
21 WSH 1:40	22 KC 6:40	23 KC 8:40	24 KC 6:40	25 KC 12:10	26 AZ 7:10	27 AZ 8:10
28 AZ 1:40	29	30 KC				

SEPTEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 NYM 6:40	2 NYM 8:40	3 TEX	4 TEX	5 TEX
6 TEX	7	8 ATL	9 ATL	10 ATL	11 HOU 7:10	12 HOU 8:10
13 HOU 1:40	14	15 ATH 6:40	16 ATH 8:40	17 ATH 1:10	18 BOS 7:10	19 BOS 4:10
20 BOS 1:40	21	22 NYY	23 NYY	24 NYY	25 PHI	26 PHI
27 PHI	28	29	30			

HOME GAME AWAY GAME

(Schedule subject to change)



Yuengling Center Summer 2026 Schedule

Date	Time	Event / Performer	Event Type
Sat, June 6	7:00 PM	Kirk Franklin <i>(The Reunion Tour 2026)</i>	Gospel Concert
Fri, June 12	7:30 PM	Hasan Minhaj <i>(Off With His Head Tour)</i>	Stand-Up Comedy
Sat, June 20	11:00 AM & 3:00 PM	Blippi: The Wonderful World Tour	Family / Children's Show
Sat, July 11	8:00 PM	Maxwell <i>(The Serenade Tour with Jazmine Sullivan)</i>	R&B / Soul Concert
Fri, July 24	7:00 PM	WWE Live: SummerSlam Heatwave	Professional Wrestling
Sun, Aug 16	7:30 PM	Teddy Swims <i>(I've Tried Everything But Therapy Tour)</i>	Pop / Soul Concert
Fri, Aug 28	8:00 PM	Deftones <i>(with special guests The Mars Volta)</i>	Alternative Rock Concert



The Tampa Bay Buccaneers 2026 regular season schedule was released today by the National Football League, featuring nine home games at Raymond James Stadium.

The 2026 campaign will feature a trio of primetime games: Week 5 versus the Cowboys in Dallas on *Thursday Night Football (Prime Video)*, Week 9 at the Chicago Bears on *Sunday Night Football (NBC)* and Week 12 at home versus the Carolina Panthers on *Monday Night Football (ESPN)*.

"The announcement of the regular season schedule continues to be one of the most anticipated days of the offseason for our fans each year," said Buccaneers Chief Operating Officer **Brian Ford**. "We are already hard at work preparing to welcome the Krewe back to Raymond James Stadium for another exciting season of Buccaneers football, and we look forward to creating more unforgettable moments together beginning with our home opener on September 20 against the Cleveland Browns."

Tampa Bay will begin its season on the road in Cincinnati in Week 1, traveling to face the Bengals. The Buccaneers have won five consecutive season openers, which currently stands tied with the Philadelphia Eagles for the longest active streak in the NFL. The Buccaneers and Bengals have faced off one time previously in Week 1 to kick off the 1980 season. The 2026 season will mark the first time Tampa Bay has opened its season on the road versus an AFC opponent since 2013.

For the first time since 1991 – and for just the second time in franchise history – the Buccaneers will not be on the road in consecutive weeks for the entirety of the regular season. On the flip side, Tampa Bay's home opener will coincide with the team's longest homestand in Weeks 2-4 when the Buccaneers will host the Cleveland Browns (9/20), Minnesota Vikings (9/27) and Green Bay Packers (10/4) at Raymond James Stadium.

The Buccaneers will play four of their six divisional games over the final seven weeks of the season. Tampa Bay owns the fourth-highest divisional win percentage of any NFL team dating back to 2020 (.639), capturing four NFC South division titles during that span.

Facing a quartet of former NFC Central rivals, the Buccaneers will play all four NFC North teams for the first time since the 2023 – a season in which they went 3-1 against the division.

Following their Week 10 Bye, Tampa Bay will head to Detroit for their sixth trip to the Motor City since 2019 – two more trips than they've made to any other non-divisional opponent during that span. It will be the fifth all-time meeting, including playoffs, between former No.1 overall picks Baker Mayfield and Jared Goff.

In Week 17, the Buccaneers will face another familiar foe in the Los Angeles Rams. In the eight seasons from 2019-26, Tampa Bay will have faced both the Lions and Rams seven times each – their most among any non-divisional opponents.

The dates and times of Tampa Bay's Week 16 and Week 18 matchups against the Atlanta Falcons and New Orleans Saints will be announced at a later date. The NFL will again utilize flexible scheduling for *Sunday Night Football* in Weeks 5-18, with the option to flex games for *Sunday Night Football* in Weeks 5-17, *Monday Night Football* in Weeks 12-17 and games for *Thursday Night Football* in Weeks 13-17.

Tampa Bay's 2026 preseason opponents were also released on Thursday, with the Buccaneers taking on the New York Jets (8/14), Kansas City Chiefs (8/22) and Jacksonville Jaguars (8/28). All preseason contests will be aired locally on WFLA News Channel 8, the Buccaneers official home for preseason football, in addition to the Buccaneers Radio Network broadcasts.



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