

YOUR FALL CHECKLIST

in the greater Champaign County area

October-December 2020

visit **champaign** county

YOU'RE WELCOME 

yourewelcomeCU.com

(virtual)

MUST-ATTEND EVENTS & ACTIVITIES



1

FALL HIKES

Discover the stunning colors of fall in our outdoor spaces, from 14 miles of hiking trails at Allerton Park to miles of trails at the five Champaign County Forest Preserves.

2

C-U FOLK & ROOTS FESTIVAL

October 23-24 | folkandroots.org

Moving online, this fall favorite will feature touring and local performers, workshops, storytellers and more!



3

PUMPKIN PATCHES

Illinois is the country's largest producer of pumpkins, so head out to pick your own at favorites Curtis Orchard & Pumpkin Patch in Champaign or the Great Pumpkin Patch in Arthur.

FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE (STREAM)

October-December | 40north.org

This summer event moves to fall for 2020 to stream live performances from our local artists. Tune in every Friday to discover a variety of musical styles, and to support our local musicians.



5

KISS A REINDEER

Head to Hardy's Reindeer Ranch to get in the holiday spirit! Visit their reindeer who give kisses when you give them graham crackers. Don't miss their 10-acre corn maze up until Thanksgiving!



6

HOLIDAY SHOPPING

Support our local shops this holiday season with dozens of locally-owned boutiques and shops across the county to help you find Outside of Ordinary gifts.

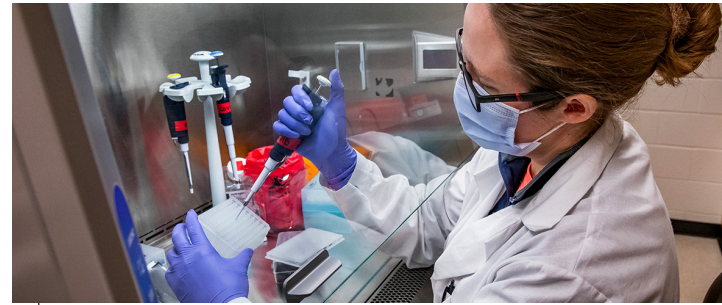


7

PARADE OF LIGHTS

November 27 | champaigncenter.com

This Thanksgiving-weekend celebration will be virtual, with complementary pop-ups around Champaign, with scavenger hunts and more holiday fun for the whole family.



Did you know?

- The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign developed an innovative saliva-based test for COVID-19 and is utilized under the FDA Emergency Use Authorization. The testing has been featured nationally on CBS Evening News, CNN, NPR, and Bloomberg.
- ChampaignCountySafe.org is a resource for residents to review businesses that have signed the safety pledge, in addition to information on testing and dining etiquette.
- The New American Welcome Center at the University Y launched an immigrant-owned business directory that contributes to the diversity of our community: universityymca.org/welcome
- New to ChambanaProud.com, Made in Champaign County, featuring products from leading manufacturers from Wolfram Alpha to Dart Container Corporation.



- The Great ARTdoors showcases ten art installations from local artists in ten community parks throughout Champaign-Urbana. Learn more at 40north.org!

COMMUNITY RANKINGS

- Champaign ranked #35 on the 2020 Americas Best Small Cities Report with highlights in Nightlife and Culture (*Resonance*)
- The University of Illinois is the #15 Public University in the Nation for 2020 (*US News & World Report*)
- Champaign ranked #17 on the 2020 Best of the Midwest: Startup Cities Rankings (*Midwest Startups*)

Want more ideas for events & activities?
visitchampaigncounty.org

Learn more about community rankings & innovations + search for jobs:
yourewelcomecu.com

TOP IDEAS FOR FOOD & DRINK

Hamilton Walker's | 201 N. Neil St., Champaign
 hamiltonwalkers.com | 217-350-0363
Steak & Seafood

Safely experience this downtown Champaign spot's exceptional hospitality while you enjoy steaks, seafood, pasta alongside handcrafted cocktails and delectable desserts.

Ozu Ramen | 601 S. Sixth St., Champaign | 312-730-08147
Asian

In the heart of campustown, this popular stop offers a variety of ramen dishes alongside Hirata Buns, a pillowy, steamed bun used in sandwiches with pork belly or spicy fried chicken.

Dancing Dog Eatery & Juicery | 126 W. Main St., Urbana | dancingdogeatery.com | 217-552-1344
Vegan

Off Main St. in downtown Urbana, this vegan spot is loved by all, with their tasty spins on deep dish pizza, their meatless burgers, and their made-from-scratch desserts. Don't forget to pick up their bottled homemade ketchup!



Tasty Tart | 405 S. Neil St., Champaign
 tasty-tart.com | 331-303-2477
Dessert

Their seven-centimeter tarts are filled with fruit, chocolate, or flavored custards for the perfect office treat day. Get a mix of flavors like matcha, lemon, strawberry, or mocha to satisfy everyone's tastes.

Champaign County Brewing Company
 402 E. Main St., Mahomet | champaigncountybrewing.com
 217-586-2665

Brewery

This micro-brewery in Mahomet offers many nods to the local community, offering beers like the Bulldog Brown Ale, named for the hometown team, and the Orange & Blue American Wheat Ale.

Everyday Kitchen | 1807 S. Neil St., Champaign
 everydayktichen.com | 217-607-1960
American

Located in Lodgic Everyday Community, this classic spot offers elevated comfort food, from their spitfire chicken to meatloaf and mashed potatoes.

Selfie Spots

Check out these spots, or any on our fall checklist, and share on Instagram with #outsideofordinary and #yourewelcomecu for a chance to win a Champaign Proud t-shirt!



Clockwise from top left

1. University of Illinois Main Quad
2. Hardy's Reindeer Ranch
3. The Great Pumpkin Patch
4. First Street Barbershop — Mural by Langston Allston

STAY ACTIVE & INVOLVED

With COVID-19 continuing to be a presence in the community, there are many volunteer needs across the county.

Volunteer Opportunities

CU Volunteer

Joint efforts with the University of Illinois and United Way
 cuvolyunteer.org

Community Blood Services of Illinois

As shortages continue to happen, donate blood or platelets at the Community Blood Services of Illinois. Find a mobile drive or donate at their facility in Urbana.
 bloodcenter.org

University of Illinois Office of Volunteer Programs

The OVP promotes service for students to donate their time and volunteer for the university and local communities.
 union.illinois.edu/get-involved/office-of-volunteer-programs