

# YOUR SUMMER CHECKLIST

in the greater Champaign County area

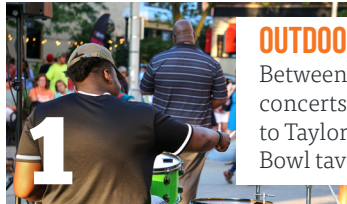
July-September 2022

visit **champaign** county

**YOU'RE WELCOME** 

yourewelcomeCU.com

## MUST-ATTEND EVENTS & ACTIVITIES



### 1 OUTDOOR MUSIC

Between Friday Night Live in downtown Champaign, concerts in our area parks and preserves, Streetfest & Toast to Taylor Street, and live music under the tent at the Rose Bowl tavern, there's something to enjoy every day.

### 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATIONS

Making a comeback, you'll find fireworks and parades from Champaign to Rantoul to Mahomet and Monticello from July 3-4. Make your plans to celebrate!



### 3 NEW TO CU MIXER

July 19 | [visitchampaigncounty.org/newtocu](http://visitchampaigncounty.org/newtocu)

New to the Champaign-Urbana area? Join us for our quarterly New to CU Mixer, this time at the Lake of the Woods Golf Course for networking with other newcomers, and some foot golf!

### SHOP AN ART FAIR

August 6 & September 17 | [40north.org](http://40north.org)

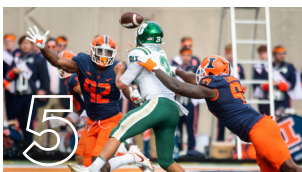
Discover local artists at two upcoming art fairs. 40 local and regional artists in the beautiful Crystal Lake Park in Urbana in August, while West Side Arts makes its debut in downtown Champaign in September.



### FIGHTING ILLINI FOOTBALL

August-November | [fightingillini.com](http://fightingillini.com)

Back in Memorial Stadium under head coach Bret Bielema, Fighting Illini football returns in August. Get your orange & blue gear, pack for a tailgate, and get ready to cheer for the Illini!



### 6 KRANNERT CENTER OPENING WEEKEND

September 9-10 | [krannertcenter.com](http://krannertcenter.com)

Bringing together theatre, music, and performance, Krannert Center hosts their big opening weekend celebration with big acts for all to enjoy.



### 7 PYGMALION

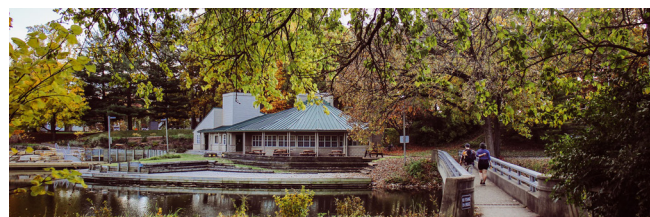
September 22-24 | [thisispygmalion.com](http://thisispygmalion.com)

Bringing together music, literature, comedy, tech, and makers, Pygmalion is the event to check out on campus and throughout Urbana this fall.



## Did you know?

- During the height of the season, you can find a Farmers Market 5 days of the week? With markets in Urbana, Champaign, Mahomet, Rantoul, Homer, and Monticello, there's always access to fresh, local foods.
- Outside of Foellinger Auditorium on the University of Illinois Quad, you can step on the plaque, speak, and you'll hear your words echoed back to you, but only you as the speaker will be able to hear it. Impress your walking partner with this auditory wonder as you wander the campus.
- Krannert Art Museum (KAM) is the second-largest general fine art museum in the state of Illinois. Enjoy the many exhibits and events for free!
- Veterans ride Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District (CUMTD) fare-free by applying for MTD's Veteran Pass. Call CUMTD at 217-384-8188 to learn more.



## COMMUNITY RANKINGS

- Urbana named #1 on 10 Cities Where Outdoor Lovers Can Actually Afford to Buy a Home (Realtor.com)
- Champaign-Urbana is one of 22 US cities where women under 30 earn more than men under 30 (TheStreet.com)
- Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District ranked Most Innovative by Federal Transit Administration for their efforts to combat climate change through the Sustainable Transit for a Healthy Planet initiative (FTA)

Want more ideas for events & activities?  
[visitchampaigncounty.org](http://visitchampaigncounty.org)

Learn more about community rankings & innovations  
+ search for jobs:  
[yourewelcomecu.com](http://yourewelcomecu.com)

# TOP IDEAS FOR FOOD & DRINK

## Baldarotta's Gelateria

300 S. Broadway Ave., Lincoln Square, Urbana | [baldarottas.com](http://baldarottas.com)  
Want to cool off with some gelato? Baldarotta's in Lincoln Square is more than their Italian sandwiches. The Gelateria offers up to 14 flavors of gelato to enjoy. Get a flight and try 8 flavors!

## Ladro Enoteca

1 E. Main St., Champaign | [instagram.com/ladroenoteca](http://instagram.com/ladroenoteca)  
New in downtown Champaign, this wine bar is the perfect start for a date, featuring wines from small, family-owned vineyards, cured meats, and smoked fish.

## Sakura Japanese Restaurant

132 W. Main St., Urbana | [sakurajapanuescuisineil.com](http://sakurajapanuescuisineil.com)  
New to downtown Urbana, this Japanese restaurant is known for their sushi and bento. With a simple yet elegant backdrop, you'll have an intimate dinner with your loved one.

## Pour Bros. Tap Room

40 E. University St., Champaign | [pourbrostaproom.com](http://pourbrostaproom.com)  
Enjoy happy hour and beyond at Pour Bros. where you can pour your own beer. Enjoy live music regularly, trivia, and board games at themed nights throughout the week.

## Wood N' Hog

500 N. Walnut St., Champaign | [woodnhogbarbecue.com](http://woodnhogbarbecue.com)  
Wood N' Hog Barbecue's smoky flavors and Chicago-inspired sauce offer a little heat and a little sweet. Try it over their turkey tips. Their wood-smoked chicken and ribs are quickly becoming a must-try in the area.

## Manolo's Pizza & Empanadas

1115 W. Oregon St., Urbana | [manolospizza.com](http://manolospizza.com)  
Manolo's Pizza & Empanadas is a community favorite. Enjoy their New York style slices like the Spotted Goat with spinach, mushroom, gorgonzola, and goat cheese.

## The Pink Pig

301 W. Lincoln Ave., Ogden | [pinkpigrestaurant.com](http://pinkpigrestaurant.com)  
Located in Ogden, The Pink Pig sources their proteins locally from Willow Creek Farm in Urbana to create mouthwatering sandwiches and platters.

## Selfie Spots

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



Clockwise from top left

1. Lisa Kesler Mural at Visit Champaign County
2. Big Chair at Curtis Orchard & Pumpkin Patch
3. With the goats at Prairie Fruits Farm & Creamery
4. Langston Allston Mural at Cunningham Township

## STAY ACTIVE & INVOLVED

While the weather is warm, there are plenty of ways to stay cool and active. Also, check out the many volunteer opportunities throughout the community this summer.

### Outdoor & Indoor Activities

#### Crystal Lake Park Lake House

206 W. Park St., Urbana | [urbanaparks.org](http://urbanaparks.org)  
This newly renovated park has a new dock at the Lake House, where you can rent canoes and paddle boats to explore the park.

#### Kickapoo Rail Trail

Urbana to St. Joseph | [onekrt.org](http://onekrt.org)  
Hop on your bike for a 7+ mile ride to St. Joseph and visit the shops and restaurants at the trail head.

#### Sholem Aquatic Center

2205 Sangamon Dr., Champaign | [champaignparks.com](http://champaignparks.com)  
Splash the day away in this zero-depth pool, or go around the lazy river to stay cool!

### Volunteer Opportunities

#### Area Rotary Clubs

Join one of the many local rotary clubs to network and provide service to the community. See a list at [rotarydistrict6490.org](http://rotarydistrict6490.org).

#### United Way of Champaign County

Get a list of community organizations needing volunteers at [uwayhelps.org/volunteer](http://uwayhelps.org/volunteer)