

YOUR WINTER CHECKLIST

in the greater Champaign-Urbana area

January–March 2024

MAKE IT
CHAMPAIGN
URBANA



MUST-ATTEND EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

1

FROZEN 5K

January 13 | champaignparks.org

Bundle up and lace up your shoes for Champaign Park District's annual Frozen 5K at The Fields. Warm up after the race with coffee and hot cocoa!



MLK JR. COUNTYWIDE CELEBRATION

January 14 | mlkcelebration.org

Honor the life and legacy of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. by celebrating those in the community who uphold the principles and ideals of Dr. King.

2



CHAMPAIGN-URBANA RESTAURANT WEEK

January 26–February 3 | curestaurantweek.org

Discover local flavors during this nine-day celebration of Champaign County area's award-winning culinary scene. Check out the menus and start planning!



FIGHTING ILLINI BASKETBALL

fightingillini.com

The women's and men's teams are back on the court at State Farm Center. Support these student-athletes through March as they make a run at a Big Ten title.

4

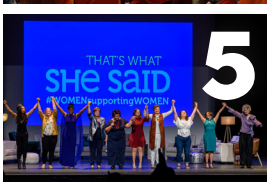


THAT'S WHAT SHE SAID

February 24 | thevirginia.org

Get inspired as area women share their stories in an evening of laughter, tears, and celebration of the trials and triumphs achieved.

5



6

AGTECH WEEK

March 4–8 | cuagtechweek.org

Champaign-Urbana AgTech Week celebrates our robust AgTech ecosystem, including the University of Illinois, Parkland College, corporate innovation partners, startups, state-of-the-art facilities, student organizations, local ag companies, the Illinois AgTech Accelerator, and iFAB Tech Hub.



Fighting Illini Baseball

Home games start March 15 | fightingillini.com

Nothing says spring like the start of baseball. Head out to Illini Field this spring to catch Illini Baseball in action. These games are free and family-friendly!

7



Did you know?

- The City of Champaign is the first certified Welcoming Place by Welcoming America in the State of Illinois, joining only 20 other municipalities across the United States. Certified Welcoming is a formal designation by Welcoming America for cities and counties that have created policies and programs that reflect their values and commitment to immigrant inclusion and belonging.
- Carle Foundation Hospital and the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign purchased a Siemens MAGNETOM Terra 7 Tesla MRI Scanner that provides the highest magnetic field imaging strength commercially available in the US. Carle is one of the few clinical facilities nationwide to offer this advanced technology to patients.
- Recently selected as an Illinois Made Maker, Cloud Mountain Kombucha, located in Lincoln Square Mall, is committed to sourcing from local farms, including their own Goldfinch Farms. Their Carrot Turmeric recently took Silver in the ginger/spice category at the 2023 Kombucha Kup.
- The City of Champaign earned a perfect score on the Municipal Equality Index (MEI) for Inclusive LGBTQ+ Laws. The MEI examines how inclusive municipal laws, policies, and services are of LGBTQ+ people who live and work there. As it did last year, the City achieved a score of 100 on the 2023 assessment - the highest possible score. Champaign joins just two other cities in Illinois (Rockford and Chicago) to receive a perfect score.

Want more ideas for events & activities?
experiencecu.org

Learn more about the community+ search for jobs:
makeitcu.com

TOP IDEAS FOR FOOD & DRINK

Featuring Champaign-Urbana Area Restaurant Week Participants



83 Vietnamese Cuisine | 2502 Village Green Pl., Champaign | 83viet.com
Baldoratta's | 300 S. Broadway Ave., Urbana | baldorattas.com
Big Grove Tavern | 1 E. Main St., Champaign | biggrovetavern.com
Chophouse on Main | 401 E. Main St., Mahomet | chophouseonmain.com
Encanto | 115 W. Main St., Urbana
Esquire Lounge | 106 N. Walnut St., Champaign | esquirelounge.com
Forage Kitchen | 503 E. Green St., Champaign | eatforage.com
Hamilton Walker's | 201 N. Neil St., Champaign | hamiltonwalkers.com
Hopscotch Market | 802 W. John St., Champaign | hopscotchmarket.com
Houlihan's | 1900 S. First St., Champaign | houlihans.com
Industrial Donut | 501 Commerce Dr., Savoy | industrialdonut.com
Kohinoor Indian | 6 E. Columbia Ave., Champaign | kohinoorchampaign.com
La Bahia Grill | 132 W. Church St., Champaign | sites.google.com/view/labahiagrill
La Paloma Food Truck | facebook.com/LaPalomaMexicanDelicacies/
The Literary | 122 N. Neil St., Champaign | literarybookbar.com
Lucky Moon Pies | 410 E. Oak St., Mahomet | luckymoonpies.com
The Main Scoop | Mahomet, Monticello, and Urbana
 themainscoopicecream.com

Maize at the Station | 100 N. Chesnut, Champaign | maizemexicangrill.com
Martinelli's Market | 500 N. Walnut St., Champaign | martinellismarket.com
Pekara Bakery & Bistro | 811 W. Springfield Ave., Champaign
 pekarabistro.com
Pizzeria Antica | 10 E. Chester St., Champaign | anticachampaign.com
Project 47 Smokehouse | 101 N. Lombard St., Mahomet
 project47smokehouse.com
Red Herring Vegetarian Restaurant | 1209 W. Oregon St., Urbana
 reherringlove.com
Silvercreek | 402 N. Race St., Urbana | silvercreekrestaurant.com
The Space | 1 E. Main St., Champaign | thespacecu.com
Smith Burger Co. | 340 N. Neil St., Champaign | smithburgerco.com
Stango Cuisine | 500 N. Walnut St., Champaign | stangocu.com
Sun Singer Restaurant | 1115 Windsor Rd., Champaign | sunsingerwines.com
Watson's Shack & Rail | 211 N. Neil St., Champaign | watsonschicken.com
The Wheelhouse | 109 N. Main St., St. Joseph | atthewheelhouse.com
Wood N' Hog Barbecue | 101 W. University Ave., Urbana
 woodnhogbarbecue.com

participants as of December 1, 2023

Selfie Spots

Check out these spots, or any on our winter checklist, and share on Instagram with #experiencecu!



Clockwise from top left

1. Fighting Illini Basketball Game
2. Dining out during Restaurant Week
3. On the Champaign County African American Heritage Trail
4. Winter hike at Lake of the Woods Forest Preserve

Stay Active & Involved

Stay active and outside this winter in our recreational spots across the area. Also, check out the many volunteer opportunities throughout the community.

Recreational Activities

Urbana Boulders

1502 N. Cunningham Ave., Urbana | urbanaboulders.com
 Climb their various routes that are designed for all levels!

Stephens Family YMCA

2501 Fields S. Dr., Champaign | sf-ymca.net
 Go for a swim, take a class, run the track, and take advantage of all their fitness activities.

Sangamon River Forest Preserve

2797 County Rd. 600 E., Fisher | ccfd.org

This scenic preserve is ideal for cross country skiing with snow on the ground, and plenty of bird-watching to be had.

Volunteer Opportunities

Illini GivePulse

Check out opportunities across the community on this new resource from the University of Illinois at illinois.givepulse.com.

United Way of Champaign County

Get a list of community organizations needing volunteers at uwayhelps.org/volunteer

PLUG INTO

Job Board + Community Job Application + Chambana Welcome Crew + New to CU Mixers + Chambana Proud Podcast + Chambana Proud Shop
makeitcu.com