The Tucky

traveling like a local, living like a tourist

ISSUE NO. 01
FALL 2026
CENTRAL KENTUCKY



10 Fall Musts
within an hour of Richmond & Lexington

60+ October Events
weekend by weekend, littles to date night

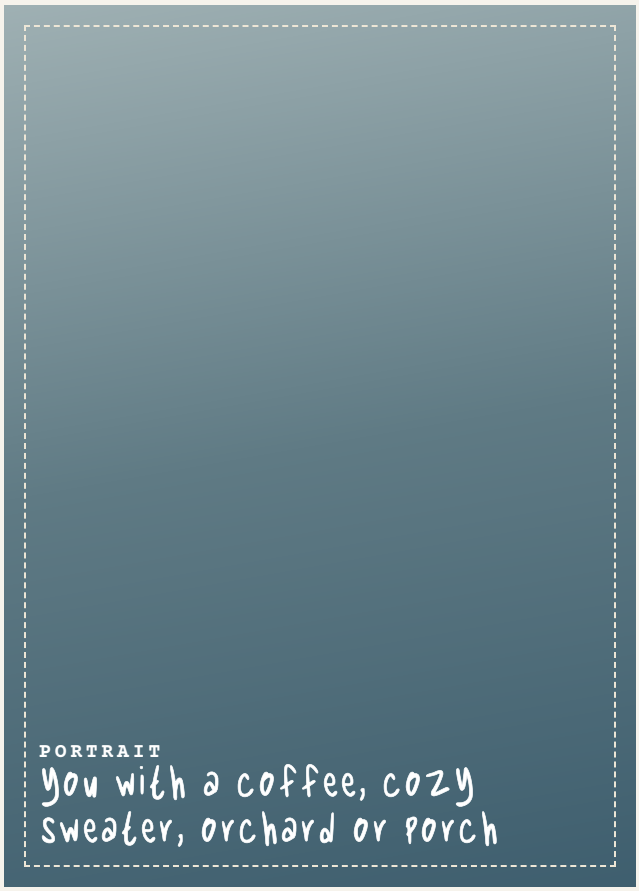
The Fall Day Bag
what we never leave home without

The Central Kentucky

FALL Bucket List

TODDLER TESTED · MOM APPROVED

@THETUCKY



PORTRAIT

You with a coffee, cozy sweater, orchard or porch

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

Print the checklist on the last page and stick it on the fridge. Check off each stop, rate it in cardinals (Kentucky's state bird), and tag **@thetucky** so I can see your fall.

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Kentucky does fall like it means it.

Orchards, corn mazes, festival weekends and hills on fire with color, for weeks on end. This is our family's list of the fall things worth doing within an hour of home: trails a three year old can actually finish, festivals worth the parking, and a couple of grown-up nights out for when the babysitter says yes.

Every stop here is local-approved and tourist-level fun. Pick one this weekend. Then pick another.

Juli-Anne

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01

The orchard

Pick apples

The most classic fall outing there is, and still the best one with littles. Wide rows, a snack you pick yourself, and a cider donut as the reward for making it back to the car.

Tucky Tip

Go on a weekday morning for empty rows, bring a wagon for tired little legs, and call ahead: picking depends on the harvest.

☐ Done Date _____ ○○○○○

WHERE TO GO

Eckert's Orchard

VERSAILLES · ~50 MIN

U-pick apples in season, plus a playground, bakery, and an Orchard Market with apple cider donuts. Open Tue-Sun, 9am-6pm.

Evans Orchard & Cider Mill

GEORGETOWN · ~55 MIN

Limited U-pick apples this fall, plus the cider mill, cider donuts, fried apple pies, play area, and barnyard. Tue-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun noon-5pm.

Mulberry Orchard

SHELBYVILLE · ~1 HR 20 MIN

U-pick apples on weekends until the harvest is done, reached by wagon ride. Pumpkin patch wagon rides every weekend through Halloween, plus weekdays in October. $12 kids over 2, $10 adults.

Make it a day

PAIR IT WITH

Eckert's plus lunch in Versailles, Evans plus a stroll through downtown Georgetown, or Mulberry plus dinner in Shelbyville.



PHOTO · 02

Ainsley hugging a pumpkin bigger than her, corn maze behind

02

The patch

Pumpkins & corn mazes

Collect your pumpkins, get a little lost in the corn, and let the kids run until nap time arrives on its own. Most patches below include a pumpkin with admission.

Tucky Tip

Under five? Skip the full maze and spend your time in the play areas. Bring a wagon: pumpkins get heavy fast.

☐ Done Date _____ ○○○○○

WHERE TO GO

Daynabrook Farms

HARRODSBURG · THROUGH NOV 1

Corn maze, wagon ride, petting zoo, pedal cars, playgrounds, and a small zip line. $15 ages 3+, pumpkin included. Ride bracelet $5.

Middle Springs Farm

PARIS · WEEKENDS THROUGH NOV 1

Hayrides, corn maze, pumpkin patch, and sunflower and zinnia fields. The prettiest photo backdrop on this list.

Devine's Corn Maze & Pumpkin Patch

HARRODSBURG · THROUGH NOV 1

Petting zoo, a huge kids' play area, and a pumpkin with admission.

Eckert's Orchard

VERSAILLES

Pick-your-own pumpkins from mid September.

PHOTO · 03

boots crossing the metal bridge over the creek

03

Berea

Hike Brushy Fork

A forest trail right behind Berea College with a creek, a curved metal bridge, and loops short enough for small hikers.

Tucky Tip

For the easiest loop, start on the blue trail, cross on a black connector, and finish on the blue. Park in the Brushy Fork Park lot off Scaffold Cane Road.

~20 MIN FROM RICHMOND · FREE · LEASHED DOGS OK

☐ Done Date _____ ○○○○○

04

Slade

Chase leaves at Red River Gorge

The Gorge in full color is Kentucky showing off. Stick to short, family-friendly trails and make a day of it.

Tucky Tip

Peak color usually lands mid to late October. At Natural Bridge, the sky lift saves little legs for the fun part.

~1 HR FROM RICHMOND · GO EARLY ON WEEKENDS

☐ Done Date _____ ○○○○○

PHOTO · 04

wide shot of fall color from the sky lift or a ridge

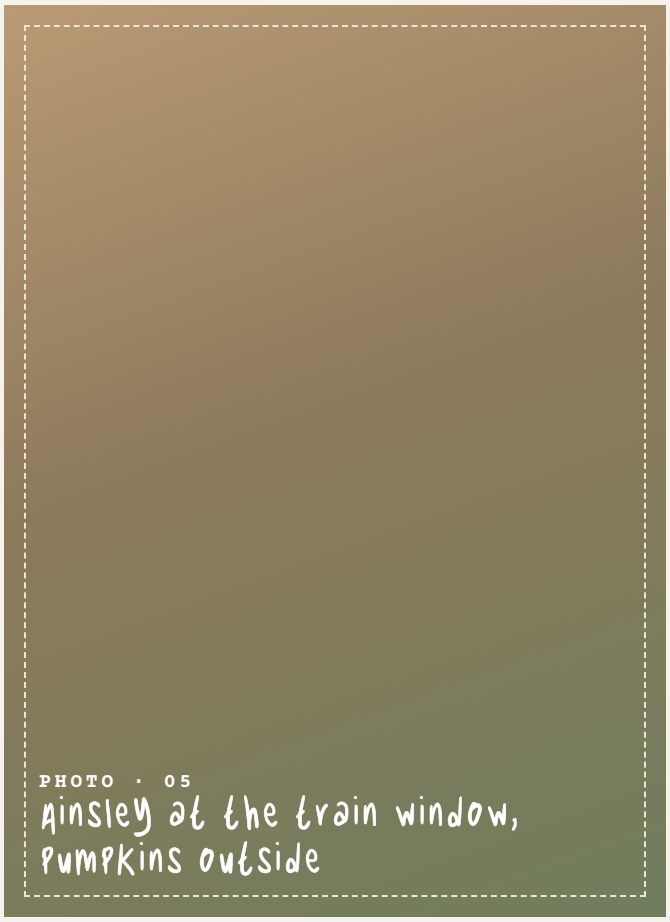


PHOTO · 05
Ainsley at the train window, pumpkins outside

05

Saturdays in October · Versailles

Ride the Pumpkin Express

All aboard for pumpkins. The Bluegrass Railroad Museum runs a fall train ride out to the patch, and for a train-obsessed toddler it doesn't get better.

Tucky Tip
Book ahead, bring a wagon for the pumpkin haul, and make it a Versailles day with lunch downtown.

~50 MIN FROM RICHMOND · BLUEGRASS RAILROAD MUSEUM

☐ Done Date _____ ○○○○○

06

Saturday, Oct 17 · Free

Richmond Kentucky Highland Games

Kilts, bagpipes, and grown men tossing tree trunks. It's free, it's local, and it's the most surprising Saturday on this list.

Tucky Tip
Events start at 11am. Bring a blanket and find a spot near the heavy athletics field.

MADISON COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS · 3237 OLD IRVINE RD

☐ Done Date _____ ○○○○○



PHOTO · 06
Kilts, bagpipes, a very impressed toddler

PHOTO · 07

costumed kid on a hay wagon, bonfire glow

07

Oct 23–24 · Harrodsburg

Trick or Treat at Shaker Village

Hayrides, bonfires, and a costume contest on one of the prettiest properties in the state. Trick or treating, but make it bougie.

Tucky Tip

Buy early bird tickets before Oct 19, and pack a warm layer to go over the costume.

~50 MIN FROM RICHMOND · LITTLE ONES 2 & UNDER FREE

☐ Done Date _____ ○○○○○

08

Thursday, Oct 29 · 6–8pm

Halloween Hoedown

Downtown Richmond turns into one big block party for the littles. Costumes strongly encouraged, dance moves optional.

Tucky Tip

Eat an early dinner downtown so you're already parked when it starts.

DOWNTOWN RICHMOND · HOSTED BY RICHMOND PARKS & REC

☐ Done Date _____ ○○○○○

PHOTO · 08

string lights downtown, tiny cowboy costume

PHOTO · 09

two glasses raised against the vineyard at sunset

09

Date night · Richmond

Golden hour at Chenault Vineyards

Our favorite grown-up plan close to home. A glass of Kentucky wine, a blanket, and a sky that does the rest.

Tucky Tip

Arrive an hour before sunset and bring a blanket for when the evening chill kicks in.

MADISON COUNTY · CHECK THE CALENDAR FOR LIVE MUSIC

☐ Done Date _____ ○○○○○

10

Versailles

A bougie day at The Kentucky Castle

Yes, Kentucky has a castle. Stroll the grounds, book a meal or a tour, and take the photo everyone will ask about.

Tucky Tip

Make it a Versailles day: castle in the morning, then lunch and a wander through Midway's main street nearby.

~45 MIN FROM RICHMOND · BOOK AHEAD

☐ Done Date _____ ○○○○○

PHOTO · 10

castle turrets framed by fall trees

BONUS PHOTO

the two of you on the rock at first light, wrapped in a blanket

BONUS · FOR THE GROWN-UPS

A romantic

Sunrise at the Pinnacles

Get a sitter, set an alarm you'll grumble at, and climb Berea's Pinnacles at first light. The sun comes up over the knobs, with the Bluegrass stretching north and the hills rolling off toward the Cumberland Plateau. Coffee from a thermos never tasted this good.

The route

East Pinnacle is the best pick for first-timers, about 1.8 miles on the trail. Trails are open dawn to dusk, every day of the year.

where to park

Main lot at 2047 Big Hill Rd, Berea. Free, with EV charging.

Tucky Tip

Trails open at dawn, so be at the lot at first light and hike up as the sky turns pink. Bring headlamps for the shady woods, a blanket, and a thermos. The top is rocky, so wear real shoes and watch the edges.

☐ Done Date _____ ○○○○○

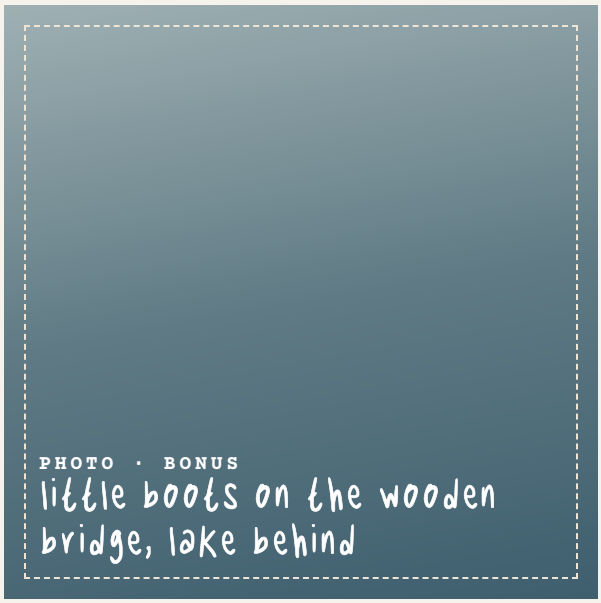


PHOTO · BONUS

little boots on the wooden bridge, lake behind

BONUS · FOR THE LITTLES

Scavenger hunt

I Spy at Camp Catalpa

A nature walk around Lake Reba in Richmond with an easy 2-mile loop. Print this page, grab a crayon, and check off everything you spot.

2200 CATALPA LOOP, RICHMOND · PLAYGROUND, SHELTERS, LAKE ACCESS

CREATURES

- [ ] **Orb weaver spider**
  look for the big round web, then look, don't touch
- [ ] **Great blue heron**
  tall, gray-blue, standing still by Lake Reba
- [ ] **A turtle on a log**
  sunny days, near the water's edge
- [ ] **A duck or goose**
  count how many you see
- [ ] **A woodpecker**
  listen for the tap-tap-tap first
- [ ] **A woolly worm or caterpillar**
  fuzzy friends crossing the path

PLACES & SOUNDS

- [ ] **The wooden bridge**
  stop in the middle and listen
- [ ] **The lake lookout**
  wave to the fishermen
- [ ] **Something that crunches**
  leaves, sticks or gravel
- [ ] **A bird singing**
  close your eyes to find it

PLANTS & TREASURES

- [ ] **Wildflower #1**
  try yellow goldenrod
- [ ] **Wildflower #2**
  try purple or white asters
- [ ] **Wildflower #3**
  any color you haven't found yet
- [ ] **Mushroom #1**
  eyes only, never touch
- [ ] **Mushroom #2**
  a different shape or color
- [ ] **A red, a yellow and an orange leaf**
  collect one of each
- [ ] **An acorn**
  bonus if it still has its cap
- [ ] **A leaf bigger than your hand**
  hold them up and compare

draw your favorite find

Tucky Tip

Littles don't need the whole loop. Walk out to the bridge and back, bring binoculars for the heron, and remember the rule: we look with our eyes, not our hands, for mushrooms and spiders.



FLAT LAY

the day bag: blanket, snacks, thermos, mittens

THE ESSENTIALS

The Fall Day Bag

- [ ] A picnic blanket that can get muddy
- [ ] One extra layer per kid (and one for you)
- [ ] Dry socks for after the creek
- [ ] Wipes, a trash bag, and hand warmers
- [ ] Snacks that survive a car seat
- [ ] A thermos of cider or coffee
- [ ] Cash for farm stands and parking

CAPTURE IT

The Fall Photo List

- [ ] Little boots in a leaf pile
- [ ] Holding up the biggest apple
- [ ] Peeking out of the corn maze
- [ ] Crossing a creek bridge
- [ ] The family, from behind, on a trail
- [ ] Costume on, cheeks red, cider in hand
- [ ] One of just the grown-ups

tag @thetucky so I can see!



DETAIL

leaf pile jump, mid-air

BACKGROUND PHOTO
pumpkin patch at golden hour

all month long

the fall staples you can do any weekend

How to read the next pages: LITTLES DATE NIGHT ALL AGES FREE ★ Tucky Pick

Devine's Corn Maze & Pumpkin Patch

HARRODSBURG

Through Nov 1 · Fri 6-10pm, Sat 10am-10pm, Sun 1-5pm · $14 ages 13+, $12 ages 3-12, pumpkin included. Skip the Field of Horror with littles.

Middle Springs Farm

PARIS

Weekends through Nov 1 · hayrides, corn maze, pumpkin patch, flower fields. The nighttime haunt is not for littles.

Evans Orchard & Cider Mill

GEORGETOWN

Tue-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun noon-5pm · limited U-pick apples, cider mill, donuts, play area, barnyard.

Pumpkin Express

VERSAILLES · BLUEGRASS RAILROAD MUSEUM

Saturdays in October · a train ride to the pumpkins. Toddler heaven.

Lexington Farmers Market

LEXINGTON · MAIN ST

Saturdays 8am-2pm · cider, mums, and the best fall produce.

Daynabrook Farms

HARRODSBURG

Through Nov 1 · $15 ages 3+, pumpkin included · corn maze, wagon ride, petting zoo, zip line.

Eckert's Orchard

VERSAILLES

Tue-Sun 9am-6pm · pumpkins, apples, cider donuts · haunted hayrides Fri & Sat nights.

Bi-Water Farm AutumnFest

GEORGETOWN

Through Oct 31 · corn maze, hayrides, petting zoo, zip lines, mini golf.

Shaker Village

HARRODSBURG

Tue-Sun 10am-5pm · $20 adults, 5 & under free · Spirit Strolls on select nights, $15, ages 16+ (date night).

Fall color hikes

BEREA PINNACLES · RAVEN RUN · RED RIVER GORGE

Free to low cost · peak color usually mid to late October.

our fall must-dos

BACKGROUND PHOTO
kick-off weekend mood shot

october 1-4

Kick-off weekend

Oct 1 — **Museum After Dark**
Frankfort · Capital City Museum
6-9pm · food trucks, vendor market, readers
DATE NIGHT

Oct 1-3 — **Bittersweet Festival**
Mt. Vernon · Main St
Parade Sat at noon · inflatables, kiddie rides, music
LITTLES · FREE

Oct 2 — **Freaky Flicks: Hocus Pocus**
Lexington · Masterson Station Park
6:30pm · outdoor movie, bring a picnic
LITTLES · FREE

Oct 2 — **Bourbon Street on Broadway**
Frankfort · downtown
6-9:30pm · stilt walkers, fire acts, Kids Zone
ALL AGES · FREE

Oct 2-4 — **Kentucky Heritage Jazz Festival**
Harrodsburg · Old Fort Harrod State Park
Live jazz all weekend · see site
DATE NIGHT

Oct 3 — **Millstone Festival**
Richmond · Main St downtown
11am-8pm · Richmond's big fall street festival
★ Tucky Pick · ALL AGES

Oct 3 — **Parktoberfest**
Lexington · Ashland, the Henry Clay Estate
2-8pm · free entry, beer garden, Kids Grove
ALL AGES · FREE

Oct 3 — **Bourbon on the Banks**
Frankfort · River View Park
Noon-6pm · 70+ distilleries · 21+
DATE NIGHT

Oct 3 — **Wilmore Arts & Crafts Festival**
Wilmore · E Main St
9am-4pm
ALL AGES

Oct 3 — **Guided Hike at the Pinnacles**
Berea · BC Forestry Outreach Center
1-3:30pm · peak-season views
ALL AGES · FREE

Oct 3-4 — **Pumpkin Jamboree at Eckert's**
Versailles · Eckert's Orchard
9am-6pm · patch, wagon rides, cider donuts
LITTLES

Oct 3-4 — **Wildside Crush Festival**
Versailles · Wildside Winery
Grape harvest celebration
DATE NIGHT

Oct 4 — **Family Nature Program: Owls**
Berea · BC Forestry Outreach Center
2-3pm
★ Tucky Pick · LITTLES · FREE

Oct 4 — **Community Fall Fest**
Lexington · Ashland Ave Baptist
4-7pm · hayrides, pumpkin painting, bonfire
LITTLES · FREE

Oct 4 — **Moonlight & Masquerade Arts Gala**
Richmond · EKU Center for the Arts
6-9pm · masks encouraged
DATE NIGHT

our plan this weekend

october 5-11

Fall break week

BACKGROUND PHOTO
fall break week mood shot

Oct 6-9
Fall Break at Eckert's
Versailles · Eckert's Orchard
9am-6pm · weekday farm fun
LITTLES

Oct 6-22
Murder & Mayhem Walking Tour
Frankfort · downtown
Oct 6, 13, 20, 22 · 7:30pm · $25 · 15+
DATE NIGHT

Oct 8
Fall Break Hike
Berea · BC Forestry Outreach Center
10:30am-12:30pm · guided
ALL AGES · FREE

Oct 9
Witches Night Out
Frankfort · downtown Broadway
6:30-10pm · cocktail stroll, live music
DATE NIGHT

Oct 9
Chris Janson at The Vine
Richmond · Chenault Vineyards
6:30pm · country concert at the vineyard
★ Tucky Pick · DATE NIGHT

Oct 9
Freaky Flicks: Beetlejuice Beetlejuice
Lexington · Masterson Station Park
6:30pm · rated PG-13
FREE

Oct 10
South Elkhorn Fall Festival
Lexington · South Elkhorn Christian Church
9am-4pm · 170+ handmade craft booths
ALL AGES · FREE

Oct 10
Beaumont Presbyterian Fall Festival
Lexington
2-6pm · games, food trucks, market
LITTLES · FREE

Oct 10
Whimsical Woods: The Moss People
Berea · BC Forestry Outreach Center
1-3pm · storybook nature program
★ Tucky Pick · LITTLES · FREE

Oct 10
Gray Lady Ghost Tour
Frankfort · Liberty Hall
7pm · a Frankfort legend
DATE NIGHT

Oct 10
Rocket Man Show
Mt. Vernon · Renfro Valley
8pm · Elton John tribute · from $34
DATE NIGHT

Oct 10-11
Pumpkin Festival
Versailles · Wildside Winery
Sat noon-7pm, Sun noon-5pm · pumpkins, mums, music
ALL AGES · FREE

Oct 11
Chenault Farmers Market Finale
Richmond · Chenault Vineyards
1-4pm · last market of the season
ALL AGES

our plan this weekend

october 12-18

The big weekend

BACKGROUND PHOTO
the big weekend mood shot

Oct 14
Discover Trees
Lexington · Marksbury Library
4pm · ages 5-11
LITTLES · FREE

Oct 16
Movie Night: Toy Story 5
Lexington · Gatton Park
6pm · outdoor screening
★ Tucky Pick · LITTLES · FREE

Oct 16
Night at the Park
Georgetown · Scott County Community Park
7pm · stargazing stations
ALL AGES · FREE

Oct 16-17
Downtown Art Gallop
Georgetown · historic downtown
Fri 5-8pm, Sat 9am-noon · art walk
ALL AGES

Oct 16-17
Mary Queen Fall Festival
Lexington
4-11pm · games, inflatables, music
LITTLES

Oct 17
Richmond Kentucky Highland Games
Richmond · Madison County Fairgrounds
From 11am · caber toss, pipers, dancing
★ Tucky Pick · ALL AGES · FREE

Oct 17-18
Fall Art Market
Berea · Kentucky Artisan Center
10am-5pm · juried art and craft, demos
ALL AGES · FREE

Oct 17
Tree Week Saturday
Lexington Arboretum 10am-5pm · EKU in Richmond 1pm
Crafts, pumpkin decorating, tree climbing
LITTLES · FREE

Oct 17
Woodland Triangle Witchfest
Lexington · E High St
Makers market, costume contest, crafts
ALL AGES · FREE

Oct 17
Haunting on the Hill
Frankfort · Fort Hill
5pm · trick-or-treat trail
LITTLES · FREE

Oct 17
Wicked Wines & High Spirits
Harrodsburg · Logan Vineyards
Wineries, distillers, food trucks
DATE NIGHT

Oct 18
Storytime Under the Trees
Lexington · Windy Corner Market
9:30-10:30am · leaf rubbing craft
LITTLES · FREE

our plan this weekend

BACKGROUND PHOTO
costume week mood shot

october 19-25

Costume week

Oct 19 — **Last day: Shaker early bird tickets**
Harrodsburg · shakervillageky.org
Save on Trick or Treat tickets
LITTLES

Oct 22 — **A Treat to Die For**
Frankfort · Liberty Hall
7pm · murder mystery dinner · $45
DATE NIGHT

Oct 23 — **Dunbar Fall Festival**
Lexington · Dunbar Community Center
6-8pm · candy, face painting, bounce house
LITTLES FREE

Oct 23 — **Ricky Skaggs & Kentucky Thunder**
Mt. Vernon · Renfro Valley
8pm · bluegrass legend
DATE NIGHT

Oct 23-24 — **Trick or Treat at Shaker Village**
Harrodsburg · Shaker Village
4:30-7pm · $10 early, $12 day of · 2 & under free
★ Tucky Pick LITTLES

Oct 24 — **Thriller Trick or Treat**
Frankfort · Broadway & St. Clair
5-8pm · treats, face painting, Thriller parade
LITTLES FREE

Oct 24 — **Ginkgo Galore**
Wilmore · E Main St
8am-8pm · free arts + music, kids' games
ALL AGES FREE

Oct 24 — **Carve'n Chip'n**
Lexington · McConnell Springs
1pm · bring a pumpkin, tools provided
LITTLES FREE

Oct 24 — **Pumpkin Carving at Raven Run**
Lexington · Raven Run
1pm · $8, register online
LITTLES

Oct 24 — **Kiwanis Trunk or Treat**
Paris
5-7pm
LITTLES

Oct 24-25 — **Witches & Wine Festival**
Versailles · Wildside Winery
Free · costumes, vendors, music, kids welcome
DATE NIGHT FREE

Oct 25 — **Halloween Festival & Thriller Parade**
Lexington · Courthouse Plaza
4:30pm show, 6:30pm parade, 7pm Thriller
ALL AGES FREE

our plan this weekend

october 26-31

Halloween week

BACKGROUND PHOTO
halloween week mood shot

Oct 27-30 — **Jack-o-Lantern Trail**
Lexington · McConnell Springs
6:30-10pm · $6, 12 & under free · campfires
★ Tucky Pick · LITTLES

Oct 29 — **Halloween Hoedown**
Richmond · Main St downtown
6-8pm · our hometown favorite
★ Tucky Pick · LITTLES · FREE

Oct 30 — **Downtown Spooktacular**
Georgetown · historic downtown
10am-noon · daytime trick-or-treat
LITTLES · FREE

Oct 31 — **Spooky Time on Main**
Nicholasville · Main St
6-8pm · Thriller dance at 6 and 7
LITTLES · FREE

Oct 31 — **Lexington Trick-or-Treat**
Lexington · citywide
Official hours 6-8pm
LITTLES · FREE

Oct 31 — **Besom Broom Workshop**
Harrodsburg · Shaker Village
12:30-5pm · $105 · ages 14+
DATE NIGHT

our plan this weekend

PRINT ME · STICK ME ON THE FRIDGE

Our Fall Bucket List

check it off, then rate it in cardinals

01	☐	Pick apples Eckert's, Evans or Mulberry Orchard	○○○○○
02	☐	Pumpkins & a corn maze Daynabrook, Middle Springs, Devine's	○○○○○
03	☐	Hike Brushy Fork Berea · blue trail loop	○○○○○
04	☐	Chase leaves at Red River Gorge Peak mid to late Oct	○○○○○
05	☐	Ride the Pumpkin Express Saturdays in Oct · Versailles	○○○○○
06	☐	Richmond Highland Games Saturday, Oct 17 · free	○○○○○
07	☐	Trick or Treat at Shaker Village Oct 23-24	○○○○○
08	☐	Halloween Hoedown Thursday, Oct 29 · downtown Richmond	○○○○○
09	☐	Golden hour at Chenault Vineyards Date night	○○○○○
10	☐	A bougie day at The Kentucky Castle Versailles	○○○○○
★	☐	Bonus: Sunrise at the Pinnacles Berea · East Pinnacle	○○○○○
★	☐	Bonus: I Spy at Camp Catalpa Richmond · Lake Reba loop	○○○○○

ADD YOUR OWN



THANKS FOR EXPLORING WITH US

See you out there.

New Kentucky finds every week: toddler-tested trails, date nights, festivals, and weekends worth the drive. Send this guide to your fall crew and tag us on your adventures.

@thetucky

COLLABS & FEATURES · JULIANNE.CREATOR@GMAIL.COM

traveling like a local, living like a tourist

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