



OCTOBER 2-3, 2026

2026 INFORMATION TOOL KIT





**OCTOBER
2&3, 2026**

**COUNTRY
CALLING**

**OCEAN CITY
MARYLAND**



FRIDAY

LAINY WILSON

RASCAL FLATTS • DIERKS BENTLEY

RUSSELL DICKERSON • TRAVIS TRITT

MITCHELL TENPENNY • WYATT FLORES

KAITLIN BUTTS • REDFERRIN • NOELINE HOFMANN

WADE FORSTER • ELIJAH SCOTT • BELLES

SATURDAY

CHRIS STAPLETON

MIRANDA LAMBERT

BROTHERS OSBORNE • DUSTIN LYNCH

CHARLEY CROCKETT • CLAY WALKER

JACKSON DEAN • RODNEY ATKINS • CARTER FAITH

TYLER NANCE • THE JACK WHARFF BAND • JIMMY CHARLES • SONS OF HABIT



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EVENT TIMELINE



September 14, 2026

The Inlet Parking Lot will be closed to the public beginning Wednesday, September 15, through Friday, October 9, 2026.

****There are some evening hours during the October Cruisin' event****

September 15, 2026

The municipal parking at N. Division Street will be closed to the public. This will serve as an active "construction" crossing point until Saturday, October 10th.

The Beach at N. Division Street/Caroline Street and east of the Inlet Parking Lot will be closed to the public.

September 17, 2026

All of the beach areas south of N. Division Street will be closed to the public.

Please Note: Fencing will go up with a gate during the time leading up to the event. The gates will remain open until the night before the festival.

October 1, 2026

The Boardwalk from N. Division Street South is anticipated to close to the public around 10:30 p.m.

October 2-3, 2026

The festival hours:
Friday 12 pm to 11 pm
Saturday 12 pm to 11 pm

October 4, 2026

The Boardwalk will be reopened to the public by 6 a.m.

THE BEACH REOPENING

The Beach will open in stages as areas are cleaned and deemed safe for public use on or before October 9, 2026.

COUNTRY CALLING BOX OFFICE HOURS

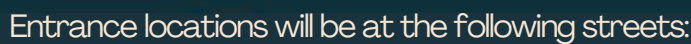
The box office is located on the beach between 1st St and 2nd St, across from the Plim Plaza Hotel.

Thursday, October 1: 1 PM - 7 PM

Friday, October 2: 10 AM - 9 PM

Saturday, October 3: 11 AM - 9 PM

The Country Calling Festival will be held on the beach near the Ocean City Inlet, located at 809 South Atlantic Ave, Ocean City, MD 21842. The festival grounds will include the south end of the Boardwalk (Atlantic Ave) and Boardwalk businesses. Therefore, they will not be open to the general public during the festival weekend.



- North Beach (between 1st Street and N. Division Street on the beach).
- N. Division Street
- Caroline Street **for Ultimate, Bungalows, Platinum, and VIP guests only*
- Talbot Street
- Somerset Street
- Wicomico Street
- Worcester Street
- S. Division Street

GETTING TO THE FESTIVAL & PARKING

FESTIVAL GOERS

- **Parking:** West OC Park & Ride, Convention Center, or 100th St. Municipal Lot.
- **Transit:** Beach Bus (\$4 ride-all-day, 6 a.m.–2 a.m., express service) or West OC Shuttle from Park & Ride.
- Bus fare is free for kids under 42”
- **Walking/Biking/Scooting:** We encourage walking, biking, or riding your scooter! You'll find bike racks at 2nd & 3rd Street (*be sure to bring a lock*). If you're walking from 27th St., it takes about 40 minutes to reach the entrance. **Note:** Class 2 & 3 e-bikes are not allowed on the Boardwalk.

RESIDENTS & BUSINESSES

- **Parking Restrictions:** No street parking on ocean blocks south of N. Division St., Sept 22-Oct 6. Vehicles in violation will be towed to the Ocean City Police Department.
- **Access:** Deliveries and employees allowed through secure checkpoints. Private lots remain accessible.

ACCESSIBILITY

- **ADA Parking:** Available at all municipal lots.
- **Drop-off/Pick-up:** 101 Worcester St.
- **Transit:** All municipal buses are ADA accessible.



QUICK FACTS

- After 8 p.m., vehicles can't access areas south of N. Division St.
- Rideshares pick up and drop-off at the 4th Street Municipal Lot



TRAFFIC & ROAD CLOSURES

ALL TRAFFIC PATTERNS AND CLOSURES ARE SCHEDULED TO OCCUR AT 8 P.M. EACH OF THE FESTIVAL DAYS

TRAFFIC & ROAD CHANGES

- St. Louis Ave (southbound): Restricted to emergency vehicles, residents, and employees of downtown businesses.
 - Southbound traffic on St. Louis Ave will be directed to 2nd Street → Philadelphia Ave.
- US Rt. 50 → Philadelphia Ave (south turn lane): Restricted to emergency, mass transit, and residents only.
 - Traffic will be diverted onto N. Division St. → northbound Baltimore Ave.
- Baltimore Ave:
 - Left lane – open to vehicles
 - Middle lane – buses only
 - Right lane – safety access only
- Inlet Lot: Closed from September 14, 2026 through October 9, 2026.



👉 **Tip:** Expect delays when leaving the festival. Enjoy the Boardwalk or support local downtown businesses while traffic clears.

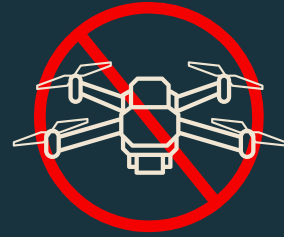
PARKING RESTRICTIONS

- Starting Tuesday, Sept. 22, 2026: No Parking on the ocean blocks of Caroline, Talbot, Wicomico, and S. Division Streets.
 - Vehicles parked here will be towed to OCPD (6501 Coastal Hwy).
 - Private driveways and private lots remain accessible for residents and employees.

MUNICIPAL PARKING CLOSURES

- N. Division Street Lot closed to the public from Sept. 14 – Oct. 9, 2026 (festival loading zone).
- Whiteside Lot will be closed to the public from Sept. 14 to Oct. 9, 2026.
- Worcester Street Lot will be closed to the public from Sept. 14 to Oct. 14, 2026.
- 4th Street Municipal Lot will be the Rideshare drop-off/pick-up only for the festival weekend.

NO DRONE ZONE



Temporary Drone Flight Restriction in Effect

For the safety of festivalgoers, residents, businesses, and the community, a Temporary Flight Restriction (TFR) for drones will be in effect during the 2026 Country Calling Festival.

When:

October 2 & 3, 2026
11 a.m. to midnight each day

Where:

The restriction covers a one-nautical-mile radius around the intersection of Baltimore Avenue and Somerset Street in downtown Ocean City.

In simple terms, no drones may be flown within a one-nautical-mile circle around this location during the restricted hours. The restriction extends from the ground up to 400 feet above ground level.

The restriction is being established under federal law to protect large public gatherings and help prevent unsafe or unlawful drone activity during the festival.

The Temporary Flight Restriction is being implemented at the request of the Ocean City Police Department through the Maryland State Police. Local and federal law enforcement partners will strictly enforce the restriction.

To learn more, visit the [official FAA page](#).

OCTOBER
2&3, 2026

COUNTRY CALLING

OCEAN CITY
MARYLAND

NO DRONE ZONE

— Keep the country music playing, —
★ THE GOOD VIBES FLOWING, AND THE SKIES DRONE-FREE. ★



WHEN

October 2–3, 2026
11 a.m. to midnight each day



WHERE

1 nautical mile radius around
the intersection of Baltimore Ave.
& Somerset St. (Downtown Ocean City)



WHY

To protect large public gatherings
and prevent any unlawful and unsafe
drone activity during the festival.



ENFORCEMENT

Implemented by the Maryland State Police at the request of the Ocean City Police Department.
Local and federal law enforcement partners will strictly enforce the restriction.



OFFICIAL FAA DESCRIPTION

1 NM radius of 381946N0750514W
(ATR177029.4), SFC–400 ft AGL

KEEP THE MUSIC PLAYING, THE GOOD VIBES FLOWING, AND THE SKIES DRONE-FREE.

SIGN UP FOR PRESALE PASSCODE
COUNTRYCALLINGFESTIVAL.COM

YOU'VE ASKED & WE'VE LISTENED!

OUR TOP FAQ'S

CAN I ACCESS THE BOARDWALK IF I AM NOT ATTENDING THE FESTIVAL?

You can mosey down the Boardwalk (Atlantic Ave) from 27th Street to North Division Street, which stays open to everyone. The south end, including those businesses, is part of the festival grounds, so only ticket holders can enter that area during the weekend.

WILL THERE BE TRAFFIC?

Expect a steady flow of folks and cars, especially after the festival winds down. We'll set up new traffic patterns, extra walkways, and plenty of Beach Buses along Baltimore Avenue. To steer clear of the jam, take a stroll on the Boardwalk or pop into a nearby shop outside the festival zone.

WHERE CAN I PARK?

Downtown parking will be mighty scarce during festival weekend. Best bet is to hop on public transit, share a ride, or hoof it if you can.

WILL THERE BE HANDICAPPED PARKING?

101 Worcester Street (the Worcester Street Municipal Lot) is set aside for drop-off and pick-up for folks with disabilities. All open city lots have ADA spots, and our Beach Buses are wheelchair-friendly too.

IF I LIVE AND/OR WORK DOWNTOWN, HOW DO I GET TO MY JOB OR RESIDENCE AFTER THE TRAFFIC PATTERN STARTS?

If you live or work inside the festival grounds and need to get downtown after 8 p.m., head to St. Louis Ave at 2nd Street. Ocean City Police will be there to lend a hand. Buses, emergency vehicles, locals, and business customers can keep going south—everyone else gets routed toward Philadelphia Ave instead.

BUSINESSES FAQ

CAN I STILL RECEIVE DELIVERIES DURING THE FESTIVAL?

Yes, you can still receive deliveries. We suggest that you contact your scheduled delivery companies to inform them that additional time will be required to access the festival area.

HOW DO MY EMPLOYEES GET TO WORK IF OUR BUSINESS IS ON THE FESTIVAL GROUNDS?

If your business is within the festival grounds, please remind employees to factor in additional time to get to work. Employees will not be able to access your business through backdoors. To ensure the safety of employees and participants, everyone must pass through a secure checkpoint. Credentialed employees should use the closest entrance to your business to minimize having to fight through the festival crowd.

WHERE DO MY EMPLOYEES PARK?

Employees will be able to utilize your designated/private parking lots. If employees typically park within the ocean block (10 blocks), they will need to find the next available parking area. Street parking within the ocean block (10 blocks) from N. Division South will be prohibited.

HOW WILL PATRONS AND EMPLOYEES GET TO MY ESTABLISHMENT IF WE ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THE FESTIVAL GROUNDS?

If your business is outside the festival grounds, it's business as usual. Just know downtown parking will be tight all weekend, so plan ahead.

WILL THE TRAFFIC PATTERNS AFFECT MY COMMUTE TO WORK?

New traffic rules kick in at 8 p.m. and last 'til the festival's over. Expect a steady stream of folks and cars all day. Head out early, have a parking plan, and keep an eye out for everyone sharing the road.

Reminder: Please do not allow individuals to enter the concert venue through rear or side doors of your business. Entry without a valid ticket is trespassing and subject to arrest. More importantly, bypassing security poses a serious safety risk to concertgoers, performers, and the boardwalk community. Ensure all rear and side doors remain secured as exit-only.



PUBLIC SAFETY FAQ

IS IT SAFE TO VISIT OCEAN CITY WITH SUCH A LARGE EVENT HAPPENING?

Ocean City is a great destination for families, and it's safe to visit Ocean City and the Boardwalk. The Town of Ocean City has been diligently planning for the Country Calling Festival to ensure the event is safe and enjoyable for the participants, businesses, and residents. Residents and Visitors can expect the same level of enforcement and presence of law enforcement personnel they are accustomed to.

WILL THERE BE ENOUGH POLICE OFFICERS TO HANDLE THE EVENT?

The Ocean City Police Department is fully committed to ensuring the safety and security of the Country Calling Festival. We are prepared to assist with the festival, and several seasonal personnel are still employed with our agency. A security company will be stationed within the venue, allowing our officers to remain available for calls for service. We will also have a full complement of law enforcement personnel in the downtown area to assist with traffic congestion and pedestrian crossings.

WILL THERE BE ISSUES WITH TRAFFIC BACK-UPS?

Traffic congestion should be minimal throughout the day. The festival takes place from 12 p.m. to 11 p.m. each day. We anticipate that festivalgoers will filter in throughout the day. The majority of the traffic congestion is anticipated after the festival. We will have an alternate traffic pattern established to allow for additional pedestrian walkways, and the ability to stage multiple Beach Buses along Baltimore Ave for those wishing to take the bus back.

To avoid the congestion, take a stroll along the Ocean City Boardwalk or visit a downtown business outside of the festival footprint.

ARE THEIR SAFETY MEASURES IN PLACE AT THE FESTIVAL?

Safety is our first priority. The Town of Ocean City has worked closely with event organizers to ensure the safest possible experience for residents and visitors. For the safety of everyone entering the festival, all fans are subject to a full and complete airport-style search prior to entry. While inside the festival, remember: You're the eyes and ears of the festival. If you see something suspicious, say something.

AM I ALLOWED TO FLY MY DRONE AT THE FESTIVAL?

No. A Temporary Flight Restriction (TFR) will be in effect during the 2026 Country Calling Festival. You may not fly drones within the restricted area from October 2-3, 2026, between 11 a.m. and midnight each day. The restriction covers a 1-nautical-mile radius around Baltimore Avenue and Somerset Street in downtown Ocean City and extends from the ground up to 400 feet above ground level. Always check the FAA NOTAM for the official TFR boundaries, dates, and times.

The restriction protects festivalgoers and the community and prevents unsafe or unlawful drone activity. Local and federal law enforcement partners will strictly enforce the restriction.

TRANSPORTATION FAQ



WILL THE BEACH BUS BE RUNNING ITS NORMAL SCHEDULE?

No. The *Beach Bus will operate in a reduced-stop, express service* during the festival weekend.

- **Southbound:** 144th St (North Transit Station), 142nd, 139th, 137th, 131st, 130th, 126th, 123rd, 121st, 118th, 115th, 107th, 100th / Old Landing Rd, 99th, 94th, 85th, 82nd, 78th, 71st, 67th, 65th, 61st, 56th, 49th, 45th, 43rd, 41st, 37th, 32nd, 30th, 27th, 26th, 21st, 17th, 14th, 8th, and 3rd.
- **Northbound:** Talbot (i.e. festival entrance), 8th, 13th, 18th, 21st, 23rd, 26th, 33rd, 39th, 46th, 48th, 54th, 59th, 67th, 74th, 80th, 86th, 92nd, 100th / Old Landing Rd, 107th, 115th, 123rd, 130th, 135th, 139th, 144th (North Transit Station).
- Some stops will be **inactive and covered**. Please walk to the nearest active stop.
- 👉 Altogether, that makes 61 active stops on the Oceans Calling express Beach Bus route

Leaving the festival: Catch the northbound Beach Bus on Baltimore Ave. between Wicomico St. and Talbot St.

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO RIDE THE BEACH BUS?

- Standard Fare: \$4 Ride-All-Day
- Half Fare (\$2): Seniors (65+), Disabled Persons, and Medicare card holders.
- Free: Children under 42", ADA Certified Disabled card holders, and OC Resident Senior Bus Pass holders

👉 *Exact cash or a prepaid photo ID General Bus Pass (from City Hall) is required. Proof of eligibility may be requested.*

WHAT ABOUT THE WEST OCEAN CITY PARK & RIDE SHUTTLE?

- Operated by an outside provider.
- Tickets are sold at OC Transportation ticket booths (Bus Terminal buildings).
- Tickets must be presented when boarding.

Festival pick-up location (after concerts): South Terminal Bus Station (South Division St.).

TRANSPORTATION FAQ

WHERE CAN I BE DROPPED OFF IF I USE A RIDESHARE OR TAXI?

- Official location: 409 Baltimore Ave. (4th St. Municipal Lot)
- Walking distance: ~5–10 minutes to the festival grounds.
- Expect high demand after concerts. Consider leaving a little early or enjoying the boardwalk while the rush clears.

ARE THERE OTHER TRANSIT OPTIONS?

- *OC Bay Hopper Water Taxi*: Hop-on at 118th St. Kiosk, Ocean Pines Yacht Club, OC Convention Center, and West Ocean City. Tickets online.
- *Hotel Shuttles*: Some hotels may offer courtesy shuttles (drop-off at Somerset St., two blocks from the venue). Check with your hotel.

CAN I WALK, BIKE, OR RIDE MY SCOOTER TO THE FESTIVAL?

Yes, it is highly encouraged.

- Walking times (to Main Entrance):
 - 40th St: ~55 min
 - 30th St: ~45 min
 - 20th St: ~30 min
 - 10th St: ~15 min
- From West OC Park & Ride: ~20 min walk / 8 min bike
- Bike/Scooter parking: Available off the boardwalk between 2nd & 3rd St. *Don't forget to bring your own lock.*
- Rentals: Bike World, Dandy Don's, Big Jim's Bikes, Cycle City

IS TRANSPORTATION ADA-ACCESSIBLE?

Yes. Full ADA parking and entry information is available in the ADA Getting Here Guide.

✓ **Festival Tip:** Plan ahead! Whether you bus, bike, walk, or take a rideshare, give yourself extra travel time, especially when concerts end.

BOARDWALK FAQ

WILL THE BOARDWALK BE OPEN TO NON-FESTIVAL GOERS?

You bet! The Boardwalk (Atlantic Ave.) from 27th Street to North Division Street stays open for everyone all festival weekend long.

- South of North Division Street is festival territory, only folks with a ticket can mosey in during festival hours 12 p.m.–11:00 p.m., October 2-3, 2026.

CAN I USE MY FESTIVAL WRISTBAND AT BOARDWALK BUSINESSES?

Nope. Boardwalk shops run their own show and take their usual payments. Festival wristbands just work with festival vendors.

CAN I RIDE MY BICYCLE ON THE BOARDWALK?

Yes! Bicycles are allowed at all times on the Boardwalk. Riding is a great way to avoid traffic.

- Bike parking: Between 2nd & 3rd Streets on the beach (bring your own lock).
- Note: Class 2 & 3 e-bikes are not permitted on the Boardwalk.
- Bicycles are not allowed inside the festival grounds.

ARE DOGS ALLOWED ON THE BOARDWALK?

Dogs are welcome on the Boardwalk and Beach from October 1 to April 30, but pets can't join you inside the festival. Service animals, such as working dogs or miniature horses, are always welcome. Use the accessible lane at either entrance.

CAN I HAVE ALCOHOL ON THE BOARDWALK?

No. Open containers and alcohol consumption are prohibited by town ordinance outside festival grounds.

- Alcohol may be purchased and consumed within the festival grounds only (some restrictions apply).
- Please drink responsibly and be sure you've got a safe ride home when the party's over.

CAN WE STAY ON THE BEACH AFTER THE FESTIVAL ENDS?

Festival grounds (and the businesses inside) close up at 11:30 p.m. sharp each night.

- The beach shuts down at midnight for cleaning, so don't linger too long after the music stops.
- Sleeping on the beach is prohibited.
- If you're not ready to call it a night, wander the Boardwalk or check out nearby shops outside the festival zone.

 **Festival Tip:** The Boardwalk's for everyone, let's keep it clean, safe, and downright welcoming all weekend long!

FESTIVAL GOERS FAQ

WHAT IS THE BAG POLICY AT COUNTRY CALLING?

- ALL bags will be searched before entry.
- Small clutch purses and fanny packs that are 6" x 9" or smaller do not need to be clear, but can have no more than one pocket.
- All other bags larger than 6" x 9" must be smaller than 12" x 6" x 12" and clear.
- Hydration packs are allowed and do not need to be clear, but must be emptied of all liquid and have no more than two pockets in addition to the one holding the water reservoir.



WHAT ITEMS ARE ALLOWED INSIDE THE FESTIVAL?

All guests and belongings are subject to search.

- Help speed up entry by leaving large bags at home.
- A full list of allowed and prohibited items is available here: [Country Calling Festival Allowed/Prohibited Items](#).

ARE LOCKERS AVAILABLE FOR RENT?

Yes! Lockers are available and can be reserved in advance of the festival. [Click here to reserve yours](#).

CAN I LEAVE AND RE-ENTER ON THE SAME DAY?

Yes. Festivalgoers may leave and re-enter freely until 7 PM each day.

- Each re-entry requires scanning your wristband and passing through security.

WHAT IF MY WRISTBAND IS LOST, DAMAGED, OR TOO TIGHT?

Replacement is available, but it is subject to verification.

- Please bring your wristband (if applicable), your order confirmation, and a valid government-issued ID to the Box Office.
- A \$20 replacement fee will apply.



FRIDAY OCTOBER 2, 2026

BOOT PRESENTED BY
VERIZON

SCOOT

BOOGIE PRESENTED BY
RAKUTEN

	★ ★ ★ DOORS OPEN AT 12:00 PM ★ ★ ★	
12PM		
1PM		12:30-1:15 ELIJAH SCOTT
2PM	1:15-2:00 WADE FORSTER	1:15-2:00 BELLES 
3PM		2:00-3:00 NOELINE HOFMANN
4PM	3:00-4:00 KAITLIN BUTTS	3:00-4:00 REDFERRIN
5PM		4:00-5:00 MITCHELL TENPENNY
6PM	5:00-6:00 WYATT FLORES	5:00-6:00 TRAVIS TRITT 
7PM		6:00-7:00 RUSSELL DICKERSON
8PM	7:00-8:15 RASCAL FLATTS 	
9PM		8:15-9:30 DIERKS BENTLEY 
10PM	9:30-11:00 LAINEY WILSON 	
11PM		
	★ ★ ★ CURFEW AT 11:00 PM ★ ★ ★	



ARTISTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. CHECK WEBSITE FOR LATEST.  = ASL INTERPRETED PERFORMANCES



SATURDAY
OCTOBER 3, 2026

BOOT PRESENTED BY
VERIZON

SCOOT

BOOGIE PRESENTED BY
RAKUTEN

12PM

★ ★ ★ DOORS OPEN AT 12:00 PM ★ ★ ★

1PM

12:30-1:15
SONS OF HABIT

2PM

1:15-2:00
JIMMY CHARLES

1:15-2:00
THE JACK WHARFF BAND

3PM

2:00-3:00
TYLER NANCE

4PM

3:00-4:00
CARTER FAITH

3:00-4:00
RODNEY ATKINS

5PM

4:00-5:00
JACKSON DEAN

6PM

5:00-6:00
CHARLEY CROCKETT

5:00-6:00
CLAY WALKER

7PM

6:00-7:00
DUSTIN LYNCH

8PM

7:00-8:15
BROTHERS OSBORNE 

9PM

8:15-9:30
MIRANDA LAMBERT 

10PM

9:30-11:00
CHRIS STAPLETON 

11PM

★ ★ ★ CURFEW AT 11:00 PM ★ ★ ★

ARTISTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. CHECK WEBSITE FOR LATEST.  = ASL INTERPRETED PERFORMANCES



RESOURCES

[Country Calling Festival Website](#)

[Festival Map](#)

[Downtown Map](#)

[Getting To & Around the Festival Map](#)

[Allowed/prohibited items](#)

SOCIAL MEDIA

Stick around and keep those Country Calling good times rollin'! Give us a follow so you don't miss a beat, y'all!

[Ocean City Police Department Facebook](#)

[Town of Ocean City Facebook](#)

[Country Calling Facebook](#)

[Don't forget to download the festival mobile app!](#)

QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS?

Public safety is a shared responsibility. If you have questions or concerns about public safety, traffic, or information contained in this toolkit, please contact :

OCPD Deputy Communications Manager Ashley Miller at
443-235-4420 or amiller@oceancitymd.gov

