

RURAL TEXAS TOURISM LLC

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*The Fayette County Fair in La Grange Returns
Ready to Make New Memories for All Ages
Thursday, August 28-Sunday, August 31*



The Fayette County Fair (held from Thursday, August 28 through Sunday, August 31 in La Grange) is indeed a living legacy in itself. For 87 glorious years carnivals and clowns, cook-offs and culinary delights with creative competitive venues, livestock and local talent, magical music and making memories, exhibitions and entertainment, pageant and parade, food and fun--all have delighted audiences. And it's not enough to brag about the entertainment line-up although the presence of Merle Haggard, Kevin Fowler, Anthony Moreno Band, Robbie Wooten Band, The Czechaholics, The Triumphs, Texas Dutchmen, Wayne Toups, D'Vine Testament, Abigail Taylor, Boogie Allen, Robert Zentek, Barney Sledge & the Sledgehammers, and Chris Rybak all in one place is enough

to "stun" any visitor. There's that valuable array of history, traditions, and memories that bring out the best in this incredible annual event held at the Fayette County Fairgrounds (always the weekend before Labor Day).

The Fayette County Fair was organized in the 1920's by a group of visionaries in the area who were determined to cultivate unity, hospitality, and prosperity in a single festival with multiple events. Needless to say, they've succeeded gloriously for 87 years with the driving force of festivity, tradition, and competition their mainstay.

And it brings out the country in everyone. Expect to see livestock exhibits, poultry, rabbit, game birds, pigeon horse, goat, lamb, and heifers from the area on exhibit depicting the rural farming and ranching communities that have shaped this County for the last 175+ years. And, some of the competitive exhibitions include: Memorable Collections, Photography, Quilting, Crafts, 4-H, Fine Arts, Ceramics, Needlepoint, Canning, Culinary, Collectibles, Scrapbooks, Clothing and Educational—all part of the fabric that weaves the cultures of Fayette County. This is an event for all ages that will keep folks busy and happy for a nominal fee—AND it's for the sake of scholarships (a definite win-win). If you can make it or raise it, there's probably a category for it!

As the visitors work up an appetite, they won't have far to go as many of those "local booths" are non-profit organizations serving up their yummiest to provide scholarships right back into the community for the area youth. Cuisine to resolve your appetite will include: chicken fried steak burgers, French fries, tea, drinks (Fayetteville Show Fund), gorditas, cheese enchiladas, fajitas, tacos, flauta, quesadillas, grilled chicken salad, fruit cups, fruit drinks (Lerma's Tacos), pizza (Pizza Hut), canned beer (La Grange Optimist Club), hamburgers, cheese burgers, drinks (La Grange Rotary Club), beer, wine coolers, frozen margaritas (Schulenburg Lions Club), funnel cakes, curly fries, fried twinkles, oreos, snickers, drinks (Old Time Funnel Cakes), ice cream, drinks, cappuccinos, slush, smoothies, lemonade (Toms Ice Cream), roasted corn on the cob (Breska's Roasted Corn), hot dogs, chili dogs, corn dogs, nachos, shaved ice, drinks (Dolly Dryden), bbq ribs, brisket, pork, beans, potato salad, bbq tacos, baked potatoes, drinks, turkey legs (Doc's BBQ), and sausage wraps, grilled chicken on a stick, chips, soft drinks, and water (Dave's Kitchen). It's absolute--food will be available!!

Expect to see loads of kids activities throughout the days including the ever popular carnival and the Exotic Petting Zoo (a favorite with all ages). Lanky the Clown, (who will be performing each day of the Fair providing comedy walk around acts) has performed at countless fairs/festivals and has toured Russia, Guatemala, Afghanistan, and Cambodia as part of an International Coalition of Clowns put together by renowned Medical Doctor, Patch Adams. The "always" entertaining parade will be held Saturday, August 30 beginning at 10:30 am. Scores of entries will be showcased in a variety of categories including: Best Out of Town, Most Comical, Best Hometown, Best Junior, Most Original, Best Fair Theme, Best Fayette County Small Town, and Best Western/Wagon/Rider, Best Antique Car, Best Antique Truck, Best Classic Car, Best Classic Truck, and Best Hot Rod. You never know who or what you are going to see decorated up!

Fayette County Fair tickets are available from any of the queen contestants with pre-sale season tickets a nominal \$25.00, daily passes for Thursday, August 28 is \$15.00, for Friday, August 29 is \$15.00, Saturday, August 30 is \$30.00, and Sunday, August 31 is \$20.00. Season tickets after 6 pm Wednesday, August 27th is \$30.00. Children 11 and under are free. Ticket admission, daily or season pass, includes all entertainment, but does not include carnival rides.

Passports to Fun include admission for all four days of the fair and unlimited rides in the carnival for all four days at a price of \$70.00 each. They are on a limited basis and will be sold until Sunday, August 24. They may be purchased at: the Gardenia Janssen Animal Shelter (979-966-0021), Hatfield Dental Clinic (979-968-5813), World Travel (979-968-6328), or the National Bank & Trust in La Grange (979-968-3136). To contact a contestant to purchase tickets or to obtain more information/registration forms on the Fayette County Fair in La Grange from Thursday, August 28 through Sunday August 31, go to www.fayettecountyfair.org or call 979-968-3911. La Grange is 65 miles east of Austin, 80 miles north of Victoria, 125 miles south of Waco, and 90 miles west of Houston with zip code of 78945 for GPS users.

Cathy Chaloupka
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