

RURAL TEXAS TOURISM LLC

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The Guessing is Over--the One and Only Merle Haggard to Grace the Fayette County Fair in La Grange Saturday, August 30



The 87th Fayette County Fair in La Grange (held August 28 through Sunday August 31) is indeed a menu of tradition of fun and entertainment while enjoying the incredible preserved heritage that has encompassed this community. And what better way to celebrate tradition and entertainment than by bringing in veteran singer/songwriter/guitarist/producer/bandleader Merle Haggard. Notably, Haggard is regarded as country music's greatest living recording artist and yes, a superstar, scoring 39 #1 country hits, winning various Grammy, CMA, and ACM awards and becoming the only California-born artist in the Country Music Hall of Fame. Not only as he been invited to perform at the White House, but he's been invited to serve time in San Quentin Penitentiary as well--something few people can claim!

Haggard's parents fled the ravages of the Oklahoma dust bowl, and Merle himself born in a converted boxcar in Oildale, California. Restless urges called him after his father passed away when Merle was 9 and he not only "road" the rails, but was incarcerated and escaped from a series of juvenile institutions. Serving time in San Quentin for a botched robbery allowed now a 20-year-old to take stock of his life and pursue a career in music, and after worked manual labor jobs by day and played local clubs by night. A string of successful songs let him to a contract with Capitol Records winning audiences with the likes of "Swinging Doors", "The Bottle Let Me Down", "Today I started Loving You Again", and a multitude of others including the much-misunderstood "Okie From Muskogee." Those classics found Merle Haggard honoring country-music traditions while drawing upon a broad range of jazz, blues, and folk influences, while his vivid, emotionally nuanced lyrics poignantly chronicled the dreams and heartbreaks of common people, as well as his own harsh life experiences. A definite date and time to remember for the Fayette County Fair--a date with Merle Haggard Saturday, August 30 at 10 pm on the Main Stage.

Volunteers to the Fayette County Fair work hard throughout the year fine tuning a multitude of projects ensuring that the locals and visitors alike will have a truly memorable time with family and friends (old and new alike). Expect the best when coming to the Fayette County Fair in La Grange (always Labor Day weekend) and you will never be disappointed with the entertainment, parade, children's activities bar-b-que cookoff, carnival, horseshoe and washer pitching contest, loads of food, livestock, culinary, creative competitive venues—an incredible array of events wrapped in the cultures of the community that promises to keep all ages busy. The spirit of tradition, and competition continues to be the driving force behind the Fayette County Fair, all thanks to an incredible Board of Directors and volunteer base.

To contact a contestant to purchases 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.

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