Get There Guide: Eugene Riverfront Festival

The Eugene Riverfront Festival is held at the new Downtown Riverfront Park, which is located near the intersection of 5th Avenue and High Street along the Williamette River and the Ruth Bascom RiverBank Park. While there is no car parking at the Eugene Riverfront Festival without an ADA placard, there are still many ways to get to the event. Active travel options such as walking, biking, and riding the bus, and park + bike/walk options will be the most efficient ways to get to the Festival and throughout Eugene during the World Athletics Championships.

By Bike with FREE Bike Valet

Eugene is proudly one of the bike-friendliest cities in the United States and biking will be the fastest way to travel. FREE bike valet is available right outside the Festival entrance near the corner of 5th and High Street. Simply check your bike and walk inside!

Follow the color-coded arrows along Eugene’s primary biking routes

The Festival is located directly along Eugene’s beloved Ruth Bascom Riverbank just south of the DeFazio Pedestrian and Bike Bridge, making it an ideal location to bike to from many areas of Eugene (especially the Whiteaker and River Road neighborhoods) as well as the nearby town of Springfield.

Please note that the portion of the Ruth Bascom Riverbank Path next to the Riverfront Park will be routed around the Festival for security reasons between July 5 and 24. Follow the colour-coded arrows to continue north or south around the Eugene Riverfront Park.

You can rent a bike from the PeaceHealth Rides bike share system (see details below), a local bike shop, or through Spinlister.

Using Bike Share

PeaceHealth Rides offers quick and easy bike rentals for one-way trips ($1 base fee + 10 cents per minute). You can access the rental hubs throughout Eugene. When you arrive at the Festival, simply lock your rented blue bike up at the hub next to the Bike Valet station. PeaceHealth Rides staff will be onsite to help if you have questions. Download the PeaceHealth Rides app to rent. Once you’ve rented your bike, check the biking section above for more information.

By Bus or Emerald Express (EmX)

From wherever you may stay in Eugene or Springfield—and some other surrounding towns—taking the bus or the faster Emerald Express bus (often called “the EmX” by locals) is an easy and inexpensive option. Take the nearest bus or EmX to Eugene’s Downtown Station at 1080 Willamette Street. From there, it’s a quick 15-minute walk through some of Downtown’s best sites to the Festival entrance at the corner of 5th Avenue and High Street. To map your route, head to LTD.org or download the Umo app. The cost is only $1.75 per adult trip or $.85 cents per child, and free for adults 65 and older.

Those who have a ticket to the World Athletics Championships can ride the EmX for free by showing their ticket. Pay before you ride on your smart phone by using the Umo app. Alternatively, bring exact change for the bus or purchase an EmX ticket at the vending machine located at every EmX stop.

<i>Park Your Car and Walk, Bike or Bike Share</i>

While there is no car parking at the Riverfront Festival (except for those with an ADA placard) there are a few designated park and walk/bike locations throughout the city. Please note that parking at these locations is limited; some locations charge by the hour or day, and parking is likely to fill fast each day. Budget plenty of time as you may have to search for a spot at more than one site and there will be a lot of car traffic throughout the city during the event. Whenever possible, please consider biking. If you are pushing a stroller, you are welcome to check it in at the bike valet station (details above).

Overpark Parking Garage (10-minute walk): Once parked, walk north along Oak Street until you reach 5th Avenue. Turn right and follow 5th Avenue all the way to the Festival. Please note: being in the heart of Downtown, this lot will fill fast.

Parcade Parking Garage (10-minute walk): Once parked, walk east along either 7th or 8th Avenue. When you reach Oak Street, turn left and travel north until you reach 5th Avenue. Turn right and follow 5th Avenue to the Festival entrance. Please note: being in the heart of Downtown, this lot will fill fast.

Alton Baker Park/Cuthbert Amphitheater Parking Friday, Saturdays, and Sundays ONLY (15-minute walk, 5-minute bike ride): This route offers beautiful river views. Once parked, walk or bike through the park and the DeFazio Bridge. Next, head south (with the river on your left-hand side) along 4th Avenue. The Eugene Riverfront Festival will be on your left. If you are on foot, you can enter at the corner of 4th Avenue and Mill Street. If you are on bike, follow the green arrows on the path and go one more block to the corner of 4th Avenue and High Street for easy entry to free bike valet.

Valley River Center Parking (30-minute walk, 10-minute bike ride): Once parked, walk or bike across the Greenway Bridge and head south with the river on your left-hand side. Walk past some lovely sites including McKee and Jacobs Park and the Owen Rose Garden. When you reach the DeFazio bike/walk bridge, people walking should continue south to the northern Festival entrance. People biking should follow the green arrows on the path and get on 4th Street. Bike two blocks to High Street and turn left. One block south near the intersection of High Street and 5th Avenue, the Festival entrance as well as free bike valet will be on your left. Note: there is a PeaceHealth Rides bike share station at this location for low-cost bike rental.

Autzen Stadium Parking: July 19 - July 24 ONLY (35-minute walk, 15-minute bike ride) Walking from this location will take some time, but it is through some of Eugene’s most beautiful natural scenery. Cost $20 per day. Once parked, walk northwest along Leo Harris Parkway until you are standing in front of the giant “O” at the stadium entrance. From there, cross the street and follow the trail across the small footbridge and then across the larger Frohnmeyer Bridge, a bike/ped bridge) over the Willamette River. Follow the signs for the bright magenta arrows and head north (with the river on your right-hand side) to reach the southern entrance of the Festival. To bike from Autzen Stadium, bike northwest along Leo Harris Parkway until you are standing in front of the giant “O” at the stadium entrance. From there, cross the street and follow the path until you reach Day Island Road. Note: there is a PeaceHealth Rides bike share station at this location for low-cost bike rental.

On Foot

If you are staying in Eugene itself or coming from events at Hayward Field, you may choose to walk to the Eugene Riverfront Festival. Remember that you can always take rideshare, the bus, or bike share for your trip home!

Simply follow the color-coded arrows along any one of Eugene’s primary walking/biking routes to get to your destination. If you are pushing a stroller, you are welcome to check it in at the bike valet station (details above). Walking will put you in the heart of the city and allow you to stop easily to pick up food or drinks.

Using Rideshare (Lyft, Uber, Taxi)

Lyft, Uber and local taxis will be available, but likely in high demand. Pick-ups and drop-offs at the Riverfront Festival will take place on the north side of the Festival area at the corner of Mill and 4th Streets. Budget extra time for waiting for a pick-up and travel across the city at a time when we expect increased car traffic.

Accessible Car Parking + Mobility Assistance

People with Disabilities, Older Adults (65+) and Parents with Young Children

People with ADA placards on their cars are welcome to park in the nearby Eugene Water and Electric Board (EWEB) Headquarters parking lot at 500 E 4th Avenue. Only people with ADA placards are permitted to park in that lot and the number of spaces is limited.

If the EWEB parking lot is full, consider the Overpark or Parcade parking garages in Downtown. While these parking garages are not as close to the Festival, you can locate EmGo pickup points on Oak Street (next to Overpark) and on 8th Avenue (next to Parcade) where you can get a ride from an EmGo to the Festival. EmGo rides are only available to older adults (65+), people with disabilities, and families with young children. Please budget extra time as you may have to wait before an EmGo reaches you for a pick-up. Riding the EmGo is free and available Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays from 12–7 p.m.

The local Lane Transit District (LTD) bus system and Emerald Express (EmX) rapid buses are both very accessible. Take a bus into Eugene’s Downtown Station and then catch the Route 01 – Campbell Center bus to 4th Avenue and High Street, which is near the Eugene Riverfront Festival entrance.

Adaptive bike rentals and all-terrain wheelchairs are available at the Active Transportation Hub, which is located near the intersection of 5th Avenue and High Street.

<i>Walk and Bike Easily From Hayward Field</i>

If you are World Athletics Championships ticket holder, be sure to check out the Know Before You Go app from Oregon22. If you are at the World Athletics Championships at Hayward Field and want to get to the Eugene Riverfront Festival, you are not very far! It’s about a 30-minute walk or 10-minute bike ride. Here are details:

Walk/Bike/Bike Share

Exit the University of Oregon at Onyx Street, crossing Franklin Boulevard to get to the Ruth Bascom Riverbank Path. Travel northwest on the path (with the river on your right) to quickly reach the southern Festival entrance. Walking will take about 1 hour; biking takes about 10 minutes. A PeaceHealth Rides bike is a great way to make this quick trip, with bike parking at the Festival entrance. Free bike valet also available—just follow the signs at the entrance!

FREE Pub Cycle Shuttle

Hop on Pacific Pub Cycle’s shuttle along the Ruth Bascom Riverbank Path for a music-bumping group bike ride to the southern Festival entrance.

Looking for things to see and do while you’re here? Call or text 541-484-5307 or scan the QR code for visitor information!