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LET THE TRUMPETS SOUND: THE 2023 FLORIDA RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL RETURNS TO QUIET WATERS PARK FOR ITS 31ST ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Experience the Thrill of a Bygone Era When Legendary Knights, Pirates, Vikings, Evil Villains, and Heroes Ruled the Kingdom

Experience ALL NEW Additional 8th Weekend in 2023 for a Mad Hatter Circus

DEERFIELD BEACH, FL (November 2022) – The annual **Florida Renaissance Festival** returns with a one-of-a-kind family-friendly event that takes lords and ladies of the realm back to a time when tunics, tabards, slashed sleeves, and bodices were the fashion. Beginning **February 4, 2023, and running for eight consecutive weekends until March 26, 2023,** all roads lead to Quiet Waters Park in Deerfield Beach to celebrate the 31st edition of the Florida Renaissance Festival with an added bonus eighth weekend of festivities.

The festival is for all ages, and it's one of the most anticipated major events of the year because it's a memorable, magical, mystical experience for the entire family. This special event features multiple new attractions, as well as popular older ones to guarantee non-stop fun and excitement in this magical kingdom.

Jousting knights, royalty, wenches, magicians, and more awaits as festival goers will be treated to delectable foods, fabulous drinks, numerous unique craft shops, live music, and more. The kingdom is a wonderful place for fun, but it's also a great environment where participants can take selfies of themselves in era garb. PLUS there is an all-new eighth weekend introduced for this year – the Mad Hatter's Circus embarks on an "Alice in Wonderland-themed" adventure that brings fairytales to reality!

While costumes are not necessary for admittance, thousands of people enhance their experience each year by donning outfits from the Renaissance era or participating in one of the festival's special themed weekends.

"For more than three decades we've provided South Floridians a Renaissance experience unlike any other," said **Bobby Rodriguez, founder, and producer of the Florida Renaissance Festival**. "It's a special storybook event unlike any other, and we invite patrons to dress up and rejoice as we celebrate culture and history, because it promises to be a fun-filled memorable time for the entire family."

"We're thrilled to welcome back the Florida Renaissance Festival to Greater Fort Lauderdale for spectacular entertainment and performances in our tropical paradise," says Stacy Ritter, CEO and President of Greater Fort Lauderdale. "The festival is an annual tradition loved by locals and visitors alike and each year brings some fan favorites and new twists."

Florida Renaissance Festival 2023 Themed Weekends

The festival weekend dates are Feb. 4-5 (school day on Feb. 6), Feb. 11-12, Feb. 18-19, Feb. 25-26, March 4-5, March 11-12 (Sunday time change), March 18-19, and March 25-26. The current themes are as follows:

Weekend 1: **The Wizarding World's Faire – A Magical Grand-Opening!** Feb. 4 & 5, 2023

The tales of old magic and the mystical arts are not only true but still very much alive. Experience the wonderful world of magic with us as we set our eyes upon wizards, warlocks, witches, and more! Celebrating the grand opening of our festival, we'll get to see a world in which enchantment not only survives but thrives. Potions of alchemy, casting spells, and a merry of mages are only some of the powerful presentations of magic sure to be present at the festival. The only requirement we hold you to is having a fascination for the fantastical—although a magical cloak wouldn't hurt.

Weekend 2: Barbarians & Dragons- A Roaring Battle! Feb. 11 & 12, 2023

To set our eyes upon lands far away from our own in the call of the conqueror is what makes a true Viking. This weekend is a war of passion and romance- blood spilled and kingdoms sundered in the name of love. The barbarian's heart is a drumming of axe and shield, the dragon's heart is a beating of wings on wind. A warrior is a testament to the strength of champions by fighting for the one they love, a world in which dragons fly overhead and warships volley along the coastline. Take up arms to protect your village or mount a monstrous dragon in the hopes of quelling another. This is where the heart of the barbarian is truly formed, in the heat of battle where swords clash, and axes collide. It is now that true loyalty will shine through, and the pact of warriors will stand strong.

Weekend 3: Steampunk & Time Travelers – Age of Automation! Feb. 18 & 19, 2023

Cogs, nuts, and bolts are the rulers of automation. Enter the Victorian age of industrialization as technology and innovation are rooted in gadgets and steam-powered inventions. Literature and science converge as one as vigilantes and warring factions fill the

background of this fantastical world. Locomotives send puffs of steam from their smokestacks up into the air, artificial lightning flows through the inventions of madmen, and the lines between fiction and science begin to blur as the roaring of the city continues well into the night. Imagination is only the beginning of what is conceivable, for the possibilities are endless in this magnificent world of machines.

Weekend 4: Maidens, Wenches, and Goddesses! – A Beautiful Empowerment! Feb. 25 & 26, 2023

Join us in celebrating the women who inspire us all to be fierce warriors, brave adventurers, and mighty explorers. This weekend of empowerment is dedicated to our mothers, wives, sisters, daughters, and all the women who stand at the forefront of what it means to be a hero. Through trials and tribulations, these ladies of the lionheart stand strong and true and showcase to us all the immense strength, fortitude, and tenacity that live within each and every one of these wonderful women.

Weekend 5: Days of Cosplay – Heroes, villains, and everything in between!

March. 4 & 5, 2023 A valiant hero charged with the protection of the kingdom or a nefarious villain with an

agenda of their own—only you can decide whom to support. In this weekend of factions, we invite everybody to throw on their own costume or outfit and join us as we experience a world in which our favorite fantasy comes to life. Whether you cosplay your favorite character in full garb or throw a cowboy hat and some boots on, we welcome all heroes and villains to the stage. Choose a side and show off your fit—it's always more fun when you dress the part!

Weekend 6:

Pirate Invasion – Swashbucklers & Scallywags!

March. 11 & 12, 2023

Wealth, fame, power. Attain this and everything else the world has to offer on the seven seas will be yours! Leave yer old compass behind, you won't have to look far for an abundance of thrilling entertainment perfect for pirates of all ages. Prepare the crew for a swashbuckling adventure and climb aboard with all your hopes and dreams for a weekend adventure in search of treasure. Quench your thirst on a wide variety of beer and mead, join a choir of sea shanties, and you'll find everything you're looking for. Ready your eye patches and captain hats for this pirate-filled adventure!

Weekend 7: Highland Fling – A Celtic Celebration March. 18 & 19, 2023

We welcome you to a weekend of Celtic celebration, as we commemorate all those nations who take pride in their heritage and long-lasting culture. This is a time to explore the wonders and mysteries of Britanny, Cornwall, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, and the Isle of Man, along with revering the age-old traditions and folklore of these great civilizations. It wouldn't be St. Patty's Day without a whole lot of green, so wear something shamrock-colored, grab a pint and enjoy the day with us! By the way, while kilts aren't required to enter, we welcome anybody to wear one (bonus points if it's green).

**NEW Weekend 8: A Mad Hatter's Circus – A Fairytale Finale! March. 25 & 26, 2023 Join us on our final weekend of the festival, where you'll be transported to a world far different than our own, one filled with mystical beasts, fairytale creatures, and much more! This "Alice in Wonderland"-inspired experience will bring you to the tales of fantasy, where you'll walk through mirrors out into a world that can only rival that of your own imagination. Perhaps it was a reflection, or maybe it really was a giant teacup that leapt from its platter. In this land, anything is possible, because when a fairytale meets reality, the only limit is what the mirror might reflect.

Also returning for the 2023 season are a variety of fan-favorite acts and performances:

- Bard & Minstrels
- Bells to Go (Carillon)
- Blue Muse
- Brothers Blackwell
- Broon
- Buckle & Swash
- Celtic Mayhem
- Debracey Productions (joust)
- Faire Wynds
- Harper & the Minstrel
- History of Chivalry
- Historical Demonstrations: Cannons
- Kamikaze Fireflies
- Kelly Irish Dancers
- Les S. Moore (pickpocket)
- Masala Music & Dance
- MooNiE
- Music the Gathering
- NEW Nightwings (a new exotic bird and falconry show in the joust area)
- Pirates of Tortuga Bay
- Rota Temporis
- Reelin' Rogues
- Splatter Time Players (mud show)
- Tales of Robin Hood
- The Adventure Quest
- The Commedia Madrigal Singers
- The Greatest Pirate Story Never Told
- Trebuchet
- Washing Well Wenches

There will also be The Court, Encampments, Promenade, Street Characters, Wandering Musicians, and dozens of characters from Gabriel Q.

The Florida Renaissance Festival is produced by nationally acclaimed Bobby Rodriguez Production and strives to create an entertaining and cultural experience for adults and children alike. The current sponsors of the 2023 Florida Renaissance Festival include Sapporo, Unibroue, Anchor Brewing, 1911 Cider, Llanos Leather, Pelican's View, JMlovelaw. Prices range from \$32 for adults and \$14 for children (ages 6 to 11 years of age). Children 5 and younger are free. Special seasonal passes are available for \$199 (adults) and \$79.50 (children). Group ticket rates are also offered, but must be purchased in person at the box-office only. VIP Parking is also available for purchase. You can avoid making the box office line, by buying ahead of time, online! Online purchases include convenience fees.

For tickets and more information visit: <u>www.ren-fest.com</u>; Find us on <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Tik Tok</u>, or follow @FlaRenFest on <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Instagram</u>. If you prefer the ancient method, call 954-776-1642.

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