

PRESS RELEASE
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Media Contact
Charlotte Raiford
craiford@jacksonspalding.com
512-788-1522

TEXAS MONTHLY TAKES A BITE OUT OF LOCKHART WITH BBQ FEST CELEBRATION ON NOV. 4-5

- The 14th annual two-day festival is projected to be the largest event in the media company's history with close to 10,000 BBQ lovers planning to attend
- 40 of the Top 50 BBQ joints in Texas, according to *Texas Monthly's* 2021 list, are on-site this year alongside new pitmasters, a curated Taco Trail and live music
- Tickets are still available for the annual event

AUSTIN (October 20, 2023) — *Texas Monthly* invites BBQ fans from across the globe to experience its biggest BBQ Fest yet in Lockhart, Texas, on November 4 and 5. This marks the second year the festival will be held in the barbecue capital of Texas and will bring to town a total of 50 barbecue joints, including many from *Texas Monthly's* latest Top 50 BBQ Joints and 25 Top New and Improved BBQ Joints lists.

For more details about the 14th annual BBQ Fest, click [here](#).

"Texas BBQ continues to attract enthusiasts from across the nation and around the world to this festival each year," said Daniel Vaughn, *Texas Monthly* BBQ Editor. "At BBQ Fest, we celebrate the epitome of Texas BBQ excellence, where some of the top pitmasters in the state converge in a culinary celebration full of smoke, flavor, and culture. We are excited to offer a one-stop destination that reflects our state's growing barbecue culture."

First Friday: Unofficial Kickoff to BBQ Fest

On the eve of BBQ Fest, downtown Lockhart will be the center of excitement and action with barbecue-themed First Friday festivities, including the premiere of a live-recorded variety show titled *Smoky Home Compadre: A Celebration of Tasty-NESS*.

The showcase celebrates what makes Lockhart special with music and comedy, featuring local characters and special guest Jaston Williams, co-author and performer from *Greater Tuna* and the acclaimed *Tuna* series. The free show is produced by the 78644 Podcast and begins at 7 p.m. followed by a performance by James McMurtry. More info can be found @78644podcast on Instagram. Other evening happenings include Día de Los Muertos festivities, extended hours for many of the downtown shops, live music, pop-up events and special offers.

 **BBQ World's Fair**

On Saturday, Nov. 4 from noon to 7 p.m., the open-to-the-public BBQ World's Fair will celebrate the continued cultural infusion happening to traditional Texas BBQ. This free event features a selection of barbecue joints and live-fire cooking demos as well as taco vendors curated by Taco Editor José Ralat and an artisan marketplace.

- Five joints – KG BBQ, Barbs B Q, Rosemeyer Bar-B-Q, Sunbird Barbecue and GW's BBQ Catering Co. – spotlighted on *Texas Monthly's* list of the state's [Top 25 New and Improved BBQ Joints](#) will be on site alongside five other pitmasters to serve food for purchase from noon to 4 p.m.
- Live music will kick-off at noon and include performances by RF Shannon, Rattlesnake Milk, and Tomar & the FCs. *Texas Monthly* proudly collaborated with local Lockhart music podcast 78644 to curate a lineup of live music that pays homage to Lockhart's music scene and community.
- From 5 to 7 p.m., the barbecue joints will switch to an exclusive tasting menu for attendees who purchased an "Around the World" Punch Card.
- Guests can also expand their palates with the Taco Trail, featuring some of Ralat's favorite spots in the state, like Davila's BBQ, Jiménez Tortillera y Taqueria and El Charlatán.

"The Taco Trail includes some of my favorite tacos in the state, but they're also the embodiment of Texas's rich culinary heritage," said *Texas Monthly* Taco Editor José Ralat. "Their dedication to crafting exceptional tacos adds a new dimension to the BBQ Fest experience, promising an unforgettable flavor journey."

Top 50 Picnic

On Sunday, Nov. 5 from noon to 4 p.m. for VIP ticketholders and 1 to 4 p.m. for General Admissions ticketholders, attendees are invited to Lockhart City Park to enjoy the flavors of Texas barbecue, savory sides, refreshing beverages, live music, and more. The Top 50 Picnic has been the heart and soul of *Texas Monthly* BBQ Fest for over a decade, and this year promises to be better than ever.

- Experience the best of Texas BBQ from 40 of the top joints featured on *Texas Monthly's* [Top 50 BBQ Joints List](#). Each brings their unique specialties to the table for the ultimate barbecue show-and-tell.
- The picnic kicks off with a performance by Hard Proof, followed by a special guest performance. General Admissions tickets are still available for purchase [here](#). This year's event will also donate a portion of ticket sales to Feeding Texas and the network of food banks throughout the state. *Texas Monthly* is proud to join the united effort for a hunger-free Texas.

Thank you to our 2023 sponsors Anheuser-Busch, Aviation Gin, Balcones Distilling, Central Texas Refuse, City of Lockhart, Coco-Cola Southwest Beverages, Goodstock by Nolan Ryan, Hornitos Tequila, Jim Beam, M&M BBQ Company, Mill Scale Metalworks, Nomad Grills, Ooni, Rambler Sparkling Water, Ricos, Sierrah Wood, Tito's Handmade Vodka, YETI, and True Texas BBQ.

To stay updated on event news, join the [Texas Monthly barbecue newsletter](#), follow the [@tmbbqfest Instagram account](#), like the [Texas Monthly BBQ Fest Facebook Page](#), and follow Texas Monthly's BBQ Editor [Daniel Vaughn](#) on Twitter and Instagram: [@BBQsnob](#).

About Texas Monthly

Texas Monthly publishes vivid, longform storytelling about the Lone Star State, along with reported analysis of its most important trends, and helpful advice on how to best enjoy the state's many pleasures. Founded in 1973 as a print magazine, *Texas Monthly* has expanded to serve its audience on multiple platforms, including [TexasMonthly.com](#), live events, videos, and binge-worthy podcasts. It has won 14 National Magazine awards, the Oscars of its industry, and reaches a total monthly audience across all platforms of 35 million people. Follow *Texas Monthly* on Facebook [@texas.monthly.magazine](#), Twitter [@TexasMonthly](#), and Instagram [@texasmonthly](#).

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