



Frequently Asked Questions



Ottawa Italian Week Festival June 8-18, 2017

Be a part of Ottawa's only Italian Festival

ItalianWeekOttawa.ca

Ottawa Italian Week Festival 2017

June 8 to 18, 2017
Little Italy
Preston Street



www.ItalianWeekOttawa.ca



Ottawa Italian Week Festival

Contact

info@italianweekottawa.ca

Settimana Italiana Inc.

1026 Baseline Road
Ottawa ON K2E 0A6



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The Ottawa Italian Week Festival FAQ

Why is the festival in June?

It's a celebration of all things Italian in Canada and now the World! Canadians of Italian heritage are proud of their contributions and will continue their commitment to making Canada a rich and diverse cultural mosaic for the benefit of all its citizens.

In 2010, the Ontario legislature passed a bill to officially declare June, Italian Heritage Month. Although the status is technically only recognized in Ontario, over the years, cities all across Canada have unofficially adopted the declaration. Today, there is an event, or two, or even three, in a city near you.

What events take place during the month of June?

The events are a mix of the traditional festival favorites and new events that come onboard each year. For a complete listing, [visit our website](#).

You'll also see that the **Preston Street BIA** organizes and coordinates several other events & activities along Preston Street in collaboration with other organizations such as; the Ferrari Festival, The Italian Car Show & Parade and the Preston Street Bike Races.

While we all do our best to keep you informed about all the Ottawa Italian Week Festival activities, it's a good idea to follow the information found on all respective Social Media and Websites.

Here is a list:

Settimana Italiana Inc.

www.Italianweekottawa.ca | <https://www.facebook.com/ItalianWeekOttawa> |
https://twitter.com/italianweek_ott | <https://www.instagram.com/italianweekottawa/>

Preston Street BIA

<http://www.prestonstreet.com/> | <https://www.facebook.com/PrestonStreetBia> |
https://twitter.com/Preston_BIA | <https://www.instagram.com/prestonstreetbia/>

FCA Ottawa Ferrari Festival

<http://www.fcaottawa.com/> | <http://www.facebook.com/OttawaFerrariFestival> |
<https://twitter.com/OttFerrariFest>

Italian Car Show & Parade

<http://www.italiancarclubottawa.ca/ICCOindex.shtml> |
<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Italian-Car-Club-Of-Ottawa-ICCO/168445456526046>

Bike Race Ottawa

<https://bikeraceottawa.wordpress.com/preston-street-criterium/>



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How much is it to get into the festival?

There are no fees to attend the Grand Finale Weekend. There are specific events that do require ticket purchases. Please refer to the respective website or social media for additional details. Any ticketed events can be purchased online through our [Eventbrite page](#).

Do I need to buy tickets to the events?

Some of the events require tickets, such as the Italian Week Gala Party, the Italian-themed PaintNites and a few others that are announced. All event descriptions are available [on the website](#). To purchase any of the event tickets, access our online events on our [Eventbrite page](#). You can also find each event description and details from [our website](#).

How do I learn more about the street closures during the festival?

The Preston Street BIA is responsible for providing road closure information. We will share that information as it becomes available. Also follow the Preston Street BIA website for any up-to-the minute news. <http://www.prestonstreet.com/public/pdf/preston-street-map.pdf>

Where can I park my vehicle during the festival?

We encourage festival-goers to not drive to the festival and take advantage of public transportation or enjoy a bike ride along the various paths that lead to Little Italy.

If you must drive to the festival, parking is available in the following areas:

1. Preston Street & Beech Street – Gilad Parking
2. 518 Rochester Street – Impark
3. 33 Adeline Street – Gilad Parking
4. Dow's Lake Court – Impark

What should I bring to the festival?

What to bring:

- YES Cell phones (we have Free Wi-Fi!)
- YES Soft-sided coolers; snacks
- YES sealed water bottles or empty reusable water bottles
- YES Small backpacks, bags and purses. Small = not massive camping gear
- YES Blankets and beach towels, sunscreen, hoodies or rain ponchos
- YES Personal cameras without removable lenses.
- YES Small collapsible lawn chairs
- YES Medication in its original packaging with matching photo ID
- YES Umbrellas (small handheld ones – no patio, golf, or beach umbrellas please)
- YES Baby strollers (for kids)



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Do not bring:

Items on the list below WILL be confiscated.

- NO Weapons, colours, or contraband
- NO Laser pointers or lighting devices
- NO Drones or any other remote flying devices
- NO Musical instruments, horns or noise makers
- NO Walkie-talkies or radio equipment
- NO Skateboards, roller blades, scooters, carts or personalized motorized vehicles (except wheelchairs)
- NO Illegal substances or drug paraphernalia
- NO Alcohol. Beer, wine, spirits, and non-alcoholic beverages will be sold at the various venues along Preston Street
- NO Hard-sided coolers
- NO Glass containers
- NO Unauthorized vending is permitted on festival property
- NO Flyers, handbills, posters, stickers
- NO Fireworks or explosives
- NO Beach balls, soccer balls, baseballs, footballs, etc
- NO Squirt guns or water toys
- NO paint or permanent markers
- NO Tents
- NO Megaphones
- NO Non-collapsible chairs

NOTE: ALL BAGS WILL BE SEARCHED.

What happens if it rains?

We all get wet. For the most part, the show must go on rain or shine. We will inform patrons of significant weather-related delays through onsite, media and social media announcements. Dress according to the weather. Bring an umbrella and a raincoat/poncho.

Is there food and beverages available onsite?

It wouldn't be an Italian Festival if there was no food or drink. You will be able to find food and beverages all along Preston Street at the different restaurants and street vendors. It's up to you to pick!

I want to watch a show. Where do I sit?

Some seating will be available on a first-come first-served basis under the big tent. We recommend that you bring a collapsible and portable lawn chair if you like. Make sure to share the space and don't block any paths or entrances.



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Should I bring the kids?

Absolutely bring the kids. There are activities for the kids throughout the Grand Finale Weekend in the Kid Zone. Some activities are free while others require a ticket. Instructions are onsite. There are also fun activities along Preston Street including watching the Ferraris, seeing the Italian Car Show & Parade.

I want to give you some feedback about the festival. How do I do that?

If you are interested in giving feedback to the organizers of the festival, you can fill out our [online survey here](#). We appreciate your comments and recommendations.

The feedback survey is to be used for the purpose of receiving information, questions and comments related to the annual cultural festival should be emailed to info@italianweekottawa.ca. Settimana Italiana Inc. welcomes comments and constructive criticisms about any and all aspects of the festival and operations. Please be aware however, that messages containing abusive, vulgar, offensive, threatening or harassing language will be deleted and not responded to. Messages that contain personal attacks of any kind or offensive terms that target specific individuals or groups will also be deleted and not responded to. We do not accept unsolicited emails for marketing/advertising.

I want to perform at the Italian Week Festival. How do I do that?

That's great news, you're a performer. Send a sample of your work and a description of what you do to info@italianweekottawa.ca and we will be in touch.

I have an event idea to share for the festival. How do I go about it?

Great! We love to hear new ideas and add to the lineup of events/activities. To have your event/activity/idea considered for the festival, it should align with the Festival's Mission and Vision, showcasing Italian Art and Cultural aspects and since we are not-for-profit, the event proposal should outline how the event will be funded; by sponsorship or otherwise and what are the volunteer requirements and any other requirements. For consideration, please submit your proposal/idea to info@italianweekottawa.ca.

Can I bring my bike to the festival?

Yes. We think that's a great idea and it's highly recommended! There are several unsupervised bike racks along Preston Street that you can use to lock your bikes. Also, Preston Street is near several city bicycle paths. [Find out more here](#).



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Are there any toilets at the festival?

Settimana Italiana Inc. will have port-o-potties available at their site along the back side of the soccer field, from the Adult High School parking lot.

Is the festival easily accessible?

We've done everything we can to make sure the venue is wheelchair-accessible. Remember it is a street festival, so the usual rules apply.

Is there a shuttle service to the festival?

No. There is no official shuttle service to the festival. OC Transpo buses do drive close to the venue. Please refer to the [OC Transpo website](#).

Is Wi-Fi available at the Festival site?

Yes, Wi-Fi is available for FREE, offered to you by **Settimana Italiana Inc.** It is only available in the parking lot by the Adult High School. Please take advantage of the Wi-Fi and share your photos and comments on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram using the #ItalianWeek and #ItalianWeek2017.

Can I bring my pet to the festival?

Although it is a street festival, animals are allowed as long as they are on a leash. Please be responsible for your pet and their business. Thank you for your cooperation.

Can I smoke onsite?

It is an open outdoor festival on the street. Other than following the City of Ottawa by-laws, smoking is permitted. [Details here](#).

Are there any ATMs available?

Yes. You can find the following banks in the area:

CIBC

829 Carling ave.
613-564-8650
www.cibc.com

SCOTIA BANK

425 Preston St.
613-564-5315
www.scotiabank.com



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Do you have any hotel accommodations?

Yes. We have worked with a few hotels nearby.

[ALT Hotel](#) // [Radisson](#) // [Hampton Inn](#)

Where can I buy artist merchandise?

If you are looking for artists' merchandise that have performed in the parking lot under the big tent, there will be a small 10'x10' tent that will have it available.

Will there be any security or first aid available onsite?

Yes. We have both available. You will see security people with well-identified shirts that are all first-aid certified. There will also be specific first-aiders, paramedics and Ottawa Police on and along Preston Street.

I want to volunteer. Where do I sign up?

If you are interested in signing up to volunteer, please [fill out our form](#). Alternatively, you can email us at info@italianweekottawa.ca.

I want to advertise with Italian Week. How do I go about that?

If you are interested in advertising in the Italian Week Program Guide, please visit our website for additional details in the [Advertisement guide](#).

I want to sponsor with Italian Week. How do I go about that?

If you are interested in a sponsorship with Italian Week, please visit our website under the Sponsorship area or read through our [Sponsorship Package](#).

Thank you and see you on Preston Street for the Ottawa Italian Week Festival!

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www.italianweekottawa.ca

[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#)

#ItalianWeek2017 | #SonolItaliano | #SonolItaliana

***** Join us in Little Italy on Preston Street from June 8-18, 2017 *****



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