



## The Midwest's Premier Food Truck Festival Returns to the Franklin County Fairgrounds August 16–17, 2025

Columbus, OH—February 15, 2025 — The founder of the Midwest's premier food truck event, Chas Kaplan, is happy to announce the return of the mouth-watering Columbus Food Truck Festival, Hilliard Edition to the Franklin County Fairground August 16-17.

Now in its fourteenth year, the festival showcases a delicious array of cuisines and flavors from 50+ gourmet food trucks from Ohio and across the Midwest. Complimenting the wonderful food, the festival boasts over two dozen artisans and crafters as well as its signature live music throughout the weekend on one main stage.

"We're thrilled to be bringing the Columbus Food Truck Festival back for another year," said Chas Kaplan, organizer of the festival. "With so many delicious food options and fun activities, there's something for everyone to enjoy."

The complete food vendor line-up as well as performance schedule and participating artisans will be announced at a later date.

The festival runs Saturday, August 16 from 11 a.m.–10 p.m. and Sunday, August 17th from 11 a.m.–7 p.m. Single day admission to the festival is just \$5 per person when purchased online in advance and \$10 online/at the door on festival days. Tickets on sale now at [ColumbusFoodTruckFest.com](https://ColumbusFoodTruckFest.com). As in year's past, children 12 years of age and younger receive complimentary admission, but must be accompanied by an adult 18 years of age or older. Guests are strongly encouraged to get their tickets before heading to the event as this event is anticipated to sell out.

Limited complimentary onsite parking\* is included with the admission ticket. *\*Parking is on a first come, first served basis for ticket holders. on-street parking is also conveniently located around the Franklin County Fairgrounds.*

A portion of the proceeds from the festival benefit the [Music Loves Ohio](https://MusicLovesOhio.org) and many other local non-profits. Since the festival's inception in 2011, organizers have donated over \$107,000 to local charities from the event's proceeds.

### HOURS AND GENERAL INFORMATION SUMMARY

The Columbus Food Truck Festival, Hilliard Edition runs Saturday, August 16 from 11 a.m.–10 p.m. and Sunday, August 17 from 11 a.m.–7 p.m. and is located at the Franklin County Fairgrounds 4951 Northwest Parkway, Hilliard, Ohio 43026.

Single day admission to the festival is just \$5 per person when purchased online and in advance and \$10 online/at the door on festival days. Ticket on-sale now at [ColumbusFoodTruckFest.com](https://ColumbusFoodTruckFest.com). Children 12 years of age and younger are complementary, but must be accompanied by an adult 18 years of age or older. Limited complimentary onsite parking\* is included with the admission ticket. *\*Parking is on a first come, first served basis for ticket holders. On-street parking is also conveniently located around the Franklin County Fairgrounds.* The event is rain or shine.

To stay up to date with food vendors, activities, and musicians, be sure to bookmark [ColumbusFoodTruckFest.com](https://ColumbusFoodTruckFest.com) and check the festival's Facebook and Instagram pages under the handle [@colfoodtruckfest](https://www.instagram.com/colfoodtruckfest).



Food Vendors/Artisans+Crafters/Entertainers/Sponsors

The 2025 Columbus Food Truck Festival, Food Truck Line Up!

American Mess Hall + Amish Country Donuts + Bada Bing Bada Wing + Big Dogs Pizza + Big Mouth Egg Rolls + Big Pappy's BBQ + Brazillian Grill and Bakery + Chicken Mac + Ciao Gelato Truck + Cousins Maine Lobster + Dave's Caribbean + Diamonds Ice Cream + Eden Food Truck + Empanadas and More + Fat Kid Burgers + For the Love of Dough + Fridas Authentic Mexican + Glaze-em Gourmet Funnel Cakes + Gourmet Mac Shak + Graeters Ice Cream + Grateful Griddle + Grilled Cheese Gangster + Happy Elephant Food + IrieJam Island Grill + Island Noodles + Komodo Loco + Kona Ice + Lyles Crepes + Mother Mel's Wholesome Diner + Rime Time Pops + Robinson Smokehouse + Smitty's BBQ and Catering + Sonara Bites + Spanish Bowl + Taco Veloz + Taqueria Las Costeñas + The Icy Paw + The Lumpia Queen + The Original Steaks and Hoggies + Tortilla Street Food + Zaki Grill + Zapatas Street Food

**A "TASTE" OF NOSTALGIA + AMAZING LOCAL ARTISANS + CRAFTERS**

Due to the success of The Columbus Vintage Exchange at last year's Downtown edition, the popular feature is being added to Hilliard this year. The exchange, meticulously curated by its founder Jordan Hensley along with Adam Himmel and Tony Cipriani of Midwest Vintage Collective, offers a unique shopping experience deeply rooted in 80's and 90's nostalgia.

**NEW FOR 2025 – The Long Drink VIP area located inside the Ganyard Building!**

The [Long Drink](#) VIP offers an exclusive experience for attendees looking to elevate their festival enjoyment. With the VIP pass, guests will receive complimentary samples of Long Drink, a refreshing beverage that embodies the spirit of summer. In addition to the delightful drinks, VIP pass holders will have access to complimentary water and Pepsi products (picked up within the VIP area only) to stay refreshed throughout the day. The festival features a credit card bar, allowing guests to indulge in their favorite beverages while mingling with fellow food enthusiasts.

Entertainment inside VIP:

[MikelParis](#) of [O.A.R.](#) will be performing 4 - twenty minute sets each day of the festival, set times to be announced closer to the festival.

Moreover, the VIP experience includes complimentary [Graeter's Ice Cream](#), renowned for its rich flavors and creamy texture, providing a sweet treat to savor. Attendees can also enjoy sample-sized offerings from various gourmet food trucks, showcasing a diverse array of culinary delights that cater to many tastes. This curated selection of food and drink enhances the overall festival experience, making the VIP Pass a worthwhile investment for anyone eager to indulge in the best



that the Columbus Food Truck Festival has to offer. Don't miss out on this opportunity to enjoy a delicious day filled with flavors and fun!

\*\*\*Must be 21 and Over to enter the VIP, if under 21 years of age you must be accompanied by an Adult over the age of 21.

#### VIP Hours

Saturday August 16th 11am-9pm

Sunday August 17th 11am-5:30pm

#### Included:

- Festival Entry
- 2 Complimentary drink tickets for water and Pepsi Products.
- VIP Bar serving Long Drink, Margaritas, Vodka Lemonade and Beer. (Credit Card only)
- Samples of Long Drink \*Must be 21 and over to consume alcoholic beverages.
- Sample-size food offerings from the festival's best food trucks (randomly selected and served throughout the day)
- 1 Complimentary dessert ticket good for one serving of Graeter's Ice Cream
- Live Music Experience, MikelParis of O.A.R. will be performing four 20 - minute sets daily inside of the VIP area.
- Complimentary MikelParis download including the GuitarDrumming 0I album, 4 Music Videos, and some additional content.
- Show your VIP wrist band to MikelParis in the VIP area and you will receive a signed merch item.
- The first 50 VIP ticket holders to enter the VIP area will receive a \*limited-edition Columbus Food Truck Festival T-shirt provided by G&J Pepsi.

\*Limited Sizes available.

\*\* A limited amount of VIP tickets available, prices will increase from \$30 to \$50 per VIP ticket on August 16th.

#### ABOUT THE COLUMBUS FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL

Named **Best Foodie Event** in the state by Ohio Magazine in 2017, the Columbus Food Truck Festival features the best mobile food vendors from throughout the region as well as arts and crafts vendors, and dozens of bands on one Main Stage.

While the festival's mission is to support food tourism in the Central Ohio area and support small business, another very essential component to the festival is to help build awareness and support local non-profit organizations that serve the Central Ohio community. Last year, the festival's charitable partners included [Music Loves Ohio](#) and the [Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Ohio](#). "Both of these non-profit organizations give so much to the community and we want to support their efforts," said Kaplan.

Find them online at [ColumbusFoodTruckFest.com](http://ColumbusFoodTruckFest.com) and on Facebook at [@colsfoodtruckfest](https://www.facebook.com/colsfoodtruckfest).

#### ABOUT THE FRANKLIN COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS AND THE FRANKLIN COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY



The Franklin County Fairgrounds is operated by the Franklin County Agricultural Society. The objectives of the Society are the improvement of agriculture, horticulture, better livestock, uniform domestic science and art, and the promotion of youth activities, and the general community betterment together with all other industrial, commercial, and educational interests of the County.

The Franklin County Fairgrounds is located at 4951 Northwest Parkway, Hilliard, OH 43026. For more information about the Franklin County Agricultural Society and the Franklin County Fairgrounds visit them online at [fcfair.org](http://fcfair.org).

#### **ABOUT MUSIC LOVES OHIO**

Music Loves Ohio is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that provides opportunities for Central Ohio youth to pursue their passion for music. Their financial assistance is focused on music education classrooms (public schools, private schools, and after school programs) and providing instruments to financially underserved students in Central Ohio.

For more information about Music Loves Ohio, visit them online at [musiclovesohio.org](http://musiclovesohio.org).

#### **ABOUT DESTINATION HILLIARD/HILLIARD OHIO**

Hilliard, Ohio is a thriving community of more than 33,000 residents. Residents and corporate citizens enjoy dependable city and safety services, a highly rated public-school system, scenic parks and trails, terrific recreational programs and a variety of safe and attractive neighborhoods. Situated just west of the Scioto River along I-270, Hilliard is only a 15 to 20-minute commute to downtown Columbus. With roots that began as a village built in 1869 around the railroad station, Hilliard has grown into a city full of local pride and history. For more information about Hilliard, Ohio, activities, accommodations, and attractions, please visit them online at [destinationhilliard.com](http://destinationhilliard.com).

###

**Festival contact: Chas Kaplan - [foodtruckfest@gmail.com](mailto:foodtruckfest@gmail.com)**

**Media Contact 614-706-3860**