

CALGARY STAMPEDE FUN FACTS



GENERAL

- The Calgary Stampede is a not-for-profit organization and the Calgary Stampede Foundation is a registered charitable organization.
- The Stampede has more than 2,500 dedicated, year-round volunteers.
- The Calgary Stampede creates around 3,500 local jobs during Stampede.
- The Calgary Stampede creates learning opportunities for more than 50,000 students each year.
- Stampede Park is comprised of 208 acres.
- The Calgary Stampede is one of the largest music festivals in Canada. It has four different venues - Virgin Plus Stampede Concert, Nashville North, The Big Four Roadhouse, and Coca-Cola Stage, which cover various genres of music.
- Approximately 3.6 million people visit Stampede Park year-round.
- More than 2 million mini donuts are eaten by Stampede guests each year!
- More than 30,000 Stampede posters are distributed around the world annually.
- Over 200,000 pancakes are consumed at community breakfasts over the 10 days of Stampede.
- During the 2017 Stampede, at least 3,475 liters of Ketchup and 1,571 liters of Mustard were consumed.

ECONOMIC

- Not only is the Calgary Stampede a staple of Western identity, the annual celebration also generates over \$540 million in economic benefits in the Calgary Community.
- The expansion of the BMO Centre is projected to bring in nearly \$225 million annually for the Province of Alberta.

ELBOW RIVER CAMP

- Each year, 26 tipis are set up in Elbow River Camp.
- You can trace most of the tipi designs and families back to the first Stampede in 1912.
- During the Stampede, taking place July 8-17, Elbow River Camp becomes home to families from across the Kainai, Piikani, Siksika, Stoney Nakoda, and Tsuut'ina First Nations of Treaty 7.
- There are 14 vendors tents where Treaty 7 artists showcase their creations- many tables change daily, so visit daily!
- The Bannock Booth produces more than 15,000 pieces of frybread during Stampede.
- A typical Blackfoot-style tipi uses 21 number of poles.
- The bottom of a tipi design indicates where the design originated – flat for the prairies, rounded for the foothills, and triangles for the mountains.
- One of the original 3 attractions since 1912 including the Rodeo and the Parade.

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CALGARY STAMPEDE PARADE

- The Stampede Parade has always been a staple of the Calgary Stampede.
- The Calgary Stampede Parade is the official kick-off to The Greatest Outdoor Show on Earth!
- The Stampede Parade features more than 200 horses and over 4,000 2-legged participants
- First Nations have played a prominent role in the Calgary Stampede since 1912 when 1,800 members of Treaty 7 led the Parade at the request of Stampede visionary, Guy Weadick.

RODEO

- The Calgary Stampede Rodeo is the world's largest outdoor rodeo.
- There are six main events at the Rodeo, with 22 competitors competing in each event. Calgary Stampede bucking horses and bulls compete at our own rodeo as well as other events across Canada and the United States.
- On average, a Calgary Stampede bucking horse competes 10 – 12 times a year. At 8 seconds a ride, that's less than two minutes of rodeo action annually.
- A Calgary Stampede bucking horse won't carry a rider until 4 years of age. Prior to that they are handled regularly, introduced to a halter and lead, and are provided vaccinations, hoof trims and other regular care.
- The Stampede Ranch is home to nearly 500 horses and approximately 50 bulls.
- With 23,000 acres, the Stampede Ranch provides the opportunity for Stampede stock to live in a natural herd environment year-round.
- Retired bucking horses play an important role within the herd, acting as role models and leaders for the younger horses in the herd.
- Just like people, bucking horses have buddies! They have other horses within the herd they prefer to spend time both at the Ranch and on the road. When they travel, the Stampede team tries to ensure buddies are able to stick together.

CALGARY STAMPEDE HISTORY

- Visiting the Stampede is a Royal Family affair; King George VI visited in 1939, Prince Charles and Prince Andrew in 1977, and Prince William with his wife Catherine in 2011. Their names are branded into a piece of furniture in Head Quarters.
- By 1950 at least 7 movie productions had scenes filmed at the Calgary Stampede.
- The Queen has visited the Calgary Stampede 4 different times; she attended the Rodeo in 1951, 1959 and 1973. In May of 2005 she visited the Stampede grounds.
- Patsy Rodgers became the first Stampede Queen in 1946. She was also named Parade Marshal in 2008!
- The Calgary Stampede Pancake Breakfasts were started in 1923 by Jack Morton, off the back of his chuckwagon and stove. It has become one of the longest withstanding traditions of the Calgary Stampede.
- The year 2018 marked the 50th anniversary of the mini donut at the Stampede

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ENVIRONMENT

- The “Grown Right Here” program helps to reduce our environmental footprint while serving up an authentic western culinary experience by sourcing food from local producers.
- Lights on the Midway are not turned on until dusk to cut down on power consumption. These programmable systems are used to monitor and control energy use on the Park.
- DIG (Doing It Green) organics collection program is used for all Midway vendors, and the DIG zero waste stations help to educate the public while further diverting waste from landfills. Commissary composting and recycling programs on Park have helped to divert 80% of waste from the landfill.

ANIMALS - GENERAL

- Around 17,000 observational veterinary inspections take place over the 10 days of Stampede, performed by a team of veterinarians who specialize in the care of large animals and livestock.
- More than 7,500 animals come to Stampede Park over the ten days of the Calgary Stampede, though not all stay for the entirety of the Stampede.
- More than 70% of visitors to the Calgary Stampede take the time to experience an animal-related activity. That’s more than a million people each year who seek out animals at the Stampede. There are 50 hours of Western Events programming in the GMC Stadium each Stampede.
- There are 100 hours of Western Events programming in the Nutrien Western Event Centre each Stampede.

CHUCKWAGONS

- A chuckwagon can reach speeds of close to 65 km/per hour.
- Chuckwagon horses are thoroughbred race horses.
- The majority of horses that compete in chuckwagon racing are former racehorses experiencing their second career with the wagons.
- All chuckwagon horses are microchipped. This allows information regarding their care, rest days and other data to be electronically managed.
- 1923 was the first year Chuckwagon racing was introduced at the Calgary Stampede.
- The original ‘chuck’ – or food – wagons were part of life on the range. They were at the heart of camp each night, keeping ranchers and their teams fed.
- The earliest version of the Chuckwagon Races at the Stampede saw teams race the track and then light a fire at the finish line. The first team with flame was the winner!

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STAMPEDE SHOWBAND

- The Calgary Stampede Showband was created in 1971 to serve as the musical ambassadors for the Calgary Stampede.
- Each member of the Calgary Stampede Showband receives around 500 hours of instruction each year - that's more than 50,000 hours for the total band!
- The Calgary Stampede Showband requires around 1,662 uniform pieces for every performance.
- The Calgary Stampede Foundation invests approximately \$3 million annually into various youth programs, such as The Young Canadians School of Performing Arts, Calgary Stampede Showband, and Stampede School

THE YOUNG CANADIANS

- There are 97 Young Canadians currently in the cast
- Ranging from ages 8-21
- Train in performance training, vocal instruction (group and solo), ballet, jazz, tap, acrobatics
- Depending on the age of the performer, they train between 6-12 hours per week through the school year