



Inside the Kentucky Derby

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How to Attend the Kentucky Derby

As the Official Partner of Churchill Downs®, Derby Experiences offers an unmatched experience for the Kentucky Oaks® and Kentucky Derby® with our Official Ticket Packages

About the Kentucky Oaks and Kentucky Derby

The trumpeter sounds the "Call to Post", eyes shift to the starting gate, the announcer readies the contenders ...and they're off! The gates release a thundering stampede of hooves; the stands come alive with a gargantuan roar and a sea of waving tickets and fists surge to the air... who will be victorious?

Kentucky Oaks



Held on the eve of the Kentucky Derby, the Kentucky Oaks is a thrilling stakes race covering 1 1/8 miles and features three-year-old thoroughbred fillies. Taking place on the first Friday of May, it also celebrates Churchill Downs partnership with Bright Pink and Horses & Hope. Guests are encouraged to think pink for their attire to honor the partnerships and the Oaks official flower, the stargazer lily.

Kentucky Derby



Known as "The Most Exciting Two Minutes in Sports", the Kentucky Derby brings horse racing fans and patrons to Churchill Downs annually on the first Saturday of May. The Kentucky Derby is the longest continuously running event in the United States and remains the first leg of the coveted Triple Crown™. The Derby race features three-year-old thoroughbreds who race the 1 ¼ mile stretch for the honor of the roses.



Breaking Down the Seating Sections at Churchill Downs™



PREMIUM

These packages spare nothing but the best for race day. From premium bars, gourmet food selections, impeccable venues and exceptional atmospheres, you can't go wrong with a premium choice.



CLUBHOUSE

If you are seeking a seat right at the finish line, you're looking for the Clubhouse section of Churchill Downs. Spanning from the centermost part of the track all the way down to the first bend, this is one of the most elite seating options available.



GRANDSTAND

Catch all the action stretching from the starting gate out to the round of the final turn from this seating area. It offers three levels of seating, covered and uncovered, granting unparalleled views of the races.

Derby Experiences Hospitality Venues for the Kentucky Derby

<i>Aristides Lounge</i>	<i>Affirmed Lounge</i>	<i>Sunny's Halo Lounge</i>	<i>Citation Lounge</i>	<i>Smarty Jones Lounge</i>
In Track	In Track	In Track	In Track	In Track
Climate-Controlled	Climate-Controlled	Rooftop of Sections 326-328	Climate-Controlled	Climate-Controlled
Clubhouse Area (Above Gate 17)	In Kentucky Derby Museum	Beer, Wine & Soft Drinks	Behind Section 110	Near Gate 1 & Derby Museum
Premium Open Bar	Beer, Wine & Soft Drinks	One-Time Lunch Buffet	Cash Bar	Cash Bar
Gourmet Food Buffets	Gourmet Food Buffets	Celebrity Jockey Meet & Greet	One-Time Lunch Buffet	One-Time Lunch Buffet
Celebrity Jockey Meet & Greet	Celebrity Jockey Meet & Greet	Live Betting Parlor	Celebrity Jockey Meet & Greet	Celebrity Jockey Meet & Greet
Self-Service Wagering Stations	Live Wagering Tellers		Self-Service Wagering Stations	Self-Service Wagering Stations
Live Entertainment	Live Entertainment			



Kentucky Derby Parties

Taste of Derby™

Thursday, May 3rd, 2018

Enjoy a night full of top chef creations and drink pairings on the eve of the Kentucky Oaks.

Fillies & Lilies Party

Friday, May 4th, 2018

Up for a night at the Kentucky Derby Museum? Check out the kick-off party for the Kentucky Derby featuring LIVE entertainment.

Winner's Party

Saturday, May 5th, 2018

Partake in the celebration and action of crowning the new champion alongside winning jockey, trainers, and owners right after the race!



Derby Experiences' Tour Options

Available to all Derby Experiences' clients with Official Ticket Package purchase.

Backstretch Tour at Dawn

Exclusive to Derby Experiences' clients, the Backstretch Tour will take you to the stables where you can get up close and personal with the horses, trainers, owners, and jockeys.

Bourbon Distillery Tours

For more than 200 years, Kentucky's legendary distilleries have crafted the world's finest bourbons. Discover the art itself and taste a few on a Bourbon Distillery Tour.

Private Horse Farm Tours

If you want to know how a working horse farm operates, see their famous stallions or tour the ivy-covered grounds of Keeneland, you don't want to miss the opportunity for a private horse farm tour to get behind the fences.

The Best of Kentucky Tour

Want to combine a horse farm tour and a bourbon distillery tour? The Best of Kentucky is what you're looking for!

What to Wear to the Kentucky Derby

Fashion and style have been a major part of the Kentucky Derby since its inception in 1875.

For the Ladies

- Big Hats
- Bright Colors
- Think Pink for the Kentucky Oaks
- Dresses, Skirts, Rompers & Pantsuits
- Dress for the Weather



For the Gentlemen

- Suits
- Bright Colors & Bold Patterns
- Bow Ties or Ties
- Loafers or Dress Shoes
- Comfort is Key



Dress Code for Your Derby Weekend

It is important to note that, in the majority of the seating areas, you do not have to be "Dressed to the Nines" to be admitted into the races. Below are some great guidelines for achieving the perfect Derby look.

Demin, jeans, shorts are not allowed. Torn or frayed clothing is inappropriate and not allowed.

Casual attire is permitted in all other seating areas, including the Grandstand.

Business casual is required for the Derby Room:

- Jackets and Blazers
- Vests, collared shirts, and sweaters
- Dresses
- Pantsuits
- Slacks

Casual Attire is permitted in the Turf Club, Trophy Room, and Millionaires Row:

- Jackets optional, Blazers
- Vests, collared shirts, and sweaters
- Dresses, Pantsuits
- Slacks, golf shorts, dress shorts, khakis, and capris
- Slacks

What to do in Louisville, Kentucky

Nightlife & Derby Parties

Fourth Street LIVE!



Located on Fourth Street between Liberty and Muhammad Ali Boulevard, it's the heart of Louisville. From the Hard Rock Cafe, to the Maker's Mark Bourbon House & Lounge, to the Fourth Street LIVE! stage, top musicians come to perform during Derby week.

Fillies & Lilies Party



Held immediately following the Kentucky Oaks, live entertainment will take the stage at the Fillies & Lilies Party. Guests can enjoy the open bar and mingle with celebrities as they dance the night away.

Restaurants & Bars

Doc Crow's

If you're looking for savory entrées that will melt in your mouth, Doc Crow's Southern Smokehouse and Raw Bar are where you need to be. With selections such as fried oysters, beef brisket, catfish, and po-boys on the menu, there is something for everyone!

Proof on Main

Whether you're seeking breakfast, brunch, lunch, dinner, or dessert, you can find delectable dishes at Proof on Main. With items such as egg white fritattas, shrimp 'n' grits, bison burgers, fresh scallops, and gelati on the menu throughout the day, you can't go wrong.

Jack Fry's

With tasty options paired with live music on the weeknights, Jack Fry's knows how to bring you in with great performances and make you stay for the fantastic food. There's not much better than the delicious, local Louisville dishes on the menu.



Wagering 101

Placing a bet is a huge part of the Kentucky Derby for many at Churchill Downs. There are many tricks of the trade and superstitions that come along how to bet, types of bets, down to what to wear when you bet.

How to Bet

1

The race's number
(i.e., the first race of the day would be "race number one")

2

The type of bet you would like to make. Here you'll use betting terminology like Win, Place, etc.

3

The dollar amount of your wager.

4

The number of the horse as it is referred to in your racing program.

For Example – "Race 3, \$2 to win on #4"

Betting Terms

Win

Your horse must finish first for you to cash a ticket.

Place

If your horse finishes first or second, you are a winner.

Show

You are a winner if your horse finishes anywhere in the top three.

Across the Board

You're betting to win, place and show. If your horse wins, you collect on win, place and show. If your horse comes in second, you collect on the place and show bets. If your horse comes in third, you collect on the show bet.

Daily Double

Type of wager calling for the selection of winners of two consecutive races, usually the first and second. To collect, you must select the winner of two consecutive races. For example, you must select the winner of the first race and the second race. Wagers must be placed before the first of your two races.

Pick 3

To collect, you must pick the winners of three consecutive races. You must make your selections before the first race of your Pick 3 wager.

Pick 4

To collect, you must pick the winners of four consecutive races. You must make your selections before the first race of your Pick 4 wager.

Boxes and Wheels

You can increase your chances of winning with boxes and wheels because they allow you to combine several bets all on one ticket.

A Partial Wheel

To collect, you must pick the horses that finish first and second in exact order. For example, if you play a 4-7 exacta the #4 horse must Win and the #7 horse must Place (come in second) for you to win the exacta payoff.

Perfecta

You win by picking the first two horses to cross the finish line in exact, or perfect, order.

The Exacta Bets

To collect, you must pick the horses that finish first and second in exact order. For example, if you play a 4-7 exacta the #4 horse must Win and the #7 horse must Place (come in second) for you to win the exacta payoff.

Trifecta

Is similar to an exacta, except you must pick the horses that finish first, second and third in exact order. For example, if you play a 4-7-1 trifecta, the #4 horse must Win and the #7 horse must come in second and the #1 horse must come in third.

Superfecta

Is similar to an exacta and trifecta, except you must pick the horses that finish first, second, third and fourth in exact order.

Twin Trifecta

You win by picking the first three horses to cross the finish line in exact order in both of two designated races. Only those who correctly pick the trifecta finish on the first race may exchange their tickets for a second-half twin trifecta ticket. If no one correctly picks the twin trifecta, the pool is carried over to the next racing day, or until someone wins.

Key

Key a horse to win, plus two others in either order to come in second or third. Pays one half of the Trifecta

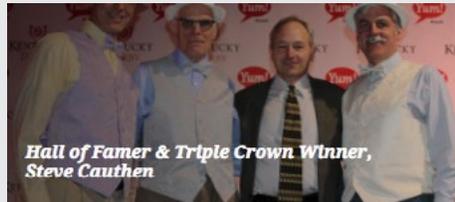
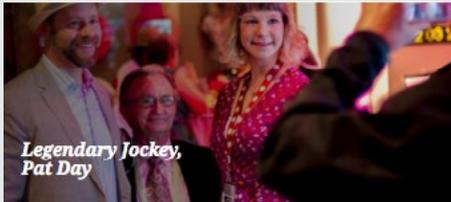
Box

Term to indicate covering your selections in all possible finish orders. Example: \$2 Exacta Box numbers 3 & 8 horses.

NOTE: Trifecta and Superfecta wagering on all races that qualify under Kentucky statutes. Daily Double and Super High-5 wagers are \$1 minimum straight bets. On Oaks Day and Derby Day, the Superfecta is a \$1.00 minimum wager. Trifecta, Pick-3, Pick-4 and Pick-5 wagers are \$.50 minimum straight bets. The Pick-6 is a \$2.00 minimum wager. The Exacta is a \$2.00 minimum straight bet with \$1.00 boxes and wheels.

Celebrity Appearances at the Kentucky Derby

The Kentucky Derby weekend is filled with Legendary Jockeys, Hollywood Celebrities, Celebrated Musicians, World-Class Athletes, and more! When booking with Derby Experiences, your weekend is sure to be elevated by one or more appearances to create the ultimate weekend. Here are some of the guests we have had in the past:



Derby Experiences' Raving Fans



Our seats were really good. Enjoyed being on the final turn, where you could see the jockeys make their big move turning toward the backstretch. And also got to see the horses being loaded for many races.

W. B.



The Hospitality lounge was fantastic, not a complaint, much more than we expected.

L. S.



This was our first time at the Kentucky Derby and we loved it! We will be back.

H. S.



The food and drinks were great! The staff was excellent. Very helpful and friendly!!

R. M.



My entire derby experience was wonderful!!

E. F.



Our experience was amazing!! You are top notch!! The best!!

R. S.