



LIVING

No-Chella? 15 Other Music Festivals We Have on Our Radar



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Florence Welch performs at Sasquatch! Music Festival in George, Washington, 2016.

Photo: Getty Images



Of all the summer music festivals out there, Coachella is without a doubt the most polarizing. Tickets are expensive and hard to come by, as is finding accommodations within a 100-mile radius of Indio, California, for the duration of the event. Then there is the issue of the crowd, which features a mysteriously never-ending onslaught of flower-crown wearers, sponsored bloggers and, for want of a more sophisticated term, frat bros. That said, this year's headliners—Lady Gaga, Radiohead, and Kendrick Lamar—are nothing to shake a stick at. (Beyoncé was supposed to perform, but because of her pregnancy, has postponed Beychella until next year). So although your Instagram feed is about to become choked with Coachella posts for the next two weeks, keep in mind that there are quite a few other exciting music festivals coming up this summer. Here are the ones on our radar.

New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival

New Orleans, Louisiana; April 28–May 7

Despite its name, the event, also known as Jazz Fest, is only partially about old-school jazz these days. So head on down to the Big Easy, grab some po' boys and beignets to go, and rock out at sets from the likes of Kings of Leon, Meghan Trainor, Maroon 5, Nas, Stevie Wonder, and Patti LaBelle.

Stagecoach

Indio, California; April 28–30

If you want to experience the Coachella grounds without actually experiencing Coachella, just show up a week later. That's when Indio transforms into one of the country's largest (and most thrilling) country music festivals, featuring a headlining performance from Shania Twain.

Fyre Festival

Fyre Cay, Bahamas; April 28-30 and May 5-7

Why trek to the Californian desert when you can jet off to the Caribbean instead? This brand-new über-exclusive festival held in the Bahamas's painfully beautiful Exuma cays will showcase acts like Tyga, Desiigner, Disclosure, and Blink-182. But the music is just the beginning—rumor has it that models Alessandra Ambrosio, Bella Hadid, Hailey Baldwin, and Emily Ratajkowski will be in attendance. And since most guests will arrive via private plane, you too can feel like a supermodel for a weekend.

Boston Calling

Boston, Massachusetts; May 26-28

It might be time to take that weekend trip to Boston you've been putting off for so long. This up-and-coming music festival has consistently drawn in lively crowds and an even livelier lineup, with this year's offering including Mumford & Sons, Sigur Rós, Sylvan Esso, Major Lazer, and The xx.

Sasquatch! Music Festival

George, Washington; May 26-28

This is a solid option to come hear a few big names (Frank Ocean, Twenty One Pilots, Chance the Rapper) but also to hear of some acts you won't see at some of the other big fests, like Big Freedia, The Shins, and Kungs. Plus, this festival is held at Washington's iconic Gorge Amphitheatre. It might be a 2.5-hour drive from Seattle, but it's well worth it—overlooking the Columbia River, it's been called one of the most beautiful outdoor theaters in the world.

Electric Forest

Rothbury, Michigan; June 22-25 and June 29-July 2

There has to be a pretty impressive lineup to draw roughly 45,000 deep into the woods in this remote part of Michigan each year. Jam band and electro enthusiasts will be pleased to know that this year's headliners include The String Cheese Incident, Bassnectar, Odesza, and DJ Snake.

Sea Dance Festival

Budva, Montenegro; July 13-15

Budva has been called one of the most beautiful beach towns in all of Europe. And if that isn't reason enough to head to Montenegro this summer, perhaps seeing acts like John Newman, Sean Paul, and Fatboy Slim, is.

FYF Fest

Los Angeles, California; July 21-23

Get your California festival fix without driving to Indio. FYF is held at Exposition Park in the heart of Los Angeles, and this year's lineup is exceptional: Missy Elliott, Björk, Frank Ocean, and Nine Inch Nails will headline, and there will also be sets from Erykah Badu, Solange, A Tribe Called Quest, and cult favorite Horsemeat Disco.

Tomorrowland

Boom, Belgium; July 21-23 and July 28-30

It's no coincidence this mega-festival takes place in a Belgian town called Boom. One of the largest electronic music festivals in the world, this monstrosity of a party draws in some of the most in-demand acts in the world, including Alesso, Afrojack, Armin van Buuren, David Guetta, and Alan Walker. If you're lucky, you'll be filmed for the Tomorrowland Aftermovie, a nearly-cinematic recap of the festival's debauchery.

Panorama

New York, New York; July 28-30

Coachella without having to fly to California! Organized by the same producers as Coachella, this newcomer to the festival circuit returns to Randall's Island Park for the second year in a row this July. Although it's on a much smaller scale than its sister festival, Panorama's lineup this year is still nothing to scoff at, with acts including Frank Ocean, Solange, Justice, MØ, and MGMT.

A Summer's Tale

Luhmühlen, Germany; August 2-5

This intriguing festival is for someone looking for a more holistic experience. It's a combination of alternative music acts—this year including Feist, Conor Oberst, and Franz Ferdinand—with readings, film screenings, workshops, lectures, and even a design market of locally-made goods. It's family-friendly, and camping is encouraged.

Osheaga Music and Arts Festival

Montreal, Canada; August 4-6

Montreal in the summer is one of North America's best-kept secrets, and Osheaga is one of the great, underappreciated music festivals. When you aren't listening to Foster the People, Crystal Castles, The Weeknd, or jamming out to Lorde performing "Green Light" live, you can go for a hike up Mount Royal and then gorge yourself on poutine.

Sziget

Budapest, Hungary; August 9-16

This weeklong behemoth is one of Europe's largest music festivals, drawing in roughly half a million people last year alone. While it's mostly a bunch of European bands that might not be as popular stateside, Major Lazer, P!nk, and Wiz Khalifa will perform. And this one is worth experiencing for its sheer scale alone.

Pukkelpop

Hasselt, Belgium; August 16-19

Blogger Natalie Joos and model César Casier (both Belgian-born) swear by this late-summer Belgian festival. Held in the charming town of Hasselt, the festival is a combination of all-American favorites and some famous-in-Europe bands worth discovering, a recipe for the perfect long weekend in Europe. Highlights include sets from Cypress Hill, The Naked and Famous, Bastille, Clean Bandit, Tove Lo, Halsey, and The Flaming Lips.

Jugendfest

Ålesund, Norway; August 18-19

Coastal Norway might not sound like the most obvious destination for an EDM festival, but every summer, devout fans make the journey north to Ålesund for Jugendfest. And it isn't just the fjords they're here to see—the occasion draws in some of the biggest names in electronic music, including Seeb, Galantis, Tiësto, and Norwegian heartthrob Kygo.