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Anguilla Launches 52nd Summer Festival, Setting Stage for Carnival, Boat Racing and Global Homecoming

The 52nd edition of Anguilla's signature summer celebration will culminate in Carnival festivities from July 24 to August 9, 2026, with organizers highlighting boat racing, culture, tourism, diaspora homecoming, and a new Festival Passport Program.

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Anguilla Summer Festival Winners 2025 By. ANGUILLA SUMMER FESTIVAL COMMITTEE.

Anguilla has officially launched the 52nd edition of its Summer Festival, setting in motion weeks of cultural celebration that organizers say will once again place Carnival and boat racing at the

heart of one of the island’s biggest annual events. Running through the summer and culminating in Carnival festivities from July 24 to August 9, 2026, the festival is expected to draw residents, members of the diaspora, and visitors from around the world for what is being promoted as the ultimate Caribbean summer experience.

The launch signals the start of planning and public buildup for a celebration long regarded as a major expression of Anguilla’s culture and identity. Organizers say this year’s edition will feature electrifying entertainment, vibrant cultural programming, and the island’s celebrated boat racing tradition.

Speaking at the official media launch, Ministerial Assistant Hon. Jeison Bryan said the festival continues to serve as a central part of Anguilla’s cultural life while also playing an important role in the island’s summer tourism economy. He said this year’s presentation places special emphasis on two defining elements of the celebration — Carnival and boat racing — describing them as powerful symbols of the rhythm, pride, and heritage that shape the Anguillian spirit.

The Anguilla Tourist Board also used the launch to reaffirm its role in promoting the event beyond the island. Through Chief Marketing Officer Mrs. Kendisha Hall-Prentice, the board said it remains committed to working alongside the Summer Festival Committee to market the celebration internationally, attract visitors, and position Anguilla as the premier destination for the summer season.

ANGUILLA FESTIVALS DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

ANGUILLA SUMMER FESTIVAL

JULY 10TH - AUGUST 9TH

JULY

- 10 Village-Rama
- 11 Calypso Semi-Finals
- 12 Miss Tiny Tott Pageant
- 18 WASTED Cooler Festival
- 26 Peter Perkins Boat Race
Miss Anguilla Pageant: Part I
- 29 Opening Night and Fireworks Display
- 30 Jr. Calypso Monarch
Soca Monarch
- 31 Wet Fete

AUGUST

- 1 South Valley Community Street Festival
Band Clash/Band-O-Rama
- 2 Boat Race
Carnival at Leons
Prince & Princess Show
- 3 J'ouvert Morning
Sir Emile Gumbs Boat Race
Caribbean Beach Party
- 4 Boat Race
Miss Talented Teen Pageant
- 5 Boat Race
Miss Anguilla Pageant: Part II
- 6 Eyes Wide Shut
August Thursday
Beach Party and Boat Race
Senior Calypso Monarch
- 7 Grand Parade of Troupes
- 8 Poker Run
Leeward Islands
Calypso Monarch
- 9 Champ of Champions
Boat Race
Splash III

ANGUILLA

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www.anguillasummerfestival.com

Festival Chairman Fitzroy “Briggy” Tomlinson announced the official promotional theme for 2026: “Anguilla for Summer.” The campaign is intended to encourage Anguillians living abroad to return home for the season while also inviting international travelers to come to the island and experience the festival firsthand.

Among the new features introduced for this year is the Festival Passport Program, which organizers described as an interactive engagement initiative aimed at encouraging patrons to attend multiple festival events. Under the program, participants will have their passport scanned each time they attend an event, earning them entry into prize drawings to be held at the close of the Carnival season.

Anguilla Festivals Development Commission Chairman Romare Kelsick said the festival continues to play an important role in presenting the island’s traditions through music, pageantry, community celebration, and boat racing, which remains one of Anguilla’s most recognized cultural hallmarks.

Organizers said preparations are already underway, and applications have opened for event promoters and partners as planning for the summer celebration continues to build.

From July 24 through August 9, Anguilla is expected to come alive with color, music, and Carnival festivities as the 52nd Summer Festival unfolds across the island.

Residents, the diaspora, and visitors are all being invited to take part in Anguilla Summer Festival 52, where culture, boat racing, and Carnival come together.