

KEEP THESE RULES FOR YOUR FILES.

TAMPA BAY BLUES FESTIVAL – APRIL 10, 11, 12, 2026

Vinoy Waterfront Park – Downtown St. Petersburg

(701 Bay Shore Drive NE, St. Petersburg, FL 33701)

FESTIVAL SPONSOR/VENDOR RULES

1. **Set Up on Thursday.** Vendor set up is scheduled for the day before (Thursday) the Festival weekend, beginning at **8:00 a.m.** No vendor is allowed at the park before Thursday unless approved by Charles Ross. Please make sure your set up is complete by 4:00 p.m. so that the electrician has plenty of time for hook ups and the **fire inspector can inspect cooking booths by 5:00 p.m.** All vendors must supply their own tents, tables, electrical cords (bring long cords), water hoses, lights, etc. **Please look for the name of your business via the stakes that will be in the ground. We will not be able to give you a site map in advance. Space placement is not guaranteed. Many factors determine the placement of vendors. No music can be played that can be heard outside of your set up.**

2. **Patron Entrance Times (Approximate).** Gates open at approximately one hour before the music starts.

3. **Safety.** You are solely responsible for complying with all safety, health, and fire code requirements. You must have a **fire extinguisher** at your location if you are dealing with any electronic, cooking, or grilling equipment. Propane/fire extinguishers will be inspected by the fire marshal.

4. **Electrical Hook-up.** Vinoy Park provides regular electrical hook-up. **You will be responsible for bringing electric cords** (the longer the better). You must indicate on your application whether or not you are a heavy electric load user; if so – bring a generator, as we cannot guarantee heavy load electricity in the park. If you are a food or heavy electric load user, **YOU MUST HAVE A GENERATOR FOR BACKUP.** You are responsible for supplying all power cords which may be required to connect to suitable power. We will have an electrician on site on Thursday for your assistance. Please remember to provide lighting for the night portion of the Festival. The Fire Marshal will walk the park at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday.

5. **Access to Location During Event.** Vendor access on festival days begins at 8:00 a.m. Beginning at 11:00 a.m. on Friday & Saturday and 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, you will **not** be allowed to operate a motor vehicle or other vehicle to and from your vending location. **This means you must stock your supplies in advance and make suitable arrangements to operate your space without travelling across the Festival grounds.** Should an emergency arise, please contact Charles Ross so that your concerns may be resolved. Please make sure all of your products are at your space by two hours before the gates open. The music concludes at 10:00 p.m. each night. Because of the configuration of vendors at the festival, once you are situated on Thursday, you may not move your vehicle until Sunday evening after the crowd has dispersed.

6. **Indemnification and Insurance.** You are solely responsible for any injuries, accidents, or losses which may be sustained as a result of your vending operations at Vinoy Park. The Tampa Bay Blues Foundation Inc., PARC, Charles W. Ross, and the City of St. Petersburg shall have no responsibility for any accident or injury caused by your activities. You must maintain your own liability insurance and have proof of insurance available during the Festival for inspection purposes. By participating in the Tampa Bay Blues Festival, you are agreeing to indemnify and hold harmless the City of St. Petersburg and the Tampa Bay Blues Foundation, Inc., and their employees, agents, volunteers, officers, and directors from any damages, lawsuits, or claims arising out of your vending activities at the Tampa Bay Blues Festival including, but not limited to, any injuries, damages, or accidents which are directly or indirectly related to your participation in

the event. **You must send a copy of your insurance certificate with your application. The Named Insured should be: Tampa Bay Blues Foundation Inc.**

7. **Restricted Products.** **No drinks of any type may be sold at the Tampa Bay Blues Festival (unless negotiated in advance), as the Festival retains the right to sell all drink products.**

8. **Exclusivity.** The Blues Festival is UNABLE TO GUARANTY ANY EXCLUSIVITY or restrictions on the number of vendors or the type of products sold unless negotiated in advance. You will be assigned a space based upon the judgment of the Blues Festival, and **no locations are guaranteed.** We will certainly do our best to provide you with a convenient and suitable space for the sale of your products. While we aggressively market the festival, we **do not guarantee any number of festival patrons** or any number of vendors at the festival. It is your responsibility to insure that your product is appropriate for this festival.

9. **Conduct.** The Blues Festival is a family oriented event. You should refrain from selling any products which would offend children or which would otherwise not fit the format of this type of function. You are responsible for controlling your employees, and all vendors must conduct themselves in a courteous and polite manner. Our image is important to us, and by following these simple procedures, you will be benefited.

10. **Clean-Up.** All vending materials must be removed from the park no later than the Monday after the festival at noon. **You are responsible for removing all debris and cooking materials (coals, etc.) from the site.**

11. **Security.** The Blues Festival will provide security beginning Thursday evening and continuing, overnight, on Friday, Saturday, & Sunday. While such security is provided, the Blues Festival and the Tampa Bay Blues Foundation, Inc., shall not be responsible for any stolen, lost, or damaged items of equipment or personal belongings. You shall be solely responsible for the protection and safeguarding of valuables and release the Blues Festival and the Tampa Bay Blues Foundation, Inc., from any losses or damage to your property. Please handle your affairs as you deem appropriate with respect to protecting your equipment and belongings. **No overnight camping at the Festival is allowed. NO DRONES ARE ALLOWED AT THE FESTIVAL – WE ARE IN A DIRECT FLIGHT PATH OF AN AIRPORT.**

12. **State Laws.** You are responsible for paying all appropriate sales tax with respect to the sale of goods and for procuring all permits and documentation as may be required by local and state government to operate within the state of Florida. You are also responsible for any licensing fees which may be required by any governmental entities.

13. **General Provisions.** All vending fees are **nonrefundable.** Your payment of the entry fee constitutes your right to participate at the Festival. Should any entry fees not clear our account or not be paid in full, you have no right to participate at the event. The Tampa Bay Blues Foundation, Inc., will not return any vendor fees for any reason, including your dissatisfaction with your assigned space.

14. **Vendor Wristbands.** Wristbands are only good for one day; the Festival reserves the right to limit wristbands to a reasonable quantity based upon your entrance fee. Please insure that all vendors/employees wear the appropriate wristbands at all times during the Festival event.

15. **Parking.** Due to the fact that this event takes place in downtown St. Petersburg, parking is at a premium and you will be responsible for your own parking arrangements. No parking of any vehicle is allowed on Bayshore Drive which is the road directly in front of the festival. Vendor parking is allowed on North Shore Drive NE (the road in front of the dog park) and at the tennis courts if you request a pass on or before March 15.

18. **Directions (you will be heading east to the water of Tampa Bay).**

From the north: I-275 South to St. Petersburg

Exit at I-375 (exit 23A) and continue straight until Beach Drive NE

Make a left on Beach Drive

Make a right on 7th Avenue NE (go into park at this north vendor gate)

From the east: I-4 to Tampa to I-275 to St. Petersburg

Exit at I-375

Make a left on Beach Drive

Make a right on 7th Avenue NE (go into park at this north vendor gate)

From the south: I-275 to Downtown St. Petersburg

Exit at I-375

Make a left on Beach Drive

Make a right on 7th Avenue NE (go into park at this north vendor gate)

19. **Straws**. Please be advised that **plastic straws are not allowed at Vinoy Park**. Straws must be made from paper, metal, pasta, or other biodegradable material.

20. **Styrofoam Containers**: Please be advised that Expanded Polystyrene (aka Styrofoam) containers are not allowed at Vinoy Park. Any questions relative to straws or Styrofoam containers should be directed to the Sustainability director, Alex Hancock, 727-893-7349; Alexandria.hancock@st.pete.org.

Revised: 5-11-25

Temporary Office (Mailing) Location:

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www.tampabaybluesfest.com

**TAMPA BAY BLUES FESTIVAL 2026
IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW!**

- **SET UP:** Set up day/time is Thursday from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. in order to place you and get you hooked up to electricity. Fire marshal inspection is at approximately 4:00 p.m. on Thursday. If your set up is 20' or over, please email us if you need permission to set up on Wednesday.
- **ENTRY INTO PARK ON FRIDAY, SATURDAY, & SUNDAY:** You are allowed into the park each day from 8:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. on Friday & Saturday and 7:00 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. on Sunday.
- **VENDOR PLACEMENT.** There is a specific vendor line, and all vendors MUST be in line. No vendor may move their space beyond the front of their line per fire marshal regulations. Please do not ask to be placed in a particular space; we are doing our very best to make the event safe for all attendees, staff, artists, and vendors. You may not encroach on the adjacent vendor's space, so be sure you have your EXACT measurements.
- **NO PETS.** No pets allowed except for service animals
- **HEAVY LOAD – ELECTRIC.** All vendors must have a backup generator. This includes coffee, ice cream, and ice vendors. We cannot guarantee heavy loads as this is a public park.
- **NO REFUNDS.** Once accepted, no refunds will be given for any reason, including your personal scheduling, and postponement due to state or county orders, or weather.

Vendor Entry Hours:

Friday – 8:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Saturday – 8:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Sunday – 8:00 to 11:30 a.m.