

MKE | FAQs

Convention FAQs

What are the dates of the convention?

The dates for the core convention are October 11-15, 2020. Pre and post tour dates vary and will be found on the pre and post tour listings page.

Is the The Hilton Milwaukee City Center offering a special room rate before and after the convention?

If you are not attending a pre or post tour and would like to arrive before or stay after the core convention, the hotel is offering rooms between October 5th and October 18th. The special room rate is \$129 per night. That will be available until Friday, September 11, 2020 or until the group block is sold-out, whichever comes first. Price does not include sales and/or occupancy tax or fees. A credit card will be required at checkout to guarantee your reservation at the hotel for both the core convention and any additional nights. Once you've registered and submitted payment for the convention, you will be emailed a receipt that includes the link to book your hotel reservation. If you don't receive that email, please send a note to info@satw.org.

Will there be day passes available?

No, all attendees must register for the full convention.

Will there be a joiner fee?

Since the registration does not include airfare, there will be no joiner fee.

What does the registration fee include?

The registration fee includes ground transportation to/from hotel, four night stay at the convention hotel, all meals (Sunday evening through Thursday morning), all professional development sessions, Marketplace, Awards dinner, One full-day tour or two half-day tours, Chapter and Council meetings, SATW business meeting, Opening reception Sunday evening, Farewell dinner Wednesday evening, and tour tips.

How soon will I know which day tours I have been assigned?

All tour assignments selections will be confirmed via email during the week of August 17.

Can I make changes to my requests for day tours, pre/post tours or when I receive them?

Our registrar cannot accommodate requests to swap day tours.

For pre/post tours, as of August 11 changes cannot be accommodated. Effective August 11, SATW's no-refund policy for cancellations is in effect.

PLEASE NOTE: Per SATW's Code of Conduct, attendees are expected to participate in all activities for which they registered. If an attendee must cancel a tour he/she is expected to notify the registrar as soon as possible. Anyone

missing two or more scheduled activities for which they are registered without giving prior notification to the registrar may be liable for Code of Conduct violations.

Have itineraries for day tours and pre/post tours been finalized?

Although largely accurate today, all itineraries are subject to revisions between now and October. A few weeks prior to the convention all attendees will receive a personalized itinerary reflecting their individual tour arrangements.

Can my guest come on a pre-post tour with me?

Yes, but they must register for a pre-post tour with their accompanying member; they cannot travel independently from the member.

Are there any special requirements to be able to participate in a pre or post tour?

All participants on pre and post tours in the region must be prepared for a reasonable amount of walking. Participants are expected to be able to manage the requirements as noted in each tour itinerary.

What is the appropriate dress code?

In the cool October of the Midwest, you should be prepared for cooler temperatures and plan to layer your garments, perhaps with a light vest and/or jacket as the outer layer(s). Please bring comfortable walking shoes. For the day tours during the core convention and the pre- and post-convention tours we recommend casual attire but refer to the individual itineraries for specific apparel suggestions. For the SATW program activities and evening programs and meals we suggest business-casual attire. No formal events are scheduled.

Are tips included in the convention package?

Tips for guides and drivers on day tours and pre/post tours are included. Tips for maids, bellhops and waiters are at your discretion.

Is there a cancellation deadline?

Cancellations up until July 31, 2020 will not be assessed a fee. Cancellations between August 1 – August 6 will be assessed a \$150 fee. There will be no refunds provided after August 7, 2020. All cancellations must be received in writing by the SATW Convention Registrar. Exceptions will be made only for documentable and serious medical emergencies or death of someone in the member's immediate family (e.g., spouse, spouse equivalent, child, parent, sibling, grandchild, grandparent). In these instances, the member will receive a full refund minus a \$150 processing fee. In the case of a medical emergency, a note from the attending physician is required stating he/she is unable to travel due to medical reasons. The approval of the refund exception must be made by the SATW President, or in his/her absence, the SATW President Elect. Any appeals by a member will be reviewed by the Executive Committee and a final decision will be issued within 60 days. SATW strongly recommends that members purchase optional trip insurance for cancellation, interruption, illness, injury, and baggage loss or damage from [Medjet Assist](#) (U.S. and Canadian members only).

Hashtags

#SATWMKE
#VisitMKE
#TravelWI

Milwaukee FAQs

What is Milwaukee weather like in October?

The average monthly high in October is 59 degrees with the average low being 43 degrees. Although Milwaukee's 23 million visitors come to the city almost evenly across all seasons, fall is the highest with 28 percent of visitors during autumn. Fall color traditionally peaks in the Milwaukee area during early October.

What should I pack?

Be sure to dress in layers as the weather can vary with the temperature often much cooler the nearer you are to Lake Michigan. For active events, we encourage you to bring close toed walking shoes, water bottle(s), a backpack or bag, and perhaps some snacks.

What is Milwaukee's population size?

Milwaukee county is home to 952,085 persons. The four-county area (including Milwaukee, Washington, Waukesha and Ozaukee counties) has a population of 1.5 million.

What time zone is Milwaukee in?

During the convention, Milwaukee will be in Central Daylight Time (CDT).

Is Milwaukee safe?

Milwaukee is a safe city and growing even safer each year with the city crime rate being down 30 percent over 10 years.

How do I travel around Milwaukee?

- [The Hop](#) streetcar is a 2.1-mile loop connecting some of the city's popular neighborhoods and attractions
- Rideshare and Taxi are available from companies like Uber, Lyft, and American United Taxicab Services.
- [BublR Bikes](#), Milwaukee bikeshare program, has station located throughout Milwaukee, Wauwatosa, and West Allis
- [Milwaukee County Transit System \(MCTS\)](#) buses run throughout Milwaukee County, including special shuttles during lakefront events
- Walking around Milwaukee's compact downtown or along the city's RiverWalk are popular options to get around the city

Where can I find story ideas?

[General story ideas can be found on their website](#). For access to downloadable photos and b-roll from the VISIT Milwaukee media library, you may create an account [here](#). To discuss more in-depth story angles please reach out to pr@milwaukee.org.

Milwaukee fun facts:

Milwaukee is the largest city in the state of Wisconsin and ranks No. 31 in the U.S.

Milwaukee is located on Lake Michigan, the largest lake in fully inside the United States and the second largest Great Lake, with 22,300 square miles of fresh water.

Because of Milwaukee's placement on Lake Michigan and three intersecting rivers, Milwaukee is a freshwater hub in the country. Milwaukee's 7-county area has more than 200 water technology companies. Milwaukee is home to over 150 state and county parks, about 1,400 acres of beaches, and 130 miles of bike trails.

There are 191 distinct neighborhoods in Milwaukee.

Milwaukee scored 100 on the Human Rights Campaign's Municipal Equality Index, an accomplishment only 77 cities out of 506 have achieved.

The Rockwell Automation/Allen Bradley Clock Tower houses the second largest four-faced clock in the world (larger than Big Ben in London).

Milwaukee is nicknamed Cream City because of its distinctive cream-colored brick and Brew City because of its rich brewing history (it's home to four beer barons: Miller, Schlitz, Blatz, and Pabst).

Milwaukee is home to the oldest sanctioned bowling alley in the country, built in 1908, Holler House.

Wisconsin is home to three current professional sports MVPs: Giannis Antetokounmpo from the Milwaukee Bucks, Christian Yelich from the Milwaukee Brewers, and Aaron Rodgers from the Green Bay Packers.

What are the city's signature events?

Milwaukee is the City of Festivals. From the world's largest music festival – Summerfest – to countless ethnic festivals, neighborhood street parties, and even a 24-hour bike race, there's always something to celebrate in Milwaukee.

Summerfest – The world's largest music festival takes place in Milwaukee annually during the last week of June/first week of July. For 11 days, Henry Maier Festival Park welcomes over 800 musical guests of all genres to perform across their 11 stages, including big names such as Bob Dylan, Billie Eilish, Lizzo, The Rolling Stones, Willie Nelson, and many more.

Ethnic Festivals – Nearly every weekend throughout the summer in Milwaukee is spent celebrating one of the numerous ethnicities that make up our wonderfully diverse city. Many of the nearly 25 ethnic festivals, such as the longest-running Festa Italiana or the world's largest Celtic festival, Irish Fest, take place at Henry Maier Festival Park. Others, such as Bastille Days, Scottish Fest, or Croatian Fest, are held throughout the community.

Milwaukee Film Festival – One of the top 10 film festivals in the United States in terms of attendance, number of films, and festival length will kick off its 12th season on October 15 and run through the 29th. The 2019 festival welcomed over 87,000 attendees, screened nearly 350 films at six venues across the city and, continues to grow every year.

Harley-Davidson Rally – Milwaukee is the homeplace of Harley-Davidson. Every year over Labor Day weekend the city celebrates this iconic brand, but every five years, we throw a huge celebration welcoming 150,000 Harley-Davidson riders to Milwaukee.

Explore Milwaukee's major event calendar [here](#), and Milwaukee's upcoming events [here](#).

Compliments of VISIT Milwaukee.