# A Graduate Student Guide to Lexington



Current as of August 2020

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Lexington was founded in 1775, seventeen years before Kentucky became a state. William McConnell and a group of frontier explorers were camped at a natural spring when the news arrived that the first battle of the American Revolution had been fought in Lexington, Massachusetts. In honor of the battle, the group named the site Lexington. By 1820, Lexington was one of the largest and wealthiest towns west of the Allegheny Mountains. The city soon gained the nickname "Athens of the West" because of its highly cultured lifestyle.

Today, Lexington is heralded as America's 10th most educated city with a population exceeding 250,000. It has also been ranked as the 4th best city for businesses and careers by Forbes, the 5th best city for young professionals, and the 6th best value city by Kiplinger.

Lexington is a cultured city with much history to explore and experiences to partake in. It is a balance of idyllic beauty as you drive by horse farms that birthed award winning horses and of a bustling city full of industry including Jiff, Amazon, Lockheed-Martin, and Toyota. Lexington is home to Mary Todd Lincoln, Henry Clay, Jefferson Davis, Chris Stapleton, Ashley Judd and many others. Most importantly, Lexington is now part of your home here at the University of Kentucky. We're happy to have you join us and hope you make the most of this guide to experience Lexington and our great Commonwealth.

#### **Breweries and Bars**

#### Arcardium Bar

Located in a historic building on North Limestone. Features 20 craft beers on tap and one cask ale. They also have 9 classic 1980's arcade games such as Asteroid, Centipede, Donkey Kong, Galaga, etc, all playable for \$0.25. They also offer one of the best Bloody Mary bars in Lexington on Sundays only.

## Blue Stallion Brewery

Located on the corner of 3rd Street and Newtown Pike, Blue Stallion Brewing Company specializes in crafting quality European-style lagers and ales with a German theme throughout the brewery. Their beautiful copper-clad brewing system is viewable adjacent to the incredibly tall bar. Munich Dunkel, German Pilsner, and Smoked Lager are several of their signature brews. Typically 10-12 of their own brews on tap and guest beers fill up the remainder of their beer menu.

## Campus Pub

Located on Waller Avenue, Campus Pub is a great place to catch a game or grab a drink with friends. Open 365 days a year, this high-energy college sports bar offers basic pub food with late hours.

## Chase Brewing Company

Chase Brewing is located in the emerging Jefferson Street corridor at the corner of 3rd St & Jefferson. Chase has a full bar and serves stone baked pizzas.

#### Country Boy Brewing

Country Boy Brewing opened in February 2012 and has been vital in the beer revolution of Lexington. The Country Boys make beers with local fruits, vegetables, and hops and are masters of barrel aging. The tap room typically features 12-14 of their own and the remainder of the 24 taps are filled with great regional craft beers.

#### Ethereal Brewing

Ethereal Brewing is located in the Distillery District and focuses on Belgian farmhouse and American craft beers

#### Marikka's Bier Stube

Marikka's is a German restaurant, bar, brewery, and volleyball complex located on Southland Dr. Marikka's offers more than 500 beers, Kentucky's largest beer selection. Marikka's offers both local beers, such as those from All-Tech, Country Boys, and West Sixth, as well as beers from around the world

#### Mirror Twin Brewing

Mirror Twin is home to the first twin draft system. They take some of their favorite recipes and "twin" them by brewing two identical beers but changing one ingredient (different hops, yeast strains, grain, etc.). Offers 20 beers on tap as well as pizza.

## Pivot Brewing

Lexington's first cider brewery and taproom. The apples are pressed and fermented onsite. They also make small batch beer.

## The Beer Trappe

Voted one of the top 100 Beer Bars in the country! Featuring eight rotating taps of rare craft beer and a selection of over 500 specialty bottles from around the world. The Beer Trappe employs one of Lexington's only Certified Cicerones and leads tasting classes every Sunday at 2pm and 4pm called Beer School.

## The Village Idiot

Lexington's first Gastropub offers locally sourced food that earns a spot at the table with their outstanding craft beer selection, quality wines, and exciting house recipe cocktails, while providing attentive service and an overall exceptional experience. Housed in a building that is Lexington's oldest surviving Post Office, circa 1825.

## West Sixth Brewing

West Sixth is the driving force behind the renewed Jefferson Street corridor, located at the north end of Jefferson in the renovated Rainbow Bread factory. Spacious and bright brewpub and beer garden with Smithtown Seafood adjacent to the tap room for some delicious food. The bar features approximately 18 West Sixth beers at any given time, experimental beer every Wednesday, and a Firkin tapping every Thursday.

## Coffeeshops

## Cherry Seed Coffee Roastery

Visit the shop on Southland Drive or their coffee trike at the farmer's market! Offering a selection of pastries and classic coffee creations with homemade syrups.

## Coffea

Spacious coffeehouse serving espresso drinks, pastries & light daytime fare in a relaxed atmosphere. Located just off campus on Avenue of Champions.

#### Common Grounds

Quaint, chill coffeehouse with live music and open-mike nights, Offers a menu of sandwiches and wraps. Located on East High Street.

## A Cup of Commonwealth

A local coffeehouse dedicated to embracing community, serving others, and creating culture. Located on Eastern Avenue.

## High on Art and Coffee

A cozy coffeehouse with coffee and art. The art, jewelry, beauty supplies and other items are hand made by artists, near and far with 98% of the items are made right here in Kentucky. All coffee and tea is Fair Trade, Organic. Local goods are used whenever possible. Located on East High Street.

## Lussi Brown Coffee Bar

Lexington's full-service coffee shop all day and onlyNightcap Coffee Bar. Specifically providing specialty coffee & tea cocktails after 4pm Mon-Sat & after 11am Sundays. Located on Church Street.

## Third Street Stuff

Funky coffeehouse offering hot drinks, sandwiches, and desserts on North Limestone. You can't miss it.

# Wild Fig Books and Coffee

A worker cooperative on North Limestone with a unique book buying, coffee sipping, community building experience.

#### **Distilleries**

# Barrel House Distilling Company

Located in the barreling house of the old Pepper Distillery in the Distillery District, they strive to continue the tradition of the old Kentucky Distillers by producing fine spirits made with traditional methods. You can sample their products while learning about Lexington's rich distilling heritage and review the distilling process.

## Bluegrass Distillers

Bluegrass Distillers is a craft bourbon distillery on West Sixth Street. You can try their products and tour the distillery.

#### Four Roses

Four Roses is one of the distilleries on the Kentucky Bourbon Trail. The distillery is located in Lawrenceburg and a single-rack warehouse and bottling facility in Cox's Creek. Both locations provide tastings, but the distillery provides tours. Reservations are recommended, but guests are welcome to drop by for first come, first serve availability.

## James E. Pepper

Visit the James E. Pepper Distillery - a National Historic Landmark. Originally built in 1869, the distillery ceased production in 1958 and was abandoned for over 50 years. Since then the blighted property and surrounding area has become the thriving Distillery District and James E. Pepper had returned to its original home. Take a tour or enjoy a sampling.

## Town Branch

Town Branch is one of the distilleries on the Kentucky Bourbon Trail. A microbrewery & distillery specializing in bourbon-barrel ale. Offers on-site tours and tastings. Located on Cross Street.

#### Wild Turkey

Wild Turkey in Lawrenceburg is honored as one of the distilleries on both the American Whiskey Trail and Kentucky Bourbon Trail. Wild Turkey has been crafting fine whiskey and bourbon for over 75 years. Take a tour or enjoy a tasting.

## Woodford Reserve

Located in Versailles, Woodford Reserve is one of the distilleries on the Kentucky Bourbon Trail. Woodford Reserve distills at its original farm in Woodford County and has been designated as a National Historic Landmark. All bourbon is still hand crafted in small batches. Take a tour and enjoy a tasting. Reservations strongly recommended.

Travel the Kentucky Bourbon Trail to tour and experience the other designated distilleries. The main trail features:

- Angel's Envy (Louisville)
- Bardstown Bourbon Company (Bardstown)
- Bulleit Frontier Whiskey (Louisville)
- Evan Williams Bourbon (Louisville)
- Four Roses Distillery (Lawrenceburg)
- Heaven Hill (Bardstown)
- Jim Beam American Stillhouse (Clermont)
- Jim Beam Urban Stillhouse (Louisville)
- Lux Row Distillers (Louisville)
- Maker's Mark (Loretto)
- Michter's Fort Nelson Distillery (Louisville)
- Old Forester Distilling Company (Louisville)
- O.Z. Tyler Distillery (Louisville)
- Town Branch Distillery (Lexington)
- Wild Turkey Distillery (Lawrenceburg)
- Woodford Reserve (Versailles)

## The craft tour portion of the trail features:

- Barrel House Distilling (Lexington)
- Bluegrass Distillers (Lexington)
- Boone County Distilling Company
- Hartfield and Company (Paris)
- Jeptha Creed Distillery (Shelbyville)
- Kentucky Artisan Distillery (Crestwood)
- Kentucky Peerless Distilling Company (Louisville)
- Limestone Branch Distillery (Lebanon)
- MB Roland Distillery (Pembroke)
- New Riff Distillery (Newport)
- Old Pogue Distillery (Maysville)
- Wilderness Trail Distillery (Danville)
- Willett Distillery (Bardstown)

#### Restaurants

## Alfalfa

Alfalfa Restaurant is located downtown on East Main Street and has been a Lexington staple since 1973. Celebrating a legacy of Keeping It Local, Keeping Lexington Nourished, and Keeping it Weird!

#### Athenian Grill

Two locations located on Ashland Avenue and Locust Hill Drive. Both bring you fresh Greek favorites inspired by real family recipes.

## Bangkok House

Amazing Thai food right on Avenue of Champions.

#### Bourbon *n' Toulouse*

Bourbon n' Toulouse recreates the tastes of New Orleans with the sounds and colors of the city. Enjoy flavorful Creole and Cajun dishes at Lexington's own little French Quarter on Euclid Avenue. Offers many gluten free options.

#### Charlie Brown's

Rustic spot for sandwiches, appetizers & beer in a cozy setting with books, a fireplace, and a patio on Euclid Avenue.

#### Crank and Boom Craft Ice Cream

Two locations in the Distillery District and Fritz Farm serving craft ice cream creations with local ingredients.

## Donut Days

Donut Days Bakery is a family-owned-and-operated full service bakery located on the south side of Lexington. Fresh baked cookies, cakes, rolls, breads, pastries, donuts and other specialty baked goods daily.

## Goodfellas Pizzeria

Enjoy New York pizza in a speakeasy inspired restaurant. Two locations on Mill Street and on Manchester Street in the Distillery District. The Distillery District Location has an outdoor patio with fire pits and bocce ball.

#### Joe Bologna's

Longtime pizza parlor and Italian restaurant with a casual vibe housed in a former synagogue with stained-glass windows on Maxwell Street.

#### Joella's Hot Chicken

It's where the chicken bites back! Rustic, timber-lined spot for poultry, wings, and waffles in a casual, counter-serve environment. Located on Cochran Road.

#### Josie's

Breakfast mainstay serving pancakes, cheese grits, and other American eats. Breakfast served all day as well as lunch and dinner seatings. Located on Chevy Chase Place.

## Kentucky Native Cafe

An urban oasis hidden inside a family-owned five-generation nursery, Kentucky Native Café is an addition to the well-loved Michler's Florist Greenhouse & Garden Design on Maxwell Street. Only serving food seasonally. Michler's menu features mostly vegetarian fare — with fresh breads, local fruits and vegetables, herbs grown in their greenhouse, and local craft beer on tap. A great escape from the bustle, this is a unique place to sit outside and enjoy the beauty of carefully cultivated greenhouses and landscaping.

#### The Local Taco

The simple pleasures of Tex-Mex meet the traditions of Southern cuisine. Local Taco strives to source as many organic and locally grown ingredients as possible. Located on South Limestone.

## Lexington Diner

Neighborhood nook with burgers and other locally sourced fare for breakfast, lunch, and weekend brunch. Located on Lane Allen Road.

## Magee's Bakery

Airy, rustic-chic establishment dishing up coffee, pastries & sandwiches since 1956 on East Main Street.

## Mellow Mushroom

Funky, art-filled chain pizzeria featuring craft beer, calzones, and creative stone-baked pizzas on South Upper Street.

#### North Lime Coffee and Donuts

Serving fresh baked speciality donuts and coffee at two locations -- North Limestone and Clays Mill. Varieties change daily.

## Spalding's Bakery

A Lexington staple since 1929! Enduring, old-school spot for fried donuts and classic baked goods like cream horns and sticky buns. Spalding's only accepts cash. Located on Winchester Road.

#### Winchell's

Lively sports bar for drinks, standard pub grub, and Southern favorites such as Hot Browns. Located on Southland Drive

#### **Local Attractions**

#### Arboretum

The Arboretum is the state's botanical garden and is located on the grounds of the University. The 100 acres houses the Walk Across Kentucky which includes plants and trees from Kentucky's seven physiographic regions, The Arboretum Woods, rose gardens, horticulture display gardens and the Kentucky Children's Garden. There is a great paved trail for walking and running.

## Ashland, the Henry Clay Estate

Ashland, the home of famous 19th-century statesman Henry Clay, was the initial site of what would become the University of Kentucky. The home is at the edge of downtown Lexington on a beautiful 20-acre wooded estate with an English parterre garden. The home is filled with Clay family belongings and memorabilia. There are daily guided tours as well as seasonal events such as a Christmas light up night.

#### Aviation Museum

Located at the Blue Grass Airport, this museum features aircraft, aviation artifacts and equipment, simulators, and interactive displays. The changing collection of modern and restored historic aircraft includes a 'Blue Angels' A-4 Skyhawk and a rare Crosley Moonbeam biplane.

## "Big Lex" Scavenger Hunt

At the root of the legend of the blue horse is the famous horse of the mid 1800's named *Lexington*. Find these ten sites related to the horse behind the legend, and The Lexington Visitors Bureau will reward you with a special prize! Visit <a href="https://www.visitlex.com/things-to-do/scavenger-hunt/">https://www.visitlex.com/things-to-do/scavenger-hunt/</a>.

#### Bluegrass Heritage Museum

Located in a signature Romanesque Revival building, the museum examines the history of the Bluegrass from European contact with Native Americans to the present.

#### Bluegrass Scenic Railroad and Museum

Enjoy a weekend nostalgic train ride through 11 miles of beautiful Bluegrass horse and tobacco farms with a stop at a scenic overlook on the Kentucky River. Vintage railroad equipment and memorabilia are on display at the museum.

## Eckert's Boyd Orchard

Enjoy a beautifully kept farm and u-pick operation with play areas for children and lots of special events. Enjoy great food and desserts in the Red Apple Barn.

## Horse Farm Tours

You can tour many of the surrounding horse farms, including those that are home to retired racehorses. For more information on tour options, visit <a href="https://www.visitlex.com/idea-guide/horse-farm-tours/">https://www.visitlex.com/idea-guide/horse-farm-tours/</a>.

## Hopemont, the Hunt-Morgan House

Built in 1814 by John Wesley Hunt, one of Lexington's most prominent citizens of the time, this Federal-style house is a living museum representing the days when Lexington was known as the "Athens of the West" for its highly cultured lifestyle. The property includes a Civil War museum and a period garden. You can take a guided tour of the home.

## Hummel Planetarium at Eastern Kentucky University

Go on a journey to space at the Hummel Planetarium, one of the largest and most sophisticated planetariums in the United States.

#### Jack Jouett House

During the Revolutionary War, Jack Jouett rode 40 miles through the woods of Virginia to warn Governor Thomas Jefferson and the legislature of the approach of 250 British troops. His rural family homestead includes a 1780's frontier stone cabin and a 1797 Federal-style brick cottage.

#### Keeneland Race Course

With its tranquil setting and lovely stone fences and buildings, this national historic landmark is one of the most genteel and beautiful racetracks in the world. Visitors are welcome year round. Live Thoroughbred racing takes place in April and October and live Thoroughbred auctions are held several times a year. Guided tours of the mansion and grounds are available.

## Kentucky Castle

Nestled in horse farm country, this famous landmark was first built as a private residence. Tours of the castle and grounds are offered by reservation, and can include lunch or dinner. Special events are held throughout the year including Bourbon tastings and dinner theater.

#### Kentucky Horse Park

Lexington is surrounded by nearly 400 horse farms and is the official horse capital of the world. You can see more than 50 breeds of horses at the 1,200 acre park. The American Saddlebred Museum and the International Museum of the House are located at the park as are art galleries, shows, and exhibitions.

#### Legacy Trail

The Legacy Trail is a 12 mile walking and biking trail that begins at the Isaac Murphy Memorial Garden in downtown Lexington and ends at the Kentucky Horse Park. The YMCA Northside has a limited number of bikes that can be rented.

## Lexington Cemetery

The Lexington Cemetery is nationally recognized as one of America's most beautiful arboretums and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places for landscape design. It is the final resting place for Henry Clay, General John Hunt Morgan, and many other distinguished Kentuckians including more than 500 Confederate and 1,100 Union veterans.

## Mary Todd Lincoln House

Located in the heart of downtown, the Georgian- style brick house is one of the oldest structures in Lexington and the nation's first historic site to honor a First Lady. Childhood home of Mary Todd, wife of Abraham Lincoln, the home was restored to reflect the Todd family's residency with period furniture, family portraits and furnishings from the Todds as well as the Lincolns, taking you back to a time of social elegance and turbulent politics.

## Raven Run Nature Sanctuary

Raven Run is a 730-acre nature sanctuary on the Kentucky River dedicated to the protection of the animals and nearly 400 species of plants found within its boundaries. Eight miles of hiking trails feature meadow, forest, and creek ecosystems as well as historic and geologic features of the Kentucky River Palisades.

#### Red Mile Racetrack

Lexington's oldest existing racetrack, dating to 1875, and one of the nation's most respected harness tracks. There are free live music acts in the Atrium every weekend.

## Uncommon Tours of the Commonwealth

Want to see more of the unusual side of Lexington? Take a tour of bourbon baron distilleries, vineyards, local historic places, and more. Visit <a href="http://www.stonefencestours.com">http://www.stonefencestours.com</a> to see options and dates.

## **Statewide Attractions**

## Abraham Lincoln Birthplace

For over a century people from around the world have come to rural Central Kentucky to honor the humble beginnings of our 16th president, Abraham Lincoln. His early life on Kentucky's frontier shaped his character and prepared him to lead the nation through the Civil War. The country's first memorial to Lincoln, built with donations from young and old, enshrines the symbolic birthplace cabin.

## Cincinnati (Ohio) Zoo & Botanical Gardens

The Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden is the second-oldest zoo in the United States, opening in 1875, just 14 months after the Philadelphia Zoo opened. It is home to more than 250 species. It is home to Internet-famous Fiona the hippo.

#### Cumberland Falls State Park

South of Lexington near the Tennessee border, you'll find the "Niagara of the South," a 125-foot wide curtain of water that is dramatic day or night. At night during a full moon, weather permitting, visitors can see a moonbow, a phenomenon not found anywhere else in the Western Hemisphere.

## Daniel Boone's Grave at Frankfort Cemetery

Gravesite of Daniel and Rebecca Boone in a setting overlooking the city of Frankfort. Other notables buried in the cemetery are artist Paul Sawyier, Joel T. Hart, Theodore O'Hara, Vice President Richard M. Johnson, and seventeen Kentucky Governors.

## Dixie Belle Riverboat

Enjoy a relaxing ride aboard Shaker Village's 115-passenger riverboat through high limestone cliffs and untouched natural beauty. One-hour narrated cruises describe the historical importance of the river to the Shakers and pass under High Bridge, an engineering marvel built in 1877.

#### Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea

A 25,000 sq. ft. travel destination showcasing the work of over 750 Kentucky artisans. Enjoy shopping, craft demonstrations, classes/workshops, exhibits, and regional food.

## Kentucky's Governor's Mansion in Frankfort

The mansion has served as home to the state's governors since 1914. It is one of only a handful of executive residences in the United States open to the public for tours.

#### Kentucky Military Museum in Frankfort

This museum traces the state's role in American military history and includes displays of weapons, uniforms, flags and photographs from the Civil War to the Persian Gulf War.

#### Louisville Zoo

Opened in 1969, the Louisville Zoo currently exhibits more than 1,100 animals on 134 acres of natural settings representing zoogeographical areas, specific habitat types or special education areas.

#### Mammoth Cave

Mammoth Cave National Park preserves the cave system and a part of the Green River valley and hilly country of south central Kentucky. This is the world's longest known cave system, with more than 400 miles explored. Early guide Stephen Bishop called the cave a "grand, gloomy and peculiar place," but its vast chambers and complex labyrinths have earned its name - Mammoth. Several guided tours are available. Please note that the park is located in the Central Standard Time Zone (-1 hour from local time). Tickets do not have to be purchased ahead of time for most tours through the website. However, it is advised to purchase tickets online. Once tour tickets are sold out, which happens frequently, you cannot join the tour.

## Natural Bridge State Park

Fish, canoe, camp, hike, and climb at this Kentucky state park located in Powell and Wolfe Counties along the Middle Fork of the Red River. This majestic park is adjacent to the Red River Gorge Geologic Area and surrounded by the Daniel Boone National Forest.

## Old Fort Harrod State Park in Harrodsburg

This reconstructed pioneer fort commemorates the first permanent settlement west of the Alleghenies, built by James Harrod near this site in 1774. The cabins include authentic pioneer furniture and crafts people in pioneer dress demonstrate such skills as blacksmithing, quilting and doll making. The park also includes a pioneer cemetery; the Mansion Museum with Civil War and Indian displays; and the cabin in which Abraham Lincoln's parents were married.

#### Perryville Battlefield State Historic Site

Perryville Battlefield is the site of Kentucky's bloodiest, and most important, Civil War battle. The battle marked a fatal loss of the initiative for the South. The battle is re-enacted each October. Throughout the year, living history activities with costumed interpreters are scheduled.

# Red River Gorge Geological Area

The Red River Gorge is a uniquely scenic area in the Daniel Boone National Forest. The area is known for its abundant natural stone arches, unusual rock formations, and spectacular sandstone cliffs. The Red River Gorge is designated as a national geological area by the U.S. Forest Service.

#### Waveland State Historic Site

Built in 1847 by Joseph Bryan, a grand-nephew of Daniel Boone, Waveland is an outstanding example of the Greek Revival house in Kentucky. Tours focus on the Bryan family and life on a 19th-century Kentucky plantation. The site is also home to the only Kentucky vintage baseball team - The Bluegrass Barons. Bring your chair to a monthly game April through October on the grounds of Waveland.

## **Special Events & Festivals**

## Bluegrass BBQ Fest

Kickoff summer each June with the Bluegrass BBQ festival featuring BBQ, beer, bourbon, and local music in downtown Lexington. Visit <a href="https://www.bluegrassbbqfest.com">https://www.bluegrassbbqfest.com</a> for more information.

#### Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" at Waveland

Relive Christmas of the past with scenes from the Dickens' classic, "A Christmas Carol" at Waveland State Historic Site. Since this Christmas classic was written in 1843, it only seems fitting to celebrate Christmas of the past in a historic home that was built in the same time period. Follow from room–to-room as the drama plays out right in front of you. Shows are scheduled multiple times each weekend in December. Reservations open in October. Visit

https://parks.ky.gov/parks/historicsites/waveland/events.aspx for dates and information.

## Friday Latino Live

Downtown Lexington transforms into a Latino dance club the last Friday of the month May-August. Enjoy food, music, and dancing at The Fifth Third Pavilion in Cheapside Park (251 W Main St).

## Festival of the Bluegrass

In June join us for the Festival of the Bluegrass, a traditional Bluegrass Music Festival in the heart of the beautiful Bluegrass region of Kentucky. Established in 1974, this family-run festival, described as a 'family reunion on steroids' has a little something for everyone. Kids events include a music camp (starts Tuesday) for youngsters 8-18 with an interest in bluegrass music. And there are all kinds of fun things that happen during the weekend: Pluck and Strum for the little ones, clogging for all ages, and food and craft vendors for you to peruse. Camping during the Festival is encouraged. Visit <a href="http://www.festivalofthebluegrass.com">http://www.festivalofthebluegrass.com</a> for schedule and dates.

## Lexington Burger Week

Each July, local restaurants compete to have the most unique burger in town. Each restaurant will create a \$5 special burger that is not on the regular menu. Visit <a href="https://www.lexingtonburgerweek.com">https://www.lexingtonburgerweek.com</a> to check out participating restaurants and their entries.

## Lexington Craft Beer Week

Each May, celebrate Lexington's local breweries. Each brewery will create a special brew or beer-inspired item that is not on the regular menu. Visit <a href="https://lexbeerscene.com/lcbw">https://lexbeerscene.com/lcbw</a> to check out participating breweries and their entries.

## Lexington Crave Taco Week

It's like shark week but for tacos! Each March, local restaurants compete to have the most unique taco in town. Each restaurant will create a \$5 special taco plate that is not on the regular menu. Visit <a href="https://www.cravetacoweek.com">https://www.cravetacoweek.com</a> to check out participating restaurants and their entries.

## Lexington Pizza Week

Each November, local restaurants compete to have the most unique pizza in town. Each restaurant will create a \$6 special pizza (small pie or by the slice) that is not on the regular menu. Both a vegetarian and meat option are available at all participating locations. Visit <a href="https://www.lexingtonpizzaweek.net">https://www.lexingtonpizzaweek.net</a> to check out participating restaurants and their entries.

## Night Market

The Night Market is a monthly pop-up street festival on the 700 block of Bryan Avenue that helps businesses, artists, and non-profits from the North & East End neighborhoods reach new audiences. The Night Market is held annually on the first Friday of every month from May to December. It is free and open to the public, and runs from 6 pm to 10 pm. While primarily serving as a platform for neighborhood businesses, artists, and nonprofits to grow their business, the Night Market also highlights the creativity in our community. To make the Night Market possible, the 700 block of Bryan Ave is temporarily closed to traffic on the day of the market. The street is lined on both sides by vendor booths, and the street is transformed through lighting, street trees, planters, and temporary art installations. On both ends of the market, there are food vendors from Northside restaurants, food trucks, and folks aspiring to start new culinary businesses.

## Southern Lights

Hosted at Kentucky Horse Park, Southern Lights is a drive-through Christmas light showcase that includes a local vendor market and petting zoo.

#### Thursday Night Live

Every Thursday April-October enjoy live music and local food at The Fifth Third Pavilion in Cheapside Park (251 W Main St). To see the band list visit

https://www.downtownlex.com/signature-events/central-bank-thursday-night-live/.

#### Waveland Art Fair

Each fall browse, shop and meet some of Kentucky's top artists and their work at Waveland. Tickets are \$5.00 for adults and children under 12 are free. Visit

https://parks.ky.gov/parks/historicsites/waveland/events.aspx for dates and information.