Welcome to the Cherry Capital of the world. Catch cherry fever with us.
To-do List this Weekend

Ben Nevis Cherry Farm
Chocolatocews — anyone else who enjoys chocolates — will be forgiven for feeling as if they have died and gone to chocolate heaven when they visit the home factory where the deliciously decadent McKinley Chocolates are made.
Chocolatocews — anyone else who enjoys chocolates — will be forgiven for feeling as if they have died and gone to chocolate heaven when they visit the home factory where the deliciously decadent McKinley Chocolates are made.

McKinley Chocolate Tour
That these chocolates measure up to the best in the world is uncontestable — the chocholic has recently been exhibited at international shows in such exotic places as Russia, Dubai, Saudi Arabia, and Kuala Lumpur, where they were very well-received.

Activities
Top quality cherries and novel cherry products are synonymous with the farm Ben Nevis Cherry Farm and a guided tour of the farm is a must for visitors to the Cherry Festivs. During your visit you can stroll around the cherry orchards and see how the cherries are sorted in the packing shed. You will also be able to see how the fruit is processed to make various delectable products and the Butchers will be on hand to explain the origins of their delicious range of cherry products — all available at the Cherry Festivs Grounds. Carina has expanded her range into the popular cream liqueur market with a unique blend of cherries, cream and alcohol which is already a sure-fire winner. Whatever your taste, you're sure to find something that you like here. Be sure to try the cherry wines while you are there.

Main Cherry Festival Activities
It's Cherry Festival time and we're glad you could join us — welcome to Ficksburg! This year marks the 52nd year that this event has been presented without a break and we're very proud of our festival, which has contributed to Ficksburg being called the Cherry Capital of the World.

Tour Package
- Cost R190.00
- Departure times:
  - Thursday: 08:35 - 14:35
  - Friday: 08:35 - 10:35
  - Saturday: 08:35 - 09:35

Tour Package
- Cost R100.00
- Departure times:
  - Thursday: 11:00 - 14:00
  - Friday: 11:00 - 14:00
  - Saturday: 10:00 - 11:00

Chogoces — anyone else who enjoys chocolates — will be forgiven for feeling as if they have died and gone to chocolate heaven when they visit the home factory where the deliciously decadent McKinley Chocolates are made.

Chogoces — anyone else who enjoys chocolates — will be forgiven for feeling as if they have died and gone to chocolate heaven when they visit the home factory where the deliciously decadent McKinley Chocolates are made.

Sponsored by Cafe Docchoces

Cafe Docchoces McCabe Street Chocolate Shop
Who doesn't love chocolates?

Get your tickets now and join us for an unforgettable day.
Directions:
- From Ficksburg take the R26 to Ficksburg for 14 km and follow the signs to the Cherry Festival signboard.
- Continue straight onto the dirt road.
- Contact the organizers on 072 377 649 or 051 933 2235.
Visiting Cherry Farms in the Area
A visit to a cherry farm is always worthwhile and several open their orchards to visitors during the Cherry Festival.

**Ionia Cherry Farm** offers tours and daytime entertainment throughout the festival. It is situated on the R26, travelling from Ficksburg in the direction of Clarens. For more information, call 072 585 3684.

**Constantia Cherry Farm.** You can visit Constantia Farm for a cherry tour. Their roadside shop on the R26 near Clocolan offers an extensive range of their delicious products. Contact Gwynette on 082 304 7043.

**Welgelegen Cherry Farm.** Welgelegen farm is situated in the Foursburg district, located in a truly beautiful setting and there will be live entertainment throughout each day of the Cherry Festival. Call Mary-Anne on 072 075 0760 for more information.

Jackal’s Hill Fromage
Enjoy a cheese tasting experience at a farm deli specialising in artisan cheeses and dairy products made from the rich milk of grass-fed Jersey cows. Join the dairy experience tour at 16:00 on Friday and Saturday. Booking is essential and the cost is R50 per person. Find it on the Foursburg Station Road, six kilometres from the R26. Call 079 873 1316 for bookings and information.

Mile High Vineyards – home of the Bald Ibis wines
Situated between Clarens and Foursburg, the vineyards are easily accessed from the R711. You can enjoy wine tastings at the cellar, as well as light lunches and cheese platters chosen to complement the wines. You can, of course, also buy wines at the cellar. Planted in 2000 in what is arguably the highest vineyard in the country, the mature vines produce high-quality Shiraz, Pinotage and Pinot-Noir, vinified and bottled on the farm. Direction: S325 off the R711 on the Clarens/Foursburg road. Contact John on 082 319 0722 or Trish on 072 142 3183.

Jenlee Country Shop
The Jenlee Country Shop is just outside Foursburg at the turn-off on the Clarens (R711) road. This quaint little shop serves light meals at a nostalgic eatery and there is also a little gift shop with some lovely collectables. In addition, there is also a petting park for the kids, with all types of tame farm animals – it’s definitely well worth the stop, especially if you have young children. Contact Anso 076 764 2009

Destiny Castle and Union House
Destiny Castle is located in the heart of the Eastern Free State with magnificent views of the surrounding countryside. The Caledon River runs below it and creates the divide between the Free State and the mountain kingdom of Lesotho. Come and enjoy this unique location on a mountaintop and soak up the ambience and splendour that it offers. For scenic tours, guided tours and overnight stays. Call 064 807 2753

Highlands Essential Oils
Highland Essential Oils offers tours during which you can blend your own perfume from natural oils in the perfume family of your choice and learn the history and secrets of perfume making. You can also discover the healing oils of the Bible, their uses, spiritual meaning, healing and anointing properties. Visit our shop where we sell products made on the farm contact Stacey Minnaar 079 412 2555

The Cabin Farm Stall
Situatued five kilometres before Clocolan on the R26, this is a shoppers’ haven! Apart from the well-known restaurant renowned for its delicious fare, the shops offer silver jewellery, a lifestyle shop with beautiful gifts for Xmas, a great range of bath products, plus lovely homeware, an antique shop with great treasures and an arts and crafts shop with wooden and sandstone products. Also available are ladies’ clothing, leather and deli products, Ember Down’s goose down and feather duvets, pillows and jackets. In addition there is a collection of stunning paintings by local artists — a must-see. There is also a play area for children.

Tour tickets
A Computicket office has been set up at the Café Chocolat and it is from here that your tour will depart (all tours leave from here). The office is located about 500m from the showgrounds, 9 Fontein Street. When you leave the showgrounds, cross the railway tracks into Van Andel Street. Walk in a southerly direction for about two blocks till you see Fontein Street. The tours and ticket office is situated there. If you do get lost, call 051 933 6486 or 051 933 3531 for more directions.