



ZeeGee



Kwaggabees



Malkelee



Dillon Lerm



Chris Else



Sunset Sweatshop

programme

Saturday, 16 November

12:00 Cherry Jazz Festival
— at Showgrounds
Seipati 073 331 8102
Seithati 071 637 9239

Wednesday, 20 November

18:00 Local is Lekker @ Golf
Club With Dillon Lerm
Jolanda 071 887 7852

Thursday, 21 November

08:00 Festival Gates open
08:45 Tours depart from Info
Office, 9 Fontein Street
051 933 6486
09:00 – 13:00 Pre-Schools visit
Cherry Festival (Biscuit
decoration, face painting
and fun slides)
10:00 Round Table Beer
Garden Opens
10:00 – 14:00 Viewing of Anglican
church Windows
Fred 082 926 0716
11:00 Merry-Go-Round opens
15:00 Cherry Pong Round 1
15:30 Cherry Pip-spitting
Round 1
16:00 1st Round Horse display
Triple competition
17:00 Down-Down
17:15 Pyramid Parade
18:00 Distinguished

Service Award
18:15 Cherry Festival
Baby Competition
Miss Cherry Blossom & Mr
Cherry Pip Competition
Finals
18:55 Announcement of
colouring Competition

Main Stage

19:00 Dillon Lerm

Friday, 22 November

08:00 Festival Gates open
08:45 Tours depart from Info
Office, 9 Fontein Street
051 933 6486
09:00 – 13:00 Pre-Schools visit
Cherry Festival (Biscuit
decoration, face painting
and fun slides)
10:00 Round Table Beer
Garden Opens
10:00 – 14:00 Viewing of Anglican
church Windows
Fred 082 926 0716
(refreshments Available)
10:00 Sandstone Steam Trains
Lee Saunders
(051) 9332235
10:30 TWK Cherry Classic Golf
Tournament-Better Ball
Stableford Fee R400.00
Francois: 072 514 4004
12:00 Hackney Pony display
13:00 Marimba Band

programme

13:00 Cherry Pong Round 2
13:30 Cherry Pip-Spitting
Round 2
14:00 2nd Round Horse display
Triple Competition - Arena
15:00 Pyramid Parade
15:00 Workshop – Cherry
Macaroons (Main Hall)
15:30 Cherry Survivor
Eating Competition
16:00 Cherry Jenga
16:00 Chris Berend
(Cherry tree talk)
Workshop Venue
16:30 Boeresport
17:00 Saddle Horse Display
Arena
17:00 Down-Down
20:00 Round Table Beer Garden
Die Rowers

Main Stage

17:30 Dillon Lerm
18:15 Kwaggabees
19:15 Chris Else

Saturday, 23 November

06:30 Cherry MTB Challenge @
Fxb High
Danie Swanepoel
0829268488
07:00 Total Cherry Race – 23km
Ficksburg Marathon Club
073 808 6189
07:15 Imperani Guest House
Fun Run – 4.8 km

073 808 6189
08:00 Festival Gates Open
08:00 Tours depart from Info
Office, 9 Fontein Street
051 933 6486
09:00 Henley Air Chopper Flips
10:00 Puma Flying Lions Flyby
10:00 Round Table Beer
Garden Opens
with Francois Boucher;
Juan de Beer & Wesna
10:00 Final Round Horse Triple
Competition
10:00 Sandstone Steam Trains
Lee Saunders
(051) 9332235
10:00 – 14:00 Viewing of Anglican
church Windows
Fred 082 926 0716
10:15 Scottish Bag Pipe Band
10:30 TWK Cherry Classic Golf
Tournament-Better Ball
Stableford Fee R400.00
Francois: 072 514 4004
10:30 Cherry Pong Round 3
10:45 Police Dog Demonstration
12:00 Puma Flying Lions
Aerobatic Display
12:15 Friesian Horse Display
12:30 Scottish Bag Pipe Band
13:00 Cherry Pip-Spitting
Round 3
13:00 Marimba Band
13:30 Cherry Pong Finals
13:45 Cherry Pip-Spitting Finals
14:00 Workshop – Mini Cherry
Cakes (Main Hall)
14:30 Chris Berend
(Cherry tree talk)
16:30 Sundowner Friesian
Horses display

Main Stage

15:30 Jazz Quartet
16:00 Sound Check
17:00 Chris Else
18:00 Monique Steyn
19:00 Sunset Sweatshop
20:00 Malkelee
20:30 ZeeGee
21:00 DJ Mr Sequence

Kids Entertainment
Saturday, 23 November
10:00 – 15:00
Creative Arts Activities
Decorating bottles and tins
Plastic Bottle Art
Bead Work
Modge Podge
Mosaic & Collage Art

Programme may change with-
out
Notification

NO BEVERAGES, FOOD OR
COOLERBOXES ALLOWED

Welcome to the Cherry Capital of the world. Catch cherry fever with us.

To-do List this Weekend

Ben Nevis Cherry Farm

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 Festival. 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 Bothas will be on hand to explain the origins of their delicious range of cherry products — all available at the Cherry Festival 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.

Tour Package

- Duration: Two and a half hours. 45 minutes travel in each direction. One-hour tour of farm.
- Walk through the orchards
- Tour of the packing shed
- See fruit products being processed
- Light refreshments
- Product tasting
- Cherry picking in orchards

Transport from Café Chocolat in local taxi

Cost R190.00

Departure times

Thursday: 08:35 • 14:35
Friday: 08:35 • 10:35 • 12:35 • 15:00
Saturday: 08:35 • 09:35 • 11:35 • 12:35 • 14:35

McKinley Chocolate Tour

Chocoholics — and 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.

That these chocolates measure up to the best in the world is incontestable — the choccies have recently been exhibited at international shows in such exotic places as Russia, Dubai, Saudi Arabia, and Kuala Lumpur, where they were very well-received. When you visit the McKinley's factory, you will be met by Marlene and, after you have cooled down with some light refreshments, she will tell you all about your addiction of choice — and McKinley Chocolates in particular — and encourage you to taste some of the devilishly tasty delights that are handmade here.

Tour Package

- Duration: 45 minutes
- Introduction to chocolates
- Chocolate tasting
- Visit the factory
- Light refreshments

— Walk from the showgrounds and across the railway line and then turn right. Pass Brand Street and on the following corner you will find us at Café Chocolat 9 Fontein Street.

Cost R100.00

Starting Times

Thursday: 09:00 • 11:00 • 14:00 • 16:00
Friday: 09:00 • 11:00 • 14:00 • 16:00
Saturday: 09:00 • 10:00 • 11:00 • 12:00 • 14:00 • 15:00 • 16:00

Activities 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.

Our district is celebrating the area's "red gold" — the glistening little fruits ranging in colour from red to black for which we have become famous — signalling that it is Cherry Festival time again.

More than 15,000 visitors are expected to pass through the gates to enjoy all that is on offer at the Ficksburg Showgrounds, the main venue of the festival.

There will be a hive of activity there each day, with something always on in the arena to entertain visitors. On Saturday you can enjoy Henley Air's chopper flips, a fly-by by the Puma Flying Lions, an appearance by a Scottish Bagpipe Band and a police dog demonstration, amongst others. Many of South Africa's top music artists will be in action on the main stage in the arena to please their fans — amongst them are Dillon Lerm, Kwaggabees, Chris Else, Monique Steyn and Sunset Sweatshop. The ever-popular beer garden will also be open for the duration of the festival.

There is plenty to keep the kids amused as well, with creative art activities decorating bottles and tins, plastic bottle art, beadwork, Modge Podge and mosaic and collage art. Then there are also the special tours to cherry farms that are always a highlight for visitors to the Cherry Festival — especially city slickers who have never seen how their favourite delicacies are produced and processed.

Come and enjoy all we have to offer!

Sport Events

It's Cherry Festival time and, as usual, this annual festival is about much more than just the typical festival fare, with sport once more very much a feature on the programme. The organisers have once again made sure that sports fanatics are well catered for, with bowls, golf, cycling and running a highlight of the of the festivities.

First up is the annual Cherry Bowls Tournament, which takes place at the Ficksburg Bowling Club on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. So popular is this event, which attracts bowlers from many parts of the country, that it is frequently fully-booked for the following year by the end of each year's event. Then there is golf. This year the TWK Cherry Classic Golf Tournament in the form of a better-ball Stableford kicks off on Friday, to be followed by a repeat on Saturday. The event will, of course, be played on Ficksburg's magnificent golf course.

For mountain bike enthusiasts there is the Cherry MTB Challenge on Saturday, with cyclists leaving the starting point at 06:30. Keen runners also flock to the Cherry Festival every year for the Total Cherry Race — a 23-kilometre half-marathon run through some of the most spectacular scenery in the country. This race is for experienced runners and is organised by the Ficksburg Marathon Club and the race begins at 07:00. But for those who are less competitive, there is the Imperani Guest House Fun Run over 4.8 kilometres, which starts at 07:15.

Café Chocolat McCabe Street Chocolate Shop

Who doesn't love chocolates? Everyone has their favourite and it takes an extremely strong will to

stick to your diet and pass up the chance to taste a morsel — or, most probably, a whole lot more. A visit to Café Chocolat in McCabe Street, located in the picturesque McBride's House, with its historic sandstone bay window, which was President Steyl's office, will allow you to indulge your passion with some of the divinely decadent McKinley's Chocolates produced right here in Ficksburg. Also inside the shop is a lively second-hand book shop with more than 1,000 books selling all at R50 each. There is also a charming gift shop and a display of the late Liesel Brune's art. A continental-inspired little sidewalk restaurant serves delicious light meals. It can be found at 81 McCabe Street.

Gin Bar @ Café Chocolat

The people at Café Chocolat pride themselves on serving food with principle, following the rules of the "Slow Food Movement" by, wherever possible, sourcing their supplies from responsible suppliers. They pride themselves on making all their food from scratch and by hand. Another important — and very popular — offshoot of Café Chocolat is the Gin-ger Bar, where artisanal gin, in all its incarnations, is the speciality of the house, but where just about anything you might fancy to quench your thirst is available. The bar is named after Ginger, the owners' nine-year-old Lab, who, despite having lost a leg in a car accident, manages to climb the stairs to the bar and preside over the action every day. She is, without doubt, one of the most popular "regulars" there. 9 Fontein Street 082 920 5551

Die Blik Plek

A visit to this one-of-a-kind establishment is an encounter with creativity on steroids! Each and every gorgeous item is made from recycled metal (the "blik" in its name) — junk discarded by less imaginative people. Explore the tin shanties built from cast-off ironmongery and

all the other creations in this creative "junkyard" full of unique vintage-style handmade art and décor articles. Tel 082 828 8381 or call in at 9 Fontein Street

Anglican Church Windows

Ficksburg's All Saints' Anglican Church is known countrywide for the beautiful coloured glass windows created by a talented local artist, Helen Dickson. She took as her theme for the windows the flora indigenous to the Ficksburg district. There are 10 spectacular windows depicting indigenous plants, each of which is a unique "collage" of richly-coloured pieces of coloured glass. To view the windows call Fred 082 926 07160

Sandstone Steam Train Rides

Many adults remember with nostalgia travelling on a steam train and wish their kids could experience the thrill of the clackety-clack of the wheels on the rails and seeing the billows of steam coming from the locomotive. Well, now you can! Sandstone Estates, located 14 km from Ficksburg, is offering train rides on its vintage steam train on 22 and 23 November, with train rides starting at 10:00, 12:00, 14:00 and 16:00 each day. You can enjoy an unforgettable day there, where you will also be able to see vintage cars and trucks, as well as enjoy walking tours of the farm complex, see the vast collections of old engines and farm equipment or even take a slow ride on an ox wagon. The entrance fee is R200 per person and for children u/12 R100 per child. Directions: From Ficksburg take the R26 to Fouriesburg for 14km and turn right when you see the Cherry Festival signboards turn onto the dirt road. Contact Leigh on 079 3277 649 or 051 933 2235.

Visit the 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 Fouriesburg district, is located in a truly beautiful setting and there will be live entertainment throughout each day of the Chery 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/person. Find it on the Fouriesburg Station Road, six kilometres from the R26.

Call 079 873 1318 for bookings and information.

The Cabin Farm Stall

Situated five kilometres before Clocolan on the R26, this is a shoppers' heaven! 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.

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 064 867 2753

Mile High Vineyards — home of the Bald Ibis wines

Situated between Clarens and Fouriesburg, 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 2008 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. Directions: S325 off the R711 on the Clarens/Fouriesburg road. Contact John on 082 319 0722 or Trish on 072 142 3183.

Jenlee Country Shop

The Jenlee Country Shop is just outside Fouriesburg 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

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 with which sells products made on the farm contact Stacey Minnaar 079 412 2555

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.