



HAINES CITY
THE HEART OF FLORIDA

Special Events





ABOUT *Haines City*

Incorporated in 1914, Haines City is nestled in the “Heart of Florida” and is home to more than 39,000 year-round and approximately 48,000 seasonal residents during winter tourist season.

Haines City was ranked the number one location for “vacation home deals” and “golf nuts” by CNN Money, second in Florida for cost of living by onlyinyourstate.com, third in the nation for the “Most Affordable Snowbird Destinations” by tripping.com, and third out of the “5 Best Places to Picnic in Polk County” by The Ledger.

The City is home to the world-class IRONMAN 70.3 Florida, Thunder on the Ridge Fourth of July celebration, Southern Dunes Golf and Country Club, and located just outside of LEGOLAND Florida Resort.



Haines City Special Events 2025

Ribs on the Ridge

Ribs on the Ridge BBQ Competition | February 14-15, 2025 | Estimated Attendance: 2,000 people

Sanctioned through the Kansas City BBQ Society, Ribs on the Ridge will bring master and backyard teams from across Florida and the southeast to compete for cash prizes, trophies, and bragging rights to the best BBQ in town. This year's event will be a part of the 2nd Annual Florida Triple Crown of Barbecue, along with Pig Fest in Lakeland, and Grills Gone Wild in Davenport. Since 2019, this event has partnered with kidsPACK, a non-profit organization that helps feed homeless and hungry children in our community.

Easter Egg Hunt

Easter Egg Hunt | April 19, 2025 | Estimated Attendance: 2,000 people

The Saturday before Easter, 10,000 + eggs will be spread across four baseball fields for children to hunt. Ages 2-10 are welcome to participate. The Easter bunny will be available for pictures, and there will be free face painting, photo booth, and other activities for kids.

Memorial Day Ceremony

Memorial Day Ceremony | May 26, 2025 | Estimated Attendance: 100 people

Families are invited to visit the Military Court of Honor at Railroad Park in Downtown Haines City to remember those who have lost their lives while serving in our country's armed services. The Haines City Police Department will place the wreath in honor of those who have served.

Thunder on the Ridge

Thunder on the Ridge | July 4, 2025 | Estimated Attendance: 10,000 people

With the title of Polk County's premier fireworks display, Thunder on the Ridge is Haines City's signature July 4th celebration. Since 1998, residents, and people across Polk County have joined Haines City to celebrate this memorable event.

Mayor's 5K

Mayor's 5K | October 5, 2025 | Estimated Registrations: 120 runners/walkers

Hosted by the Mayor of Haines City, this 5K race takes participants around Lake Eva for an early morning run, jog, or walk. All profits from this event will be donated to the American Cancer Society.

Trunk or Treat

Trunk or Treat | October 25, 2025 | Estimated Attendance: 3,000 people

This family event is for kids to explore all types of vehicles. There will have police cars, emergency vehicles, trucks, farm & construction equipment, tow trucks, and more! Attendees will get to enjoy trick-or-treating from 30 + businesses / vendors, music, and free snacks.

Senior Expo

Senior Expo | November 7, 2025 | Estimated Attendance: 150 people

Local businesses will come together to educate and inform local seniors of the services and programs available. Attendees will get the opportunity to have one-on-one time to ask questions and to receive free giveaways. Join us to learn about the local resources available to promote an active and healthy lifestyle.

Veterans Day Ceremony

Veterans Day Ceremony | November 11, 2025 | Estimated Attendance: 100 people

Veterans and families of those who served in armed services are invited to remember and celebrate their bravery and sacrifice on this celebrated holiday. Haines City's Veteran of the Year will be recognized at the event with a plaque and a paver placed in our Military Court of Honor.

Glitter Glisten & Snow Christmas Parade

Glitter Glisten & Snow | December 6, 2025 | Estimated Attendance: 5,000 people

The first Saturday in December is the kickoff to our annual Christmas celebration. The Christmas parade will lead into Glitter Glisten and Snow, where families and children of all ages will have the opportunity to visit with Santa, play in falling snow, and watch their friends and family perform on stage with their local school groups and dance studios.

Breakfast with Santa

Breakfast with Santa | December 13, 2025 | Estimated Attendance: 100+ people

Held at the Lake Eva Community Center, families are invited to enjoy a catered breakfast and meet Santa Claus. Be sure to bring your camera for pictures.





Haines City Special Events 2025

\$7,500.00

Events Available: Ribs on the Ridge | Thunder on the Ridge | Mayor's 5K | Glitter, Glisten, & Snow

- Entertainment sponsor for a local band performance
- Verbal recognition at the event with organizational info announcements
- Banner space
- Social Media Marketing – Recognition on Haines City Parks and Recreation Facebook Page
- Name included on magazine/newspaper advertisements
- Name included on posters and flyers
- Prominent 10' x 20' exhibit space
- 8 VIP Passes – Access to VIP area – includes food and 16 beer tickets (Ribs & Thunder only)
- 2 Event parking passes


\$5,000.00

Events Available: Ribs on the Ridge | Thunder on the Ridge | Mayor's 5K | Glitter, Glisten, & Snow

- Verbal recognition at the event
- Banner space
- Social Media Marketing – Recognition on Haines City Parks and Recreation Facebook Page
- Name included on posters and flyers
- Prominent 10' x 10' exhibit space
- 4 VIP Passes – Access to VIP area – includes food & 8 beer tickets (Ribs & Thunder only)
- 1 Event Parking Pass

\$2,500.00

Events Available: Ribs on the Ridge | Thunder on the Ridge | Mayor's 5K | Glitter, Glisten, & Snow

- Verbal recognition at the event
 - Banner space
 - Social Media Marketing – Recognition on Haines City Parks and Recreation Facebook Page
 - Name included on posters and flyers
 - 10' x 10' exhibit space
 - 1 Event Parking Pass
 - 6 beer tickets (Ribs & Thunder only)
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Haines City Special Events 2025

\$1,000.00

Events Available: Ribs on the Ridge | Easter Egg Hunt | Thunder on the Ridge | Mayor's 5K
Trunk or Treat | Glitter, Glisten, & Snow

- Verbal recognition at the event
- Social Media Marketing – Recognition on Haines City Parks and Recreation Facebook Page
- Name included on magazine/newspaper advertisements
- Name included on posters and flyers
- 10' x 10' exhibit space
- 4 complimentary beer tickets (Ribs & Thunder only)


\$500.00

Events Available: Ribs on the Ridge | Easter Egg Hunt | Thunder on the Ridge | Mayor's 5K | Trunk or Treat |
Senior Expo | Glitter, Glisten, & Snow

- Verbal recognition at the event
- Social Media Marketing – Recognition on Haines City Parks and Recreation Facebook Page
- Name included on posters and flyers
- 10' x 10' exhibit space

\$250.00

All Events Available

- Verbal recognition at the event
 - Social Media Marketing – Recognition on Haines City Parks and Recreation Facebook Page
 - Name included on posters and flyers
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INTERESTED IN BECOMING A PARTNER?

Haines City
Special Events 2025

Haines City Parks and Recreation values partnerships and working together to create great experiences for our community and visitors. We would be happy to meet with you to discuss the available opportunities.

Jill Latimer, Special Events Supervisor | 863-421-9959 | jillian.latimer@hainescity.com

Brianna Palladino, Special Events Coordinator | 863-421-5570 | brianna.palladino@hainescity.com

Taegan Welborn, Special Events Coordinator | 863-421-5569 | taegan.welborn@hainescity.com

SPONSOR INFORMATION

Contact Name:

Business Name:

Mailing Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Phone Number:

Email Address:

EVENTS SPONSORED:

AMOUNT EVENT

Ribs on the Ridge

Easter Egg Hunt

Memorial Day

Thunder on the Ridge

Mayor's 5K

AMOUNT EVENT

Trunk or Treat

Senior Expo

Veterans Day

Glitter, Glisten, & Snow/Christmas Parade

Breakfast with Santa

TOTAL

OTHER/IN-KIND

Please send me an invoice.

My check is included with this form.

Checks payable to: City of Haines City

Please remit payment to:

Haines City Parks & Recreation

555 Ledwith Avenue, Haines City, FL 33844

Signature:

Date: