

# LOUISVILLE WEB VERSION PRE-REGISTRATION BROCHURE JULY 27-AUGUST 1, 2024

*Note: This information will be updated periodically.*

## **WELCOME TO LOUISVILLE**

Welcome to Bourbon City. Yes, Bourbon is a spirit that comes in a glass, but it's also the spirit that defines Louisville's culture, arts & parks, and creative energy. It's the kind of spirit that helped create Louisville itself. It's the spirit of hospitality you feel when you visit Louisville - the home of Muhammad Ali, the Kentucky Derby and the Louisville Slugger.

While you are here, follow the [Urban Bourbon Trail](#)® and discover the city's finest Bourbon cocktail and culinary experiences. Explore Louisville's rich history and architecture along Whiskey Row and Museum Row in downtown Louisville. Enjoy "one of the nations' best local food scenes" as recognized by USA Today. With more restaurants per capita than any other city in the nation, it will not be difficult to find the perfect spot to experience the rich, diverse, Southern culinary heritage unique to Louisville.

## **CONVENTION LOCATION**

Convention activities will take place at the Kentucky International Convention Center located at 221 South 4<sup>th</sup> Street in Louisville, Kentucky 40202.

## **LOCATION**

Louisville is the place for bourbon and bluegrass music. It is located on the banks of the scenic Ohio River between St. Louis and Cincinnati. Louisville's central location puts it within a day's drive of half of the nation's population. Visit [gotolouisville.com](http://gotolouisville.com) to plan your trip to enjoy an entirely different type of Southern experience.

## **WHAT TO WEAR**

A general guideline for attire for the convention is business casual for meetings. For VFW members, it is always appropriate to have your cap on hand for meetings. Jackets are not required unless you are, All American Commanders) and may be on stage to receive your award as photographs are taken during those functions.

## **AIRPORT**

Fly Like a Butterfly in and out of Louisville Muhammad Ali International Airport (SDF), the main airport for the Greater Louisville/Southern Indiana region. It is only 7.6 miles from the Kentucky International Convention Center (approximately 10 minutes from downtown). Whether you are arriving or departing, there are plenty of options for getting to and from the airport, including: rideshare, zTrip, public bus transportation. To review transportation options, visit [Getting To and From the Airport](#). While you are at the airport, check out the award-winning restaurant located in the Main Terminal, Book and Bourbon Southern Kitchen, which boasts 85 world-class bourbons and popular southern menu items.

## **GETTING AROUND LOUISVILLE**

No car, no problem. The downtown area is very walkable. Taxi service is available, with [zTrip](#) being the primary operator. Louisville also offers alternative ridesharing companies, such as Uber and Lyft, as well as scooter rentals. [Getting Around Louisville](#)

## **PARKING**

Check with your assigned hotel for parking availability and costs. Parking information for the Kentucky International Convention Center, along with helpful maps, can be accessed via this link <https://kyconvention.com/attend/maps-parking/>.

## **REGISTRATION PACKET PICK-UP**

See mobile APP for times and locations of registration/packet pick-up. Registration for both VFW and for Auxiliary,

**Note:** *Want to miss the crowds/lines and pick-up your name badge & packets early? Try Remote Registration. Both the VFW and Auxiliary will have remote registration for those who are **PRE-REGISTERED ATTENDEES ONLY**. You will be able to do that at the VFW Headquarter hotel, **Galt House Hotel** and the Auxiliary Headquarter hotel, **Marriott Louisville Downtown**.*

## **PACKET PICK-UP**

**VFW** - if you are not pre-registered, you will need to go to registration at the convention center on Saturday, July 27 starting at 8a to register and pick-up your convention packet.

**VFW & Auxiliary** 'remote' **pre-registration**: Friday, July 26, 9a-5p  
Marriott Louisville Downtown - Locations/times: **Lobby**

**VFW & Auxiliary** 'remote' **pre-registration**. Friday, July 26, 9a-5p  
Galt House Hotel- Locations/times: **Lobby**

## **MOBILE APP**

We will NOT be publishing a convention schedule of events in hard-copy. All events and convention information will be contained in the Mobile APP. Go to [www.vfw.org/convention](http://www.vfw.org/convention) for instructions on how to download the mobile APP which will be available closer to the dates of the convention. The mobile APP provides immediate updates on any changes that may occur during the convention.

## **SHUTTLES**

The hotels in Louisville are in the downtown area and **within walking distance from the convention center**. The Hyatt and the Marriott are **both connected to the convention center**. The Galt House is approximately 1.5 blocks from the convention center. There is an indoor walk-way from the Galt House that ends directly across the street from the Kentucky International Convention Center.

Therefore, the decision has been made that there will **NOT** be shuttle service provided for the 2024 Louisville convention.

## **HOTEL INFORMATION**

Housing opens **3/18/24** and closes **6/10/24**. Go to [www.vfw.org/convention](http://www.vfw.org/convention) .The official convention hotels for the 125th National convention will be listed on the convention web site. A list of convention department housing assignments will be located at that website.

## **HOTEL PARKING**

Check with your assigned hotel regarding parking availability and costs. Parking charges are set by the individual hotels and are not representative of fees charged by the VFW/Auxiliary.

## **LUGGAGE STORAGE**

If you wish to store your luggage at the hotel before you check in, or after checking out before departure, please make arrangements with guest services.

## **GRATUITIES**

You are responsible for all gratuities during your stay. Tipping is personal, as a guideline, we recommend gratuities of \$1 per day for your housekeeper and \$1 per bag for taxicab drivers and hotel bell-staff.

## **PHONE MESSAGES**

Messages may be left with the hotel operator, who will make sure you get them as soon as you return to your hotel. In case of emergency, call the VFW National Headquarters 816-756-3390.

**SAFETY TIPS** (See hotel information located in room)

## **SPECIAL SERVICES**

**First Aid Room Location Kentucky International Convention Center**, Main Concourse on the Market Street side of the building near Oak & Brew - Thursday, 7/25-Thursday, 8/1  
**Emergency**--Emergency after hour's numbers provided before convention or call 911.

**Scooter rental** –Scooter rental information is listed on the convention web page.

If you have not been vaccinated for COVID-19, we encourage you to wear a mask while in attendance of the convention.

**RV Park Information** - [https://www.yelp.com/search?cflt=rvparks&find\\_loc=Louisville%2C+ky](https://www.yelp.com/search?cflt=rvparks&find_loc=Louisville%2C+ky)

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## **RELIGIOUS SERVICES**

Check with **Louisville Tourism** for locations of local churches, synagogues, etc. for services. *Check Mobile APP for locations.*

## **QUIET ROOM**

A QUIET ROOM for reflection will be open 24 hours at the Kentucky International Convention Center – *Check Mobile APP for location.*

## **MOTHERS ROOM**

A mothers room will be located on-site at the convention center - *Check Mobile APP for location.*

## **AGENDA**

See tentative web agenda at [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org) 125th VFW National Convention information. A final agenda will be provided within the mobile APP and can be found by downloading the VFW Mobile APP approximately 2 weeks before the convention. Please note a Schedule of Events will **NOT** be printed. If you are unable to download the *Mobile App*. Please pickup a printed copy of the agenda at registration.

## **VISITOR INFORMATION LOUISVILLE**

### **Save: Inside Track Pass, Louisville's Savings Passport**

Take advantage of special offers and discounts from some of the city's most popular sites including retail shops, restaurants, and attractions with the mobile exclusive passport, Inside Track Pass. To get your pass, visit <https://www.gotolouisville.com/meeting-planners/destination-services/plan/inside-track-pass/>. Your passport will be instantly delivered to your phone via text and e-mail and ready to use immediately. When visiting a participating business, simply present the Inside Track Pass on your phone to the staff member to redeem special discounts.

### **Explore: Downtown's Three Main Districts (Whiskey Row, Museum Row & South Fourth Street)**

<https://www.gotolouisville.com/neighborhoods/downtown/>

### **Experience: Louisville's Unique Neighborhoods**

<https://www.gotolouisville.com/neighborhoods/>

North, south, east or west – Louisville offers a wealth of attractions and fantastic historic architecture in every direction. Much like the boroughs of New York City, Louisville's neighborhoods each have their own distinct personalities.

### **Shop**

<https://www.gotolouisville.com/things-to-do/shopping/>

### **Dine**

[https://www.yelp.com/search?find\\_desc=best+restaurants&find\\_loc=Louisville%2C+KY](https://www.yelp.com/search?find_desc=best+restaurants&find_loc=Louisville%2C+KY)

### **Dine near KICC**

<https://www.gotolouisville.com/restaurants-near-kicc/>

### **Visit Museums & Galleries**

<https://www.gotolouisville.com/things-to-do/entertainment-nightlife/museums-galleries/>

### **Bringing the family? Here are [family-friendly activities](#) sure to be a hit with all ages:**

Kentucky Kingdom: <https://www.gotolouisville.com/directory/kentucky-kingdom-and-hurricane-bay/>

Kentucky Science Center: <https://kysciencecenter.org/>

Louisville Slugger Museum & Factory:

Louisville Zoo: <https://louisvillezoo.org/>

Mega Cavern: <https://www.gotolouisville.com/directory/louisville-mega-cavern-mega-zips-all-underground-ziplines-adventure-tour/>

Muhammad Ali Center: <https://www.gotolouisville.com/directory/muhammad-ali-center/>

Main Event <https://www.mainevent.com>

### **Purchase Attractions Tickets**

<https://reservations.gotolouisville.com/attraction/list/6849/m3117>

### **Purchase Attraction Ticket Bundles**

<https://reservations.gotolouisville.com/package/category/6849/3/m3676?customNavLink=1>

## **VISITOR CENTER**

Visit the Louisville Visitor Center at 301 South 4<sup>th</sup> Street in downtown Louisville. Open Mondays – Saturdays: 10 am – 5 pm, and Sundays: 12 pm – 5 pm. Visitors can also call the Visitor Information Call Center at 1-888-568-4784, Monday – Friday: 9 am – 5 pm (EST) or e-mail [info@gotolouisville.com](mailto:info@gotolouisville.com) for city information.

## **DOWNTOWN AMBASSADORS**

Downtown's roving hospitality team is on duty seven days a week starting at 7 am each day. Look for the folks wearing orange shirts when you have a question or need assistance. Some ambassadors are on-foot, some are on bikes. They are very knowledgeable, helpful, & friendly and will be able to provide information about downtown and about Louisville.

Revised: 1/2/2024