CELEBRATE 40 YEARS OF THE RENAISSANCE this Spring at

SCARBOROUGH



By Helaine B. Thompson

After the most challenging year in its 40-year history, Scarborough Renaissance Festival® sponsored by T-Mobile is coming back, better than ever in 2021 to finally celebrate its 40th Anniversary!

What started out in a pasture in Waxahachie with some jousting, a handful of unique performers and artisans has evolved into one of the most popular events in North



Texas. It has also become one of the largest and most highly respected Renaissance festivals in the country.

The 40th Anniversary celebrations will begin Ápril 10th and run eight consecutive weeks every Saturday and Sunday through Memorial Day Monday, May 31st. At this outside event, you will step back into the days of





re-creation of an English village filled with 25+ stages of non-stop entertainment you just won't see anywhere else along with artisan demonstrations, knights jousting for honor, Birds of Prey exhibitions, shoppes galore, wine and beer tastings, mermaids and so much more.

Scarborough Renaissance Festival[®] is committed to conducting a fun and safe festival for everyone. So things will look a little different this year with new protocols and guidelines in place for the 2021 season including a facemask requirement and temperature checks for visitors and participants alike. You can find all the details on the Festival's website: www.SRFestival.com

A big part of what sets Scarborough Renaissance Festival* apart from other Festivals is the extraordinary entertainment that you just don't see anywhere else. With performers like full combat jousters, contortionists, sword swallowers, acrobats, jugglers, a 25-time world-record holding whip master, belly dancers and so



many more including a dozen new shows for 2021, you just don't want to miss it! There's also rocking Scottish bagpipes all season long and Renaissance style music on age old instruments such as small pipes, harps and hammered dulcimers. Where else can you see fairies, watch a Cat and Rat Circus or meet live mermaids?

You might also encounter King Henry VIII, Queen Catherine, and their Royal Courts along with over 50 villagers (all members of Scarborough's performing company) throughout the Festival. You never know you might even get knighted by the King!

And there's more! A cannon drill and ancient weapons demonstration, games of skill Renaissance rides (all human powered), an all-new Parakeet Aviary; pony rides and the Grande Parade. For more mature visitors, there are also several stages dedicated to PG-16 entertainment.

Entertainment is not the only thing to enjoy at Scarborough Renaissance Festival*. The Festival is one of the largest outdoor





juried craft shows in the country with over 200 shoppes filled with exquisite one-of-a-kind handmade treasures. These are not your ordinary "crafts", these are unique treasures that you simply cannot find at any other art show or event such as glass sculptures, pottery, life castings, masks, stone carvings, metal works, apparel, handmade soaps, blown glass, tapestries, and handwoven hammocks just to name a few. There are also demonstrations by many of the artisans showcasing age-old crafts such as glass sculpting, candle making, glass blowing, stone carving, weaving, pottery, and metal works throughout each day of the Festival.

When you are ready to take a break, enjoy food fit for a king! The food at Scarborough Renaissance Festival[®] is a step above traditional "fair" food in both quality and variety as was showcased on the 2019 season of Carnival Eats! Feast on our signature giant slow roasted Turkey legs (the best you will ever eat) and Scottish Eggs. Don't miss out on the handmade pastas at the





Pasta Palace, the tasty treats made from scratch at the Scarborough Bakery each day and the largest Salection of food-on-a-stick in Texas! Indulge on crab cakes, fresh fruit, salads, Italian nachos, stir-fry, gyros, giant fajitas, stuffed spuds, tempura delights, fresh hummus, crepes, quiches and fish & chips. You could also try some of the featured items at our full-service restaurant (carry-out only for 2021) - the Rose and Crown Inn - like Shepard's Pie, Muffalettas and seasoned meat pies.

Adults can enjoy Scarborough's new mead - Enchanted Manor Mead (honey wine), a great selection of craft beers and other libations at the twelve pubs and taverns. Those with more discerning pallets can partake in the daily wine or beer tasting events. The tastings are separate ticketed events (\$35 per person in addition to Festival admission) and space is limited, so you will want to get your discounted tickets on-line ahead of time. Of course, you must be at least 21 to enjoy the adult beverages or participate in the tasting events.



You can also find Each weekend also has a different theme and a variety of Scarborough Renaissance special events such as Kid's Free Festival® at SRFestival on on opening weekend (April 10 and 11), the Artisans Showcase, Celtic Weekend and the all-new Facebook and Twitter and The SRF estival on Instagram. So come, join the 40th Royal Ale Tasting Tour just to Anniversary celebrations name a few. Some of the special events require a separate ticket and space can be extremely limited,

and step back in time for the time of your life at the most unique festival in North Texas - Scarborough Renaissance Festival®! For eight weeks only Saturdays and Sundays and Memorial Day Monday - April 10 – May 31. Just 30 minutes south of downtown Dallas off I-35E in Waxahachie.









so get your tickets early. If you

are into cosplay and/or costumes,

you don't want to miss Live the

Fantasy Weekend (May 1 and 2)

and Legends of the Seas Weekend (May 22 and 23) where you can

compete in costume contests and

that while costumes are welcome every day of the Festival, they are

Festival tickets are \$37 for

4 and under are always free. A

adults and \$17 for children. Kids

great discount offer can be found

at participating T-Mobile stores and discount tickets can be found

at Tom Thumb and Albertsons

definitely not required.

other fun events! Keep in mind