

Trailing of the Sheep Festival



OCTOBER 5 - 9, 2022

July 19, 2022 – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

“Lamb is showcased as a taste of the real American West at Idaho’s Trailing of the Sheep Festival”

The best in American Lamb will be showcased at various culinary events held during the annual [Trailing of the Sheep Festival](#), October 5-9, 2022, in the picturesque Wood River Valley of Idaho. Foodies will delight in the many special culinary lamb events, including the For the Love of Lamb Dine-Around, Cooking with Lamb classes, Farm to Table dinners featuring local lamb, lamb specials at local restaurants, Lamb Fest at the Folklife Fair and lamb options at the Happy Trails Closing Party. These culinary events are a part of the internationally recognized Festival, which provides attendees the opportunity to experience a unique weekend of history and culture and a literal ‘taste’ of the American West.

Now celebrating its 26th year, the Trailing of the Sheep Festival honors the 150+ year tradition of moving sheep (‘trailing’) from high mountain summer pastures down through the Valley to traditional winter grazing and lambing areas in the south. This annual migration is living history and the focus of a unique and authentic Festival that celebrates the people, arts, cultures, and traditions of sheep ranching in Idaho and the West. The five-day Festival includes nonstop activities in multiple venues - history, folk, and traditional arts, a Sheep Folklife Fair, lamb culinary offerings, a Wool Fest with classes and workshops, music, dance, storytelling, Championship Sheepdog Trials and, the always entertaining, Big Sheep Parade with 1,500 sheep hoofing it down Main Street in Ketchum.

2022 LAMB CULINARY EVENTS

- **Cooking with Lamb Classes** will feature great culinary techniques from eight local chefs. Learn from the best how to prepare creative lamb dishes with a focus on the use of local natural foods. Wines and sides will be paired with each classes’ dish for an extra special delight. Classes include Lamb Kofta, Pistachio Encrusted Rack of Lamb, Fasah - Yemeni Lamb Stew, Leg of Lamb, Lamb Kofta Kebabs, Lamb & Wild Rice Meatballs, Lamb Ravioli, Lamb and Eggplant Cannelloni, and Lamb Biryani. There is also a class on Cheese Making using cow’s and sheep’s milk.
- **Farm to Table Lamb Dinners** on October 4, 5 and 6 at Mountain Humane near Hailey will be prepared by local Chef Al McCord. The four-course dinners will feature local lamb from Darby Northcott’s 3/D Ranch on Tuesday, from Brian and Kathleen Bean’s Lava Lake Ranch on Wednesday and Diane and John Peavey’s Flat Top Ranch on Thursday. The ranchers will attend the dinners to discuss sheep ranching in Idaho as well as answer questions. Seating is limited, and

tickets go fast. These are unique opportunities to get to know Idaho through its hard-working farmers and ranchers and experience the incredible talents of a local chef.

- **For the Love of Lamb Dine-Around** will take place in association with top local restaurants and chefs in Ketchum on Friday, October 7. A variety of creative and tasty American Lamb ‘baaa-ites’ will be offered starting at 4:30 pm and will end when all the bites are gone (usually within an hour!) A \$25.00 “passport,” which can be purchased in advance online, gets you at least five bites. This fun evening out on the town is a popular Festival favorite.
- **A Lamb Fest** will take place on Saturday, October 8 during the Sheep Folklife Fair. Enjoy delicious and creative American Lamb dishes prepared by local chefs and restaurants. Beverages are also available for purchase. Choose your favorite restaurant when you arrive at the Fair and purchase tickets on-site.
- **The Happy Trails Festival Closing Party** will be held on Sunday, October 9th, at the Ketchum Town Square. It is the perfect spot to gather from 10:00 am – 3:00 pm to enjoy delicious lamb prepared and served by the Wood River Sustainability Center and live music by Gary and Cindy Braun.
- **American Lamb Specials** will be featured throughout the Festival at many of the area’s finest local restaurants.

For information and detailed schedule of events, www.trailingofthesheep.org

The 2022 Big Sheep Parade is sponsored by the City of Ketchum, with many other supporters and friends bringing the Festival to fruition.

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Accolades for the Trailing of the Sheep Festival

The Trailing of the Sheep Festival has garnered some well-deserved accolades over the years, including being recognized as one of the **Top Ten Fall Festivals in the World** by *msn.com travel*, **Top 7 US Fall Festivals** by *National Geographic*, **Top Ten US Fall Festivals** by *smartertravel.com*, **Top Animal Festivals in the World** and **Top Ten Fall Festivals** by *USA Today*, **Top 7 Fun Fall Festivals** by *AARP*, **One of the Greatest Cultural Events in the West** by *Northwest Travel*, and recipient of the Society of American Travel Writer’s **Phoenix Award** for best in cultural tourism, and the **Idaho Governor’s Award for Cultural Heritage**.

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