



ANNUAL FESTIVALS WITHIN MOTHEO DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

INTRODUCTION



The Free State certainly has much to celebrate. It is blessed with rich natural resources, a comfortable climate and friendly people who welcome strangers like friends. Celebrating their good fortune and enjoying the fruits of their labour are part of the culture of the Free State. With their festivals the people not only celebrate, they also give others the opportunity to get to know them and the province.

Many of the towns in the Free State have annual festivals that focus on the area's unique character and attractions. It is the ideal opportunity for the entire family to relax, have some fun and get to know the area.

In this article, we only feature four festivals, but there are many more festivals to discover.

MACUFE (BLOEMFONTEIN)

The Mangaung African Cultural Festival (MACUFE) is recognised as one of the country's big three national arts festivals. The festival is presented by PACOFS, the Performance Arts Centre of the Free State, on behalf of the Department of Arts, Culture, Science and Technology of the Free State Province.

Macufe is still relatively young and held its sixth festival in 2003, but the word is spreading and drawing the crowds in their thousands to come and witness the quality of the performers and their work and the diversity of the events. Macufe is normally held over a period of some ten days in early October.

More than 6 000 artists performed at the 2003 festival and the plans for the future are even more ambitious. Artists from outside South Africa's borders include performers from France, America, Kenya, Senegal, Zimbabwe, Lesotho and Mozambique.



The festival showcases the cream of local, national and international talent in a wide spectrum of disciplines. Music (jazz, gospel, traditional, kwaito, rock and classical); dance and drama; cabaret; poetry; film; fine art and traditional crafts – all combine to glorify the diversity and creativity of the human mind, body and soul.

The events cater for all age and cultural groups and are hosted at venues such as the Loch Logan Festival Ground, the Andre Huguenet Theatre; the Seisa Ramabodu Stadium in Rocklands, and the Clive Solomon Stadium in Heidedal.

MACUFE aims to celebrate African arts and culture in all its forms, while respecting the equality within cultural diversity, in the province, the country and, in Africa as a whole, and to highlight the role of arts and culture in nation building and reconciliation. It prides itself on the fact that it is the only national arts festival that highlights the country's ageless African roots, celebrates the cultural treasures South Africans have in common and displays the rich diversity that brand us as a nation.

The vision of MACUFE is that it should take on the continental status of being an annual pilgrimage for the Arts and Culture renaissance in Africa, as well as for the Free State and more specifically Bloemfontein to become the cultural city of South Africa.

Year Planner:

January

February

Travel Expo – Astra Travel – 051 447 6352

Rugby Super 14 series - 051 407 1700

March

Bridal Show - 051 448 5775

Cricket Pro 20 series - 051 447 5715

Volksblad & Central University Food and Wine Festival – 051 507 3235

April

March/April Bloem Show 051 448 9894/5

May

Bridal Show President Hotel – Nella – 083 262 2918

June

Game Festival – De Oude Kraal Country Lodge – 051 564 0636

Cars in the park - Old Grey's Sports Centre - 084 447 9151

Rugby Currie Cup Series – 051 407 1700



July

Volksblad Kunstefees – University of Free State – 051 4047600

Wings, Wheels & Outdoor Expo – Bloemspruit Air Force Base 051 448 5775

August

Air Show – Tempe – 083 492 8300

Air Show - Bloemspruit Air Force Base – 051 405 6004

Baby Show & Competition – Bloem Visie – 051 448 5775

Kontreifees – Orange Meisies Skool

September

Caledon 400 – off road

Homemakers Expo

Macufe Mangaung Cultural Festival 051 4114300

Macufe Cup (soccer)

October

Rose Festival 051 444 6914

Beer Festival – Show grounds – 051 448 5775

Free State Food Fair – Show grounds – 051 448 5775

Christmas Market – Eunice School

November

Melodrama – Round Table – Sand du Plessis 082 559 9446

Pick 'n Pay & OFM Classic Cycling – 082 791 6003

Free State Swimming Champions – 051 436 1063

December