



Worldwide Circus Summit 2015

July 14-18, 2015 • West Springfield, MA USA
Circus ... Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow

OK, Now What Do I Do?

A Handy Guide for Getting to and Getting Around the WCS

Last Minute Rental Car Information – *If you are flying into the Bradley International Airport and need a rental car, we have a deal with Avis. Our AWD Discount number is D183139. The following link will take you directly to the Avis.com site and the discount number will automatically be inserted into the form for the best rate.*

<http://www.avis.com/car-rental/html/meetings/go2.html?AWD=D183139&NAME=World+Wide+Circus+Summit+2015&FDATE=07132015&TDATE=20150719&LOCATION2=&LOCATION1=West+Springfield,+MA&ARCIATA=&EVENT=0&AA=0>

Where will the Worldwide Circus Summit (WCS) take place and how do I get there? *Everything takes place on the fairgrounds of the Eastern States Exposition in West Springfield, MA. Located 20 miles north of the Bradley International Airport, the fairgrounds and WCS activities and events are located on Memorial Ave. (Highway 147), one mile west of I-91. For GPS users, it's 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield MA. 01089*

What dates are the WCS? *The registration desk opens at 3 and closes at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, July 14 and the opening reception is that night. (If you get to the reception after registration closes, your name will be on the list at the door if you have pre-registered.) The week is jammed packed with events from 8 am to late evenings. The last official event ends on Saturday, July 18 with the CFA annual banquet and the Windjammers Unlimited annual banquet. Both run from 6:30 to 10:30 pm. Many registrants are staying over for the Sunday, July 19 Circus Smirkus performance at 1 pm in South Windsor, Ct.*

Is there plenty of parking? *Yes, and the parking is included in your registration fee. Use Gate 2 off Memorial Ave. (Highway147)*

I have pre-registered. Where do I pick up my credentials? *All registration takes place inside the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Pavilion (Eastern State Exposition's Better Living Center). Follow the signs from the bus drop offs and parking lot to find the pavilion.*

I have not registered yet. Is it too late and how do I sign up on-site? *Go to the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Pavilion. (See above) The cost to register on-site will be \$120 for adults, \$15 for children 18 and under. Circus tickets are extra.*

What are the hours of registration? *Located in the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Pavilion, registration is open on Tuesday, 3 to 6:30 pm; Wednesday through Friday, 8 am to 5:30 pm; and on Saturday, 8 a.m. to 1 pm.*

Must I wear the WCS badge at all times? *Yes, you will be required to show it before entering all WCS venues and activities. No badge, no entry, no exceptions.*

I can only spend a couple hours there, do I get a discount? *Unfortunately, there are no discounts or free passes. Each person must have full credentials to be admitted to any of the venues and events. There are no hourly or daily registrations available.*

What does my registration fee cover? *The fee includes free parking and all Summit activities and individual organizational activities except for banquets: Opening Reception; Exhibition Hall; Hospitality Tent; Opening Speaker (Johnathan Lee Iverson – Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey); Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow seminars (12 hours total); CFA and CHS auctions; Sideshow performance; AYCO Youth Circus Showcase; Summit Midway activities and shows; Friday night's Summit All-Star Circus Clown Alley pre-show; Summit All-Star Circus; Big E circus museum; COAA carousel organ display; Storowton Village Green activities, Lisa Dufresne's Horse Show, Teeny Weeny Circus, Clowns, jugglers, and magicians. And once you look over the schedule you'll see there's actually a great deal more than mentioned here.*

Does the Opening Reception cost extra and will there be food there? *The opening reception in the Carriage House, sponsored by the Outdoor Amusement Business Assoc. is included in your fee and there will be substantial hors d'oeuvres, several food stations, a cash bar, band organ music and live entertainment.*

Are there buses from the various hotels? *The fee for the hotel buses is \$25 for the entire week. You may purchase a pass at registration. They will run throughout the day to and from the official WCS Hotels and the Eastern States Exposition on a specific schedule. Schedules will be posted at your hotel, at the bus pickup site on the fairgrounds, in the Summit Daily and inside the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Pavilion at the registration/information desk.*

How late will the hotel buses run? *The last bus transportation to the hotels each day will leave about 20 minutes after the last activity. Check the daily schedule for possible changes.*

Which hotels will have shuttle bus service? *Sheraton Springfield – 1 Monarch Place (downtown) Springfield; Clarion – 1080 Riverdale St., West Springfield; Hampton Inn – 1080 Riverdale St., West Springfield; and Holiday Inn – 1 Bright Meadow Blvd., Enfield.*

I am staying at a hotel and have a bus pass. How do I get the bus? *There will be a schedule of pick up times in the lobby. You will also be given a schedule when you pick up your bus pass at Registration. The bus will pick you up in front of the main entrance of the hotel. Because riders in each hotel may not be leaving at the same time (i.e. they may be taking a later bus or decided to car pool), there will not be any bus monitors. Therefore, IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO BE ON TIME FOR YOUR CHOICE OF DEPARTURE.*

What if I miss the bus? *You will need to wait until the next departure time, find another convention member who will give you a ride, call a cab, or if you are at the Holiday Inn use their fee-based shuttle.*

Is there WiFi available? *Yes, there is free wifi in all buildings.*

Am I permitted to take photos and video during the week? *Yes you may take all the photos you want for your own use, but please be considerate as you take photos. Be aware not to stand in front of others who are watching the event and do not set up a tripod where others could trip on it. The circus also welcomes photography, but only from your seat and no photography is permitted in the back lot of the circus.*

Once I get there, how do I find out what's going on? *The best way is to buy a highly collectible Souvenir Program. If you read it cover to cover you will know everything you need to know for the entire week. Circus Report will be publishing the Summit Daily News sheet each day with that day's lineup and any last minute changes or news you need to know.*

Where can I get a Souvenir Program? *You don't want to go home without one of these highly-collectible and beautiful publications. Buy two, use one and save one! They are available at the WCS souvenir and merchandise table inside the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Pavilion.*

Is everything in close proximity? *Of course that's relative, but all official WCS events take place in the various venues on the Eastern States Exposition fairgrounds. The Wednesday night Cole Bros. Circus performance will be on the edge of the grounds and will be your longest walk. There is a map at www.wcs2015.com if you want to see in advance.*

What is the WCS Midway? *Many of the outdoor events will take place on the midway, which is located just outside the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Pavilion, including performances by Lisa Dufresne and Elmo Gibb.*

I have a mobility problem, how can I get from one location to another? *There will be golf-cart style shuttles running continuously between the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Pavilion and the Carriage House-Storrowton Green area. There will be a special run to the Cole Bros. Circus area for those who need special help. Details at the registration/information desk.*

Will there be signage directing me to the various venues? *Yes, there is signage, plus a bevy of volunteers, wearing white vests emblazoned with the WCS logo, who can answer any questions and direct you to your next event.*

Will there be sales tables to buy circus memorabilia and WCS souvenirs? *Yes, the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Pavilion will be filled with a variety of vendors.*

Where do I drop off items for the CFA and CHS auctions? *Auction items should be brought to registration on the first day and deposited into the box in the registration area.*

Where will the CHS and CFA auctions be held? *They will both be held inside the air-conditioned Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Pavilion.*

How do I get a bidding number for each of the auctions? *You will have one bidding number for both auctions. You are already registered for the auctions and your bid card will be in your registration package.*

Will there be shipping and packaging material available? *There will be USPS boxes of various sizes as well as other boxes available, as well as poster tubes for your purchases. You will need to personally carry your priceless memorabilia home or drop it off at a Post Office. We will not be providing a shipping service.*

Are the banquets and meetings of CHS and CFA combined this year? *No, both CHS and CFA are having their own auctions, meetings and banquets. Please check with each participating organization for a schedule of organizational events and meeting.*

Will credit cards be accepted? *Yes, credit cards will be accepted at registration, the CHS and the CFA auctions, the WCS Souvenir Booth, and at Storrowton Tavern. Some vendors will also be accepting credit cards.*

Is there an ATM on site? *Yes, there will be an official bank ATM at the entrance to the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Pavilion.*

Is there a comfortable, air-conditioned area where I can sit and rest during the day? *The Hospitality Tent is a great place to relax, cool off, and have a refreshing beverage and/or lunch or dinner. The air conditioned Storrowton Tavern is attached to the tent. Comfortable benches will surround the beautiful shaded Green and Gazebo. The Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Pavilion is also fully air-conditioned and has a snack bar with table seating.*

Will food and beverage be available? *Non-alcoholic beverages, hamburgers, hot dogs, etc. are available at the snack bar and the mini-Dunkin Donuts shop inside the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Pavilion. The Hospitality Tent offers a wide variety of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages and gourmet sandwiches and a reasonably*

priced WCS menu. Inside the Storrowton Tavern you can enjoy a lunch or a 3-course dinner. The Tavern is located on the Storrowton Green which is a shaded green space with a gazebo and benches. If you prefer, you may take your meal out to the WCS reserved picnic tables on the green.

Where can I get a beer or other adult beverage? *The Storrowton Tavern has a full bar as does the Hospitality Tent. There will be cash bars at some of the events.*

What restaurants are recommended off-site? *Please visit the Chamber of Commerce booth located inside the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Pavilion for area restaurant information and recommendations.*

What if I have a question or a problem not covered here? *Ask any of the white-vested volunteers on duty throughout the WCS site or ask someone at the Registration Desk. If they can't answer it for you, they will find someone who can.*

We'll see you all next week. Travel Safely. Be Circus Strong!