



Safety is Key at the Pensacola Beach Air Show

July 10-11, 2009

Fun in the sun will be had by all this year during the Pensacola Beach Air Show. Join fellow spectators Friday, July 10 for a full dress rehearsal and Saturday, July 11 for the main show. Both events begin at noon with Julian MacQueen in his Grumman widgeon G-44 and will culminate with the Blues taking to the sky at 2 p.m. While enjoying the weekend, please remember that along with fun comes safety. To make the air show memorable and enjoyable for all attendees, be sure to follow safety and parking tips.

Following are safety and parking tips, as well as simulcast and other helpful information:

Parking and driving on the island:

- Do NOT block emergency access locations, bike paths, sidewalks or medians. Park in a marked spot or off the roadway, but do not extend into traffic lanes. Areas marked by yellow poles and rope are no-parking areas. When the core area is full, there is usually available parking at the Fort Pickens gate area and parking nodes on the way to Navarre.
- Be certain your vehicle is full of fuel; heavy traffic is expected.
- Leave for the beach early and be patient in traffic. Even a minor collision will cause long delays.
- There will be several DUI checkpoints between Pensacola Beach and Pensacola.
- VIP, vendor, media and recruiter parking is barricaded off in the western side of the main Casino Beach parking lot. There will be no admittance without a pass. Vehicles parked in the wrong areas are subject to being ticketed or towed.

Trolley Service:

- Pensacola Beach will offer free trolley service from 8 a.m. until approximately 6 p.m. on Friday, July 10 and Saturday, July 11 between Casino Beach and Fort Pickens gate. When traffic sufficiently clears, “normal” free, island-wide trolley service will resume.

Boating:

- Boats in the Gulf of Mexico are not allowed to enter a safety box of a half-mile south, 1.5 miles west and 1.75 miles east of the Coast Guard cutter (at center point, near the end of the Gulf Pier). If the referred area is not cleared, performances will not take place due to safety and security measures. This includes 7–10:30 a.m. on Wednesday for “Circle and Arrivals,” from 1–3:30 p.m. on Thursday for the Blue Angels and from 9 a.m.–6 p.m. Friday, Saturday and, if necessary, Sunday for the air shows.
- The area from approximately Deer Point in Gulf Breeze to east of Quietwater should be treated as a “No Wake-Idle Speed Only” area.
- The northern 60 feet of the Quietwater pier will continue to be a “no mooring” area. Do not anchor and obstruct entrance/egress to this area.
- Inlet to Little Sabine will be “outbound only” beginning at 2:30 p.m.
- There will be several Boating Under the Influence checkpoints.

General:

- The Pensacola Beach Gulf Pier will be closed, at the shoreline, for approximately three to four hours in the morning or afternoon Wednesday through Saturday and, if necessary, Sunday.
- When LifeFlight flies along the shoreline and swimmers are asked to clear the water by lifeguards and/or Deputies, do so quickly. Planes cannot fly until the water is cleared. Once out of the water, stay out of the water until instructed that it is clear to re-enter.
- The Gulf will be closed to all swimmers for approximately three to four hours during each show Wednesday through Saturday and, if necessary, Sunday. The area extends 1.5 miles to the west of the Gulf Pier and 1.75 miles to the east of the Gulf Pier.
- **NO KITES!** Kite Flying within 5 miles of Casino Beach is strictly prohibited on Wednesday morning and all day on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and, if necessary, Sunday.
- For ALL emergencies. Call 9-1-1. If calling from a boat or within a large crowd, provide a landmark or reference point to assist emergency personnel.
- For your safety and the safety of the pilots, stay off of condo and hotel roofs.
- Drink plenty of water.
- No glass bottles are allowed.
- Food and merchandise vendors, as well as sponsor booths, will be located near the Gulfside Pavilion.
- Please, no pets on the beach or left in vehicles.
- Bring plenty of sunscreen with a high SPF.
- Wear sun-protective clothing such as light-colored, loose-fitting long-sleeve shirts and hats.
- Carefully watch over your children in the crowd. Bring lost children to the Public Safety Building.
- Monitor the surf warning flags and adhere to Lifeguard instructions.
- During the air show on Friday and Saturday, cooling stations will be located just east of the Public Safety building.
- The primary medical treatment area is on the south side of the Public Safety Building.
- Beware of strong wind, which may contain sand and debris, near the helipad area when helicopters are taking off or landing.
- Carefully monitor weather conditions. In the event of lightning, leave the beach and seek shelter. Do Not get into the water during the storm.

Simulcast and media information:

- News Radio 1620 will broadcast the entire Pensacola Beach Air Show narration on Friday and Saturday. Bring your radio to enjoy the full experience.
- Soft Rock 94.1 will broadcast the Blue Angels' portion of the air show live on Saturday.
- Mediacom will broadcast the Pensacola Beach Air Show on Saturday, July 11 on the Gulf Coast Network (channel 27).
- Parking and traffic information will be broadcast on Cat Country 98.7 FM, Gulf Breeze Police 89.7 FM, The Rocket 96.1 FM, TK101.5 FM and on My 107.3 FM on Friday and Saturday.
- WEAR will broadcast live on Friday at 5 a.m. (Three in the Morning), 11 a.m. (Dayside), 4 p.m. and 6 p.m.

For more information, call the Pensacola Beach Visitors Information Center at (850) 932-1500 or go to www.VisitPensacolaBeach.com.