

# **Tampa Bay AirFest 2018 Visitor's Planning Guide**

MacDill AFB once again rolls out the red carpet for our friends and neighbors through a showcase of extreme aviation capabilities. As the two time "Best Military Air Show" winner, our AirFest planning team has set the bar higher this year in planning the best Tampa Bay AirFest ever.

The headlining *U.S. Navy Blue Angels* are joined this year by the F-22 Demo team and the A-10 Demo Team (flying airshows for the first time in 7 years). Come ready to feel the thunder Tampa Bay while touring an amazing array for aviation assets from all of our amazing military services.

**Join us May 12-13, 2018 for this FREE event (including FREE parking).**

Call (813) 828-SHOW (7469) for more information.

We've gathered the below important information for visitor's to use as a planning guide prior to attendee Tampa Bay AirFest 2018 at MacDill Air Force Base.

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## **“See Something, Say Something” Contact Numbers:**

### **For emergencies dial 911**

Report suspicious activity to uniformed personnel in berets or call one of the following phone numbers:

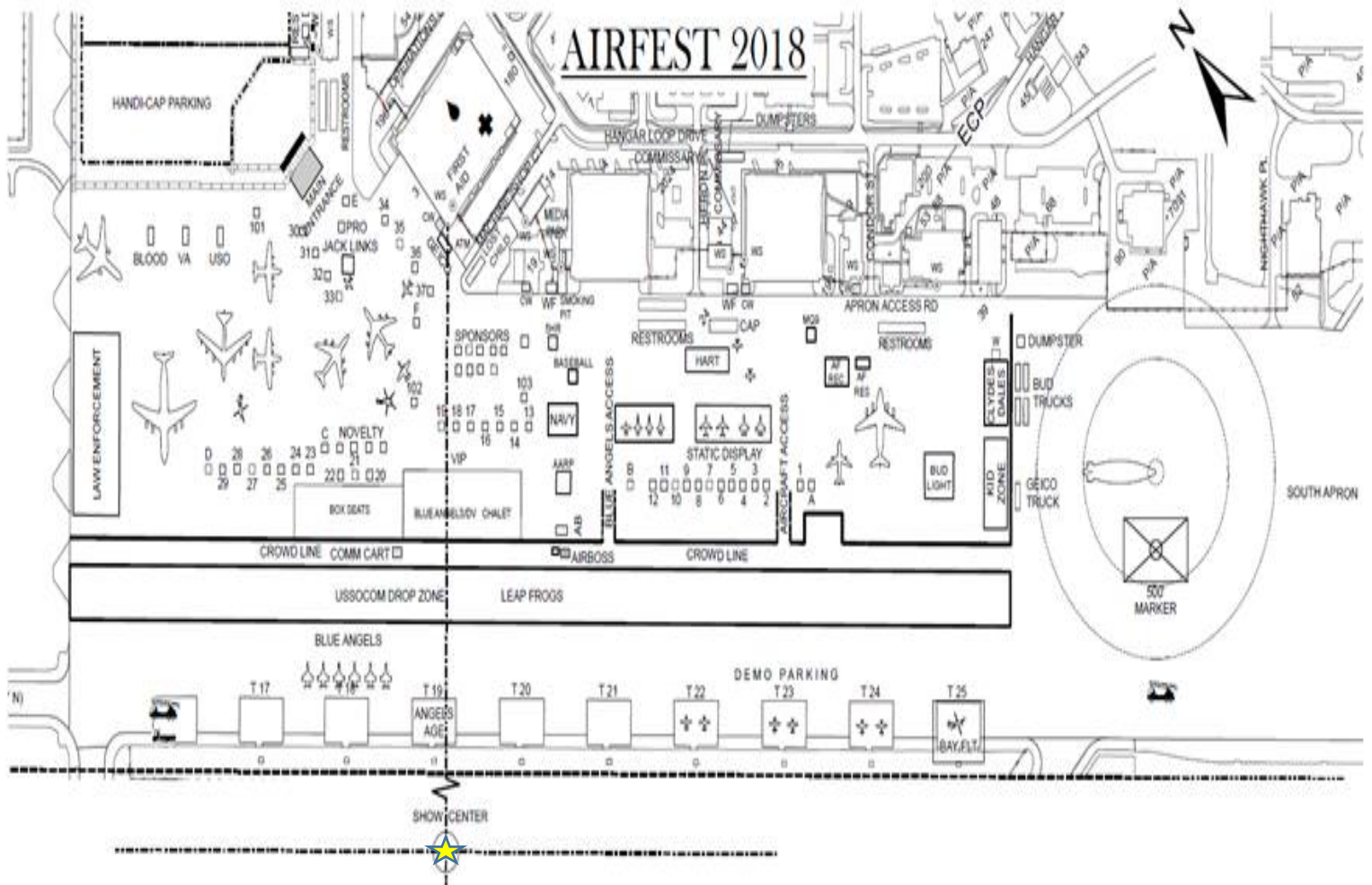
(813) 828-3322

(813) 828-3320

(813) 828-3313

(813) 828-3323

# Tampa Bay AirFest 2018 Visitor's Planning Guide



## Tentative Schedule of events (same Saturday/Sunday):

**8:00 - Gates Open**

11:00 - Opening Ceremonies

11:15 - SOCOM Para-Commandos Flag Jump

11:24 - Michael Goulian - Extra 330C / Rob Holland - MXS-RH

11:35 - KC-135 Demo

11:43 - Jerry "Jive" Kerby - RV-8

11:55 - Scott "Scooter" Yoak - P-51

12:08 - Jim Tobul - F-4U / Class of '45 with P-51

12:27 - A-10 Demo

12:44 - John Klatt - Sasquatch

12:58 - GEICO Skytypers - SNJ-2

1:17 - Randy Ball - Mig-17F

1:30 - Rob Holland - MXS-RH

1:44 - U.S .Navy Leap Frogs

1:53 - F-22 Raptor Demo

2:22 - Good Year Blimp Demo

2:28 - Michael Goulian - Extra 330C

2:40 - SOCOM Para-Commandos

**3:00 - U.S. Navy Blue Angels**

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## Download the Free AirFest mobile app:

The mobile application is available on both iPhone and Android platforms. It is free to download and use.

Go to <https://event.crowdcompass.com/tampabayairfest> to download the app OR download CrowdCompass AttendeeHub in the app store. Once downloaded, search for, then select, your event "Tampa Bay AirFest 2018".

You have an option to use the app without creating a log in profile. Keep in mind that creating a profile will allow you to play the 'Click' game. The 'Click' game gives you the opportunity to win real prizes! And it's all FREE! Check out all of the information on performers, schedules, static displays, sponsors and more!

Be sure to allow for "PUSH" notifications and create a profile/log in as an attendee (don't worry! You don't have to share any info and can remain in private mode if you like as we won't share any personal info.)

**How to get here:** It is important to note that utilizing ride-sharing services is not a good way to get to AirFest. Our traffic flow patterns don't provide for easy drop-off and there are no accommodations for subsequent pick-up. If someone in the family doesn't want to go to AirFest, why not have them drop you off at Britton plaza to catch the HART bus to AirFest?

Please choose one of these two options:

**Option 1.** Drive your car/motorcycle to Tampa Bay AirFest. Please try to carpool, handicap and regular parking is limited. On May 12-13 beginning at 8 a.m., the following base gates will be open to the public: Dale Mabry Gate located on S Dale Mabry, the MacDill Gate located on MacDill Ave and the Tanker Way Gate located on Interbay Blvd. The base gates will close when we have reached parking capacity so get here early (expect traffic delays regardless of your chosen arrival time). Additionally, all inbound traffic will be restricted starting at 2:30 p.m. (30 minutes before the Blue Angels are scheduled to perform). **There will be limited handicapped parking available.**

**Option 2:** Beat the traffic and the parking congestion by utilizing an air-conditioned comfortable HART bus to get to the Base. HART Bus patrons will be dropped-off and picked-up right at the AirFest entrance (no long walks from parking). **HART transportation will cost a nominal fee both to and from AirFest.**

A. If you live in in South Tampa or West/Northwest of the Base, take ride-share / taxi to Britton Plaza (3944 South Dale Mabry Hwy). HART will run direct service to AirFest every 15 minutes. Please do not

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drive to and park at Britton Plaza (there is limited parking). From Britton Plaza you will take the 360 Bus directly to Tampa Bay AirFest.

B. If you live closer to Downtown Tampa take ride-share / taxi to the Marion Transit Center - MTC (1211 N Marion St). HART will run service from the MTC to Britton Plaza every 30 minutes. You can also expedite your trip by taking ride-share / taxi to Britton Plaza (3944 South Dale Mabry Hwy).

C. If you live in Brandon, you can take ride-share / taxi to the Brandon Westfield Mall. HART will run service from Brandon Mall to the MTC every 60 minutes. You can also expedite your trip by taking ride-share / taxi to Britton Plaza (3944 South Dale Mabry Hwy) or the Marion Transit Center (1211 N Marion St).

**HART Bus Transportation Information:** HART will provide additional services for the Route 360LX in support of MacDill Air Force Base's AirFest featuring the U.S. Navy Blue Angels.

**HART services are not free, there is a fee both to and from AirFest. Please be prepared to purchase HART tickets prior to using our services.**

MacDill and HART's mission is to reduce traffic flow to the base by promoting use of public transportation services.

Route 360LX's schedule will be modified to provide various frequency levels to main destinations connecting local routing options:

- MacDill AFB to Britton Plaza: Every 15 minutes
- MacDill AFB to Downtown (Marion Transit Center): Every 30 minutes
- MacDill AFB to Westfield Brandon Mall: Every 60 minutes

Route 360LX's Saturday and Sunday schedule will run as normal, with the additional services running between 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM. The Route 360LX vehicles will line up after 4:00 PM to begin the loading process back to the three main destinations listed above until 6:00 PM. AirFest hours are between 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM with gates opening at 8:00 AM.

Below is a narrative showing transportation options from the three main transportation hubs along the Route 360LX.

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1. If you live in South Tampa, St Pete, Clearwater (W of Tampa), take ride share / transportation to Britton Plaza (3944 South Dale Mabry Hwy). From there you will take HART's Route 360LX directly to Tampa Bay AirFest. Route 360LX will operate every 15 minutes from Britton Place between 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM.

## **Transportation options to Britton Plaza include:**

Route 17 - Manhattan Avenue

Route 19 - South Tampa

Route 36 - Dale Mabry Highway / Himes Avenue

2. If you live near the downtown Tampa area, take ride share / transportation to Marion Transit Center (1211 N Marion St). From there, you will take HART's Route 360LX Limited Express directly to Tampa Bay AirFest. Route 360LX will operate every 30 minutes from Marion Transit Center between 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM.

## **Transportation options to Marion Transit Center include:**

Route 1 - Florida Avenue

Route 5 - 40th Street

Route 6 - 56th Street

Route 7 – West Tampa

Route 8 – Progress Village / Brandon

Route 9 – 15th Street

Route 12 – 22nd Street

Route 19 – South Tampa

Route 30 – Kennedy Boulevard

Route 60LX – Cross County Limited Express

Route 360LX – Brandon / South Tampa Limited Express

3. If you live near the Brandon area, take ride share / transportation to Westfield Brandon Mall (459 Brandon Town Center). The bus stop is located just south of the Food Court's eastside entrance. From there, you will take HART's Route 360LX directly to Tampa Bay AirFest. Route 360LX will operate every 60 minutes from Westfield Brandon Mall between 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM.

## **Transportation options to Westfield Brandon Mall include:**

Route 8 – Progress Village / Brandon

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Route 37 –Brandon / netp@rk

Route 46 – Brandon Boulevard

Route 60LX – Cross County Limited Express

Route 360LX – Brandon / South Tampa Limited Express

HyperLINK Brandon

Please contact HART Customer Service if you need assistance trip planning to any of the above destinations at **813-254-HART (4278)**

HART's maps and schedules can be found at the link below. Use the drop down menus to see individual route information. <http://www.gohart.org/Pages/maps-schedules.aspx>

## **Gate Hours:**

### **Dale Mabry Gate**

Sat/Sun: Opens for visitors at 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

### **MacDill Gate**

Sat/Sun: opens for visitors at 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

### **Tanker Way Gate**

Sat/Sun: 5 a.m. – 7 a.m. – Vendors/Media Only

Sat/Sun: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. – Inbound AirFest Traffic Only

**NOTE: GATES CLOSE AT 3 p.m. OR WHEN MAX PARKING CAPACITY IS REACHED**

## **What to bring:**

- Sunscreen/Hats/Sunglasses
- Comfortable Clothes & Shoes
- Reusable water bottle (**empty for security line, free water stations are available inside**)
- Hearing protection (especially for children)
- Wagon or lightweight stroller for tired children
- Collapsible camping chairs (no umbrellas allowed)

*\*Food, beverages, and souvenirs will be available for purchase at the event*

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**Prohibited Items:** Take note of prohibited items while planning your day. Banned items will be confiscated and/or cause visitors to be turned away at the gate. **Expect TSA airport level security.** All vehicles, individuals and bags are subject to search and seizure.

**If you can't take it on an airplane you can't take into Tampa Bay AirFest 2018.**

- Weapons of any kind including self-defense weapons, firearms, pocket knives, pocket tools, scissors, box cutters, clubs, Tasers, stun guns, cutting devices, mace and pepper spray, any chemical discharge devices.
  - Multi-tools, large heavy chain link jewelry or belts
  - Clothing, costumes or garments resembling on-duty Military or Law Enforcement personnel
  - Clothing with profanity, nudity, racist intent/messaging, obscene or graphic violence of any kind
  - Banners, or signs on any pole of any kind
  - Toys that resemble firearms, laser pointers
  - Coolers, grills, or glass containers. **Empty plastic drink containers are authorized.**
  - RC aircraft & drones, balloons
  - Umbrellas (other than small rain umbrellas which fit in a purse)
  - Flammable items and Fireworks
  - Pets (except for service animals). Emotional support animals are not authorized.
  - Spray paint and silly string
  - Walkie-talkies, HAM radios, scanners
  - Alcohol and illegal drugs
  - Bicycles, skateboards, scooters, hee-lies, roller skates or rollerblades
  - Excessively large items and bags (the only exceptions are diaper bags, small purses, and small camera bags at or below 21 inches long, 10 inches wide, 10 inches deep)
  - **Any items Security Forces personnel determine a security or safety risk**
- Possession and use of Marijuana (recreational or medicinal) is illegal on MacDill Air Force Base or any federal installation.**

## **FAQS:**

**What's the address?**

Worried you'll get lost? You can plug in the Visitor's Center address into your GPS and it will take you straight to the Dale Mabry Gate: 6901 S. Dale Mabry Hwy

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## **I have small children. Can I bring a stroller, diaper bag, or change of clothes?**

Yes. Strollers will be hand-searched at the security checkpoint. Please bring only necessary items in the diaper bag, subject to hand-search at the security checkpoint. Also please consider bringing hearing protection for small children.

## **Can I bring my camera, video camera, or cell phone?**

Yes. There are no security restrictions on these items. However, large camera bags are not permitted. Bring only necessary camera equipment, leaving extra attachments at home. A small fanny pack or vest is useful for carrying small lenses. Keep in mind that everything is subject to search.

## **Can I bring food?**

Small snacks are fine as long as they are not in glass containers. In addition, **no** ice chests or coolers (except small coolers for medical supplies or infant formula purposes). No bags larger than a small purse. Fanny packs, backpacks and Camelbaks will be allowed (Camelbaks must be empty). All items brought are subject to approval by gate security personnel and are hand-searched at security checkpoint.

## **Will there be any food or souvenirs available?**

Yes. There will be concessions for food, drinks, and souvenirs.

## **Can I leave and re-enter Tampa Bay AirFest?**

Yes. You may leave and re-enter as many times as needed. However, anyone re-entering will have to go through the security checkpoints again.

## **Is tailgating allowed?**

No.

## **Is smoking allowed?**

Yes, but only in designated areas and not on the flight line.

## **Are alcoholic beverages allowed?**

Those over 21 can purchase them at concessions, but you cannot bring your own.

## **Will restroom facilities be easily accessible?**

Yes. Portable restrooms will be located throughout the AirFest ramp. There will be handicap restrooms, but they are limited.

## **Can I take pictures or get autographs?**

Yes. Many of the performers make themselves available for autographs and pictures during the show.



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## **Will it be necessary to have hearing protection?**

Due to the nature of the event, it is highly encouraged you bring hearing protection – especially for children. There will be a number of aircraft taking off, landing, and performing, which will be extremely loud. Hearing protection will be available for purchase as well.

## **Which day will the Blue Angels be performing?**

Both! The Blue Angels will perform their amazing demonstrations both days at 3 p.m., weather permitting.

## **Will there be shade?**

There are limited areas of shade available throughout the flight line. You can take a walk through one of our larger static displays to get a break from the sun, as well as an open hangar featuring displays.

## **What happens if it rains?**

In the event of rain, some flying demonstrations may be delayed. However, unless the weather poses a serious threat to the safety of the visitors and participants, the show will proceed as scheduled with some modifications. In the event of an AirFest cancellation, announcements will be coordinated with local news agencies and social media.

## **Are umbrellas allowed at the air show?**

Yes. Small rain umbrellas are fine to bring (the small ones that fit in a purse), but large golf umbrellas or shade umbrellas are banned as they may block the view of spectators behind you.

## **Can I bring my camera gear and bag?**

Yes. Your camera gear must follow the bag size restrictions at the bottom of page 7.

## **What type of medical services will be available?**

First aid only will be provided such as oral hydration, treatment for minor cuts and bruises, and application of emergency medications. Medical personnel will stabilize and coordinate transportation to higher level of care for all other injuries/illnesses. **EPI pens are not available.**

## **Can I bring my required medication?**

Yes. You can bring your medical required medication as long as it's in the prescription bottle, under your name and is not an expired prescription. TSA rules apply.

## **Is handicap parking available?**

Yes. There will be limited handicap parking available Saturday and Sunday. We will also have ADA accessible porta potties throughout the flight line.

## **Is there handicap seating or a handicap reserved shaded area?**

No. AirFest attendees are required to bring a collapsible chair and may bring a small personal umbrella.

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## **Is there transportation for handicap attendees on the flight line?**

No. It recommended visitors bring the necessary medical mobility equipment required for traveling throughout a large location. Checkout our "What to bring" list on page 6.

## **What is the FREE Kids Zone?**

A location your kids won't want to miss. This Free play zone consists of 5 inflatables play areas with unlimited patron access and a Rockwall.

## **Can law enforcement carry a weapon during the Airshow?**

No. Unless you are a law enforcement officer directly supporting the airshow you cannot carry a weapon. You will be turned around at the gate if you have a weapon or one is found in your vehicle.

## **Can I drive my RV?**

Yes. Please keep in mind, if you are driving an RV it is recommended you arrive early due to the very limited RV parking spots. It is recommended you use HART transportation in lieu of driving an RV onto installation. RVs will be turned away at the gate once the large vehicle parking locations are full.

## **Do civilian motorcyclists have to follow DoD personal protective equipment rules?**

No. Civilian motorcyclists will be required to follow Florida motorcycle safety regulations. DoD employees must follow DoD PPE regulations.

## **Can I campaign or bring campaign flyers to display/handout during AirFest?**

No. Campaigning and political activity are strictly prohibited on a military installation.

## **Is there transportation from FamCamp to the flight line?**

No. It is recommended you drive to the AirFest from FamCamp.

## **Can I watch from my boat in the bay?**

Yes. You may be able to view the AirFest from Tampa Bay. However, all restricted area laws will be enforced. Go to the following article for more information:

<http://www.macdill.af.mil/News/Features/Display/Article/1468527/keep-the-fines-at-bay/>

## **Is Friday open for DoD ID card holders?**

Yes. Friday's air show performance is an opportunity for the performers to perfect their act. As such, those with base access are authorized to watch the rehearsal. While the Friday rehearsal will mirror the Saturday and Sunday shows, there are some differences:

- The ramp will open at 10:00 a.m., and show starts at 11:00 for those with military IDs and invited guests

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- You can bring your family and guest with you, but remember, you are responsible for them. It is a normal duty day, and the base is not open to the general public.
- You can bring your chairs and coolers, but you must clean up after yourself.
- You cannot bring drones, glass, umbrellas, weapons, and pets.
- There is no parking assigned for Friday attendees, you must observe reserved parking signs.
- Enter the flight line next to hangar 3
- Clydesdales parade at 10:00
- The tented chalets are off limits.
- Multiple food trucks and drink booths will be available.