

Frequently Asked Questions

Sounds like fun, but I have questions. This should help you plan your weekend in Didsbury.

Q: Where is Didsbury?

A: Didsbury is halfway between Red Deer and Calgary in Central Alberta, 3 miles west of the QEII Highway 2.

Q: When is Mountain View Arts Festival held?

A: The Arts Festival begins with the Opening Reception on the Friday evening of the second weekend in September. Festival activities run all day both the Saturday and Sunday.

Q: Where in Didsbury will I find the festival?

A: Mountain View Arts Festival is held in several locations within the community, Saturday and Sunday. The main stage entertainment is at the Didsbury Elks Hall, right downtown in the heart of Didsbury. The Scarecrow Competition and Model Railroad is at the Didsbury Museum Grounds; Quilt Show is at the Train Station; Literary Arts at the Library; and the Heritage Walking Tour starts at the Train Station. All these venues are nearby each other, and there is a shuttle between activities. Park your car and forget about it. (Saturday evening's concert is at the Didsbury High School.)

Q: What's the weather like in Didsbury during the second week of September?

A: Usually around 16°C/61°F during the day and 10°C/50°F at night, although it can be as hot as 21°C/70°F. Humidity is moderate. There could be light showers, and there could be wind.

Q: What does Arts Festival cost?

A: We do not charge an admission to any of the venues, although a donation to the Society is graciously accepted at all sites. We recommend about \$5.00. All have free parking and free shuttle, and are entirely accessible.

Q: Is seating and shade provided?

A: Most of our activities are indoors. If you are taking in the Heritage Walking Tour, or plan to visit with the Chalk Artists, we encourage you to wear sun screen and a sun hat.

Q: What if I need cash?

A: You will be able to find ATMs at the banks and credit unions downtown, Didsbury AG Foods grocery store and Didsbury Value Drug Mart pharmacy, all within walking distance of the activities.

Q: Can I bring my dog to Festival?

A: None of our indoor venues allow pets. Service dogs are most welcome. Please do not leave animals in vehicles while you visit.

Q: Where can I park?

A: Didsbury is a very walkable town. We encourage you to leave the car at home and walk

to the various sites and/or use the Didsbury Lions Shuttle. There are many locations to park a larger vehicle such as your RV or tour bus, or a smaller vehicle such as your bike.

Q: Will there be food at the festival?

A: Absolutely! Didsbury's restaurant community is large, with a great variety of food to choose from. There is Indigenous Comfort Food at the concession at the Elks Hall, beverages at the Library, and special treats at the Museum. Bring your appetite!

Q: What about beer?

A: No alcohol at any of the venues. The Festival is a dry event.

Q: Where are the nearest hotels, motels and campgrounds?

A: A complete list of accommodations can be found on the MyDidsbury.ca website. In addition, the Town of Didsbury (www.didsbury.ca) or the Didsbury Chamber of Commerce (www.didsburychamber.com) can answer all your accommodation questions.

Q: Are you looking for volunteers to help out with the festival?

A: Yes! If you want to get involved, we would love to hear from you! Please visit the Volunteers page on our website for more information (www.mountainviewartsfestival.ca/volunt.html) or call 403-335-9445. By the way, the Arts Festival makes a great Volunteer Holiday! We will get in touch with you.

Q: What else do I need to know?

- Festival maps will be printed in the September 5th issue of the Mountain View Gazette, included with the Olds Albertan. Complete programs will be handed out at the entrances to each site.
- All sites have washroom facilities.
- All sites are wheelchair and stroller accessible.

Q: What else is there to do in the area that weekend?

A: On Friday, September 8th we will be hosting the Festival's Opening Reception at the Didsbury Elks Hall at 7 pm. Doors open at 6:30 pm. Admission is free.

- Didsbury's North Wetlands Park is a great place to relax and check out the wildlife.
- Innisfail's Weekend of Wheels takes place on Saturday, about half an hour north of Didsbury.
- Cremona's Show & Shine takes place on Saturday, about half an hour west of Didsbury.
- Or come back the following weekend and take in the Terry Fox Run, September 17th at Rosebud Park in Didsbury.

Why not make a weekend of it?!