

FAIR AND FESTIVALS IN PUNJAB				
Sno	Name of the Festival	Description	District/ Location	2020-21
1	Fazilka Heritage Festival	<p>It is an annual Art, Cultural and Food Festival of Fazilka City planned by the Graduates Welfare Association, Fazilka with the aim of involving people from all communities living in and around Fazilka. The main aim of heritage festival is to promote the Fazilka region of rich culture and heritage worldwide. This event will not only promote the vibrancy of Fazilka's culture and Punjabi-ness of the border region but also will help to establish 'Fazilka' as a Brand city. This branding will directly or indirectly support the local handicraft, workmanship, sweet makers and will generate employment opportunity through tourism in the region for many.</p> <p>Highlights and Venue: The event is organised at four venues. Music and dance shows are held in the car-free area near the Clock Tower. The food zone and the exhibition-cum-sale zone are both in the Sanjay Gandhi Musical Park Fazilka.</p>	Fazilka	April-2020
2	Baisakhi	<p>Baisakhi is one of the most significant holidays in the Sikh calendar, commemorating the establishment of the Khalsa in 1699. To mark the celebrations, devotees, irrespective of their religion, throng the Gurdwara, the Sikh place of worship. Processions through towns are also common.</p> <p>Venue: Baisakhi is celebrated on a large scale at Takht Sri Damdama Sahib situated at Bathinda</p> <p>Highlights: Sikh devotees generally attend the Gurdwara before dawn with flowers and offerings. Processions through cities are also common.</p>	All over Punjab	April-2020

3	Baba Sheikh Farid Aagman	<p>Baba Farid, a 12th century Sufi saint, is described by many as the first major Punjabi poet. A large number of devotees from far-off places converged here to attend the annual the Baba Farid fair marking the saint's arrival day with faith and fervour. The recitation of Sukhmani Sahib followed by a prayer at Gurdwara Tilla Baba Farid and a series of celebrations mark the five-day long fair. Devotees from all religious groups have great faith and devotion in this holy place. Venue: Gurudwara Tilla Baba Farid, Faridkot. Highlights: During the fair, the Baba Farid society organises various sporting and cultural activities to attract youth. Major attractions at the fair are daring stunts performed by the dardenedl 'Baazigars". The Nagar Kirtan, which is a Sikh custom of processional singing of holy hymns also takes during this fair.</p>	Faridkot	Sep-2020
4	Rauza Sharif 'Urs'	<p>Rauza Sharif 'Urs' is celebrated in the memory of the great Sufi Saint Sheikh Ahmad Farooqui Sirhindi. Sheikh Ahmed was the most eminent of Khwaja Baqi Billah's disciples. He was the fourth of the seven sons of Sheikh Abdul Ahmad Farooqi Naqshbandi and was born in Sirhind. Venue-Rauza Sharif Sirhind Highlights-Urs provides an opportunity not only to Muslims but also to Hindus and Sikhs to pay obeisance to the saint and enjoy the fair and purchase handicraft goods.</p>	Sirhind	Oct-2020

5	Diwali	<p>On this day, Guru Hargobind Singh, the sixth Guru of the Sikhs, reached Amritsar after his release from Gwalior during the reign of the Mughal emperor, Jehangir. Diwali also celebrates the return of Ram, King of Ayodhya, with his wife Sita and brother Lakshman to Ayodhya after a 14 year exile, and a war in which he killed the evil demon-king Ravan.</p> <p>Venue: Golden Temple Amritsar.</p> <p>Highlights: On this day the entire Golden Temple is illuminated with traditional lamps. Fireworks are on display till late at night .</p>	Golden Temple Amritsar	Nov- 2020
6	Harballabh Sangeet Festival	<p>Organized every year from December 27-30, this music festival honours the memory of Swami Harballabh, a famous saint musician. Held at the saint's shrine at the Devi Talab, near Jalandhar, the event attracts classical singers and musicians of repute from all over the country.</p> <p>Venue: Shri Devi Talab Mandir Jalandhar.</p> <p>Highlights: Prominent Preformers of Hindustani Classical Music from India and Pakistan sing at this festival.</p>	Jalandhar	Dec- 2020
	Shaheedi Jor Mela	<p>This Gurdwaraat Chamkaur Shib commemorates the historical battle- fought by Guru Gobind Singh Ji in a small fortress. He faced a mighty Mughal army with just forty Sikhs. Here, the great Guru blessed his two elder sons Ajit Singh and Jujhar Singh, to go ahead to the battle field and exhorted them to attain spiritual perfection by sacrificing their lives. The two Sahibzadas and 37 Sikhs, attained martyrdom in the battle. Never before, has any teenager warrior, displayed a cool courage in the face of death. Their heroic deeds against tyranny are remembered every year by grateful devotees. They assemble in thousands at Chamkaur Sahib to attend the Shaheedi Jor mela in the memory of the two Sahibzadas (elder sons of Sri Guru Govind Singh ji).</p>	Chamkaur Sahib	Dec-2020

		<p>Venue: Gurdwara Chamkaur Sahib .</p> <p>Highlights: Jor Mela is accompanied by martial arts performances and langar at the Gurdwara.</p>		
7	Jor Mela	<p>The annual three day Jor Mela is observed to mark the martyrdom of the two younger sons of Guru Gobind Singh Ji – Sahibzada Zorawar Singh and Fateh Singh. Held in the open grounds of Fatehgarh Sahib Gurdwara, the festival's main highlight is the light and sound show depicting the sacrifice of Zorawar Singh and Fateh Singh in 1794, at such a tender age, upon refusal to accept Islam. Processions are taken out and display of Sikh games are held at this three day festival.</p> <p>Venue: Gurdwara Fatehgarh Sahib .</p> <p>Highlights: Jor Mela is accompanied by martial arts performances and langar at the Gurdwara.</p>	Fatehgarh Sahib	Dec - 2020
9	Lohri	<p>Lohri is essentially a festival dedicated to fire and to the Sun God. It is the time when the sun moves towards the north. The new configuration lessens the ferocity of winter and brings warmth to the earth. It is to ward off the bitter chill of the month of January that people light bonfires, dance around them in a mood of bonhomie and celebrate Lohri.</p> <p>Venue: This is celebrated all over Punjab.</p> <p>Highlights : Lohri is traditionally associated with the harvest of the rabi crops. People take peanuts, rewri, flour, butter and various food items to places of religious worship to thank God for a good harvest. A key feature of Lohri is the bonfire, signifying the return of warmer days.</p>	All over Punjab	Jan-2021

10	Maghi Mela/ Muktsar Fair	<p>Maghi Mela is organized to commemorate a battle fought in 1705-06 by Guru Gobind Singh against the Mughals.</p> <p>Venue: Gurdwara Sri Darbar Sahib, malout Road, Muktsar.</p> <p>Highlights: (1) This fair lasts for two to three days and falls on the Makar Sankranti day.(2) On the first day, the devotees bathe in the Muktsar Tank - the pool of salvation, and the next day, they go in procession to the three holy mounds, namely, Rikab Sahib, Tibbi Sahib and Mukhwanjana Sahib. Rikab Sahib is the spot where the Guru's stirrup broke.</p>	Muktsar	Jan-2021
11	Bhatinda Virasat Mela	<p>The Malwa Heritage Foundation attempts to revisit heritage by organising, the Virasat Mela, a heritage festival. Upholding a decades-old tradition, the Heritage Festival endeavours to revive the ancient folk arts, customs and traditions at a specially built "Jaipalgarh Village" inside the Sports Stadium at Bhatinda.</p> <p>Venue: Sports Stadium Bathinda.</p>	Bathinda	Feb-2021
12	Amritsar Sufi Festival	<p>To celebrate the spiritual and cultural heritage of Amritsar, Punjab Heritage and Tourism Promotion Board organizes "The Amritsar Sufi Festival" The concept of this International Sufi Festival is to highlight Sufi thought and to provide a platform to discuss, absorb and practise it in all its manifestations.</p>	Amritsar	Feb - 2021
	Kapurthala Heritage Festival	<p>The Baba Jassa Singh Ahluwalia Heritage Festival is held under the aegis of the Kapurthala Heritage Trust, in collaboration with INTACH and supported by the Government of Punjab. Held against the backdrop of the spectacular Jagatjit Palace, it starts each year with Shabad Kirtan in memory of Baba Jassa Singh who is himself remembered for his rendition of "Shabad Kirtan". This festival unfolds a wonderful tapestry of</p>	Kapurthala	NIL

		classical music, dance and theatre. Venue: Jagatjit Palace Kapurthala		
13	Patiala Craft Mela	The Crafts Mela is held at the Sheesh Mahal Art Gallery premises in which 150 crafts persons from different parts of India display their wares for fifteen days. Performers, entrepreneurs and craft persons from different states offer cultural performances and display crafts from their respective states. Venue: Sheesh Mahal Patiala. Highlights: Traditional stalls selling various items of “phulkari” and traditional Punjabi furniture and craft from all over the country.	Patiala	Feb -2021
14	Kila Raipur Sports Festival	In February each year, Ludhiana becomes the destination for hundreds of sports enthusiasts, including foreigners. Many of these visitors have never seen bullock carts or camels running races that carry coveted cash prizes. Highlights: People come to Kila Raipur to see the special breeds of bullocks, camels, dogs, mules and other animals competing in highly professional events including other events like tent pegging, archery, fencing, riding , gymnastic and acrobatic displays by the Nihangs.	Kila Raipur, Ludhiana	Feb-2021

	Sangrur Heritage Festival	When the Raga of Basant is sung and the message of the divine is to uplift your soul and merge with nature so that we can be enlightened and uplifted in our inner quest. Basant Panchami is a Hindu festival celebrating Saraswati, the goddess of knowledge, music, culture and art. It is celebrated every year on the fifth day (Panchami) of the Magh month according to the Hindu Calendar. Maharaja Ranjit Singh introduced Basant as a festival of Kites and everyone wore yellow clothes to emulate the mustard fields in bloom.	Sangrur	Jan-2021
15	Hola Mohalla	Hola is derived from the word 'halla' (a military charge) and the term 'mohalla' stands for an organized procession or an army column. The words 'Hola Mohalla' would thus stand for 'the charge of an army. Venue:Takht Sri Keshgarh Sahib, Anandpur Sahib. Highlights :The festival consists of camping out and enjoying various displays of fighting prowess and valour, followed by kirtan, music, and poetry. For meals, visitors sit on the ground in neat rows called Pangats and eat vegetarian food from the Langars served by volunteers. Hola Mohalla: Nihangs carry traditional weapons and modern fire-arms as well, and are skilled at tent-pegging, sword wielding, jousting and other martial sports.	Anandpur Sahib	Mar -2021