

Mackinac State Historic Parks 2009 Calendar of Events

** MSHP events included with regular admission unless noted otherwise.*

MAY

- 4** **Opening Day, Historic Mill Creek Discovery Park and Colonial Michilimackinac, Mackinaw City**
- 5** **Opening Day, Fort Mackinac, Mackinac Island**
- 11** **Opening Day, Old Mackinac Point Lighthouse, Mackinaw City**
- 23 – 25** **Michilimackinac Pageant, Colonial Michilimackinac**
Experience a reenactment of the 1763 Native American's attack on the British-held fort as presented by a Mackinaw City community group. Free.
- 25** **Memorial Day Observance, Fort Mackinac Post Cemetery**
A brief Memorial Day observance to pay tribute to the soldiers who served at Fort Mackinac. Soldiers will assemble at 8:30 a.m. at Fort Mackinac, march to the cemetery, perform a short ceremony and salute, and return to the fort. Free.

JUNE

- 6** **MSHP full-season historic interpretive programming begins, all sites.**
- June 6 – August 22** **Mackinac Island Historic Downtown Buildings, Daily, 11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m., Mission Church 12:00 – 4:00 p.m.**
Mackinac's 19th - century fur trade community comes to life at the Biddle House, American Fur Company Store & Dr. Beaumont Museum, and the McGulpin House. Watch cooking and participate in craft demonstrations at the Biddle House. See a blacksmith demonstrate his trade at the 1950's Benjamin Blacksmith Shop. Mission Church is open but not staffed.
- June 10 - August 26** **Michigan Governor's Summer Residence Tours, Wednesdays, 9:30-11:30 a.m.**
- 27** **Colonial Kids' Day, Colonial Michilimackinac, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**
A day dedicated to children. Participate in children's games, hands-on open hearth cooking, 18th century-crafts, and dress in historical costumes, among many other activities. Walking tour will be specially tailored to children. Experience the new "Kid's Rendezvous" play station and learning center.

JULY

- 4** **Red, White & Blue Celebration, Fort Mackinac, 5:30 p.m.**
An annual Independence Day reception for members of Mackinac Associates.
Free for Mackinac Associates members "Friend" level and above.
- 4** **Star Spangled Fourth of July, Fort Mackinac, 2:00 and 7:00 p.m.**
The historic island fort is decked out in patriotic finery with banners, flags and bunting. It's a 1880s Independence Day with 38-gun salutes honoring the states of the period, performances of patriotic music, and Victorian children's games. Guests join the party and participate in Victorian dances and games on the fort parade ground.

JULY (Continued)

- 4 An American Picnic, Fort Mackinac, 6:30 p.m.**
Checked red and white tablecloths spread on the grass of Fort Mackinac's parade ground create a patchwork quilt welcoming hungry patriots. Enjoy Grand Hotel's all-you-can-eat tangy BBQ baby back ribs, grilled chicken breasts, hamburgers, hot dogs, turkey burgers, corn on the cob, and a slew of salads, fixings and desserts. Stay inside the fort for a prime view of the fireworks! Call 906-847-3328 or visit www.MackinacParks.com for prices.
- 15 Colonial Kids' Day, Colonial Michilimackinac, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**
A day dedicated to children. Participate in children's games, hands-on open hearth cooking, 18th century-crafts, and dress in historical costumes, among many other activities. Walking tour will be specially designed for children. Experience the new "Kid's Rendezvous" play station and learning center.
- 18 Vintage Base Ball, Scout Barracks Field, Mackinac Island State Park, Fort Mackinac, 7:00 p.m.**
A vintage game of "base ball" as it was meant to be played, barehanded and by gentlemen's rules on the old Fort Mackinac ball field behind Fort Mackinac, the oldest continually used ball field in Michigan! Learn an old-fashioned cheer, watch players fined for smoking cigars on the field, and enjoy a good old-fashioned rivalry! The game pits the Fort Mackinac *Never Sweats* against the Mackinaw City *Boys*. Family - \$15, Adult - \$5, Youth (5-17) - \$3, Children 4 & under and Mackinac Associates "Friend" level and above - Free
- 18- 19 Eastern Woodland American Indian Art Exhibit and Sale, 9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. Colonial Michilimackinac Visitor's Center**
Enjoy a dramatic visual interpretation of 18th century America through a frontier art exhibit featuring works by Robert Griffing.
- 23 Michilimackinac Centennial Celebration, Michilimackinac State Park and Colonial Michilimackinac, 7:00 p.m.**
Celebrate the centennial anniversary of Michilimackinac State Park with the dedication of the new marker; followed by the dedication of the new Colonial Michilimackinac Kid's Rendezvous play area and learning center. Children and adults will have the opportunity to experience this unique play area for the first time.
- 25-26 Campeau's Company Encampment, Colonial Michilimackinac, 9:00 am.-6:00 pm.**
Reenactors from around Michigan join the 18th - century soldiers already stationed at the reconstructed fort and fur trading village. The Campeau's Company will supplement daily events with cooking demonstrations, military drill, musket firings, woodworking, and demonstrations of village life. They will also hold a period clothing show and craft demonstrations.

AUGUST

- 1 Benjamin Blacksmith Convention, Benjamin Blacksmith Shop, Mackinac Island State Park, 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.**
More than a dozen regional blacksmiths display traditional blacksmith tools and techniques as they create art and work on a public project.
- 1-2 Jaeger's Battalion of Roger's Rangers Encampment, Colonial Michilimackinac, 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.**
Reenactors from around Michigan will portray a British military group from the Revolutionary war period. The Roger's Rangers military unit fought guerilla style warfare away from the front lines, and demonstrations will showcase this unique military tactic. There will be a re-enactment/play on Robert & Elizabeth Rogers.

AUGUST (Continued)

- 4 Digging History, Evening Event, 7:00-9:00 p.m., Colonial Michilimackinac,**
By purchasing a timed ticket, you and your family are allowed to screen and search for real artifacts as professional archaeologists do. Family - \$30, Adult - \$10, Youth (5-17) - \$6, Children 4 & under and Mackinac Associates above Heritage level – Free
- 8-9 Compagine Franche de la Marine Michilimackinac (Michilimackinac Marines) Encampment and Kids’ Fur Traders Day, Colonial Michilimackinac, 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.**
These reenactors from around Michigan and the Midwest will portray both French and British colonists from the French and Indian War period. The Michilimackinac Marines are part of the fort’s largest invitational encampment event, and will supplement daily events with demonstrations including military marching and drilling techniques as well as period clothing presentations and equipment demonstrations. This is also a special day just for kids to learn about the fur trade at Colonial Michilimackinac. Focus will be brought to fur traders, a voyageur (French fur trader) reenactment, and other special events.
- 22 Colonial Kids’ Day, Colonial Michilimackinac , 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**
A day dedicated to children. Participate in children’s games, hands-on open hearth cooking, 18th century crafts, and dress in historical costumes, among many other activities. Walking tour will be specially tailored to children. Experience the new “Kid’s Rendezvous” play station and learning center.
- 22 MSHP full-season historic interpretive programming ends, all sites.**

SEPTEMBER

- 12-13 Michigan 16th. Infantry Civil War Re-enactors, Fort Mackinac, 9:30 a.m.– 4:30 p.m.**
A group of 16th Michigan Company B reenactors will bring Mackinac Island’s Civil War history to life. Dozens of men and women will dress in the fashions of the 1860s. Reenactors will join Fort Mackinac interpreters already at the fort to give rifle firing and drill demonstrations. At 1:00p.m. on both days, enjoy a ladies Civil War–era fashion show.
- 26-27 King’s 8th. Regiment Encampment, Colonial Michilimackinac, 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.**
This regiment will portray the British King’s 8th Regiment that was stationed in the Great Lakes region from 1768 to 1785, including at Fort Michilimackinac. Along with historic interpreters already at the fort, reenactors will provide musket and cannon firing demonstrations, colonial life tours, and lively interaction with guests.

OCTOBER

- 4 Michigan Archaeology Day, Colonial Michilimackinac, 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.**
Join Mackinac State Historic Parks’ professional archaeologists for an archaeology-focused tour at 10:30 a.m. and a slide show presentation at 2:30 p.m. Archaeologists will be on site all day to answer guests’ questions about Colonial Michilimackinac’s archaeological features including the *Treasures from the Sand* exhibit, ruins, and authentically reconstructed buildings.

OCTOBER (Continued)

9 – 10

Fort Fright, Colonial Michilimackinac, 6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

French voyageurs tell eerie tales by campfire as you pass down the trail of lantern lights. Werewolves howl over the palisaded fort as you enter the gate patrolled by skeleton Redcoats. Get goodies from colonial fireplaces, hear spooky stories, and if you're a brave soul, enter the haunted rowhouse. Children receive treat bags. Experience Michilimackinac at night like you never have before. Family - \$18, Adult - \$6, Youth (5-17) - \$3, Children 4 & under and Mackinac Associates "Friend" level and above – Free.

11

Mackinac State Historic Parks' living history sites close for the season.