

Celebrate the 54th annual SantaCaliGon Days Festival this Labor Day Weekend in historic Independence, MO

Honoring the pioneer spirit of the Santa Fe, California, and Oregon trails

INDEPENDENCE, MO, UNITED STATES, August 24, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Howdy Pardner! You're invited to Independence's largest festival celebrating the city's pioneer history this Labor Day Weekend at the 54th Annual [SantaCaliGon®](#) Days Festival. The streets of the Historic Downtown Independence transform for the 4-day festival from Friday, September 4 through Monday, September 7, 2026. Presented by Cable Dahmer Automotive Group and hosted by the [Independence Chamber of Commerce](#), this four-day festival honors the pioneering spirit of the Santa Fe, California, and Oregon Trails, and invites tens of thousands to celebrate where history and fun collide.

This historic festival stands as the region's oldest and largest FREE event, promising a weekend filled with a fun and educational Main Street 1849 village, entertainment, delectable cuisine from numerous food vendors, handcrafted arts and crafts, a world-class carnival, and live performances across two dynamic stages. With over 220,000 attendees annually, the SantaCaliGon® Days Festival is a cornerstone of the community, contributing to the local economy.



54th Annual SantaCaliGon Festival Labor Day Weekend in historic Downtown Independence.



Annual Kids Ice Cream Eating Contest hosted by Clinton's Soda Fountain.

Stretching across nine square blocks in Independence's historic downtown, where pioneers once outfitted for their westward journey, vendor booths will showcase a diverse array of handcrafted treasures such as jewelry, soaps, wood crafts, and more. Delight in an eclectic range of food, including homemade root beer, kettle corn, funnel cake, cobbler, pulled pork sandwiches, Greek salads, and other delectable treats. And don't forget the Square's local shops! Step into air-conditioned havens filled with unique finds and hometown charm. Shop small. Shop local. Score big.



Visit family-friendly Main Street 1849 and experience pioneer life in Independence, MO.

Step back in time at Main Street 1849, one of SantaCaliGon's most beloved attractions! Presented by Nebius and hosted by the Independence Square Association, this immersive frontier experience is located on Liberty Street between Lexington and Kansas Avenues, a prime spot for memory-making and must-snap family photos.

Kids and adults alike can experience the old frontier, interact with pioneer reenactors, and dive into hands-on games, activities, and live demos that bring the 1800s to life. With live entertainment and Instagram-worthy moments around every corner, it's the perfect blend of education, exploration, and good old-fashioned fun.

From wagon wheels to Ferris wheels, SantaCaliGon is a bold, joyful celebration of the shared history of the region. Whether you're here for the music, the memories, or the mouthwatering food, you belong at SantaCaliGon #54. For more information and to view the entertainment schedules, visit SantaCaliGon.com and follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

Location:

Historic Independence Square
112 W. Lexington Ave.
Independence, MO 64050

Hours:

Friday, Sept. 4 – Noon – 10:00 PM
Saturday, September 5 – 10:00 AM – 10:00 PM
Sunday, September 6 – 10:00 AM – 10:00 PM
Monday, September 7 – 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM

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