

Pitch: Hispanic Heritage Month in Orlando

Orlando is alive with excitement this Hispanic Heritage Month, offering a dynamic celebration of culture, music and cuisine. Now through Oct. 15, visitors can immerse themselves in vibrant performances, flavorful dining and unique cultural experiences that honor Hispanic heritage.

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EVENTS HONORING HISPANIC HERITAGE

- **Aquatica Orlando** will celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with lively Latin beats, dancing and delicious treats available for purchase. [Fiesta Aquatica](#) is included with park admission on Saturdays and Sundays through Oct. 23.
- The **Central Florida Zoo & Botanical Gardens** will host [Sunset at the Zoo](#) on Sept. 27. Guests can enjoy after-hours fun while exploring the zoo and enjoying themed crafts and activities, live music, food trucks and more in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month.

FLAVORFUL DINING EXPERIENCES

Orlando boasts 48 **Michelin Guide** restaurants, many offering exceptional Latin-inspired dishes. Highlights include **Capa Steakhouse & Bar** at Four Seasons Resort Orlando, serving Spanish-influenced cuisine with views of Disney fireworks; **Papa Llama**, a popular Peruvian spot in Curry Ford West; **Otto's High Dive**, a Cuban rum bar with dishes inspired by flavors of Cuba and Florida, and other Michelin Recommended venues like **BACÁN**, **Toledo – Tapas, Steak & Seafood** and **Black Rooster Taqueria**.

At Disney Springs, Rick Bayless' **Frontera Cocina** offers Mexican-inspired cuisine while José Andrés' **JALEO** will host [¡Jaleo Days!](#) featuring all-you-care-to-indulge dining events highlighting Southern, Northern and Mediterranean Spain, including tapas, paellas, and live entertainment including flamenco dancers on National Spain Day (Oct. 12).

In a tasty twist of fate, Hispanic Heritage Month overlaps with **Visit Orlando's Magical Dining** (through Sept. 30), offering three-course, prix-fixe dinners at 150 top Orlando-area restaurants — the most ever in program history — for just \$40 or \$60 per person. Some notable restaurants offering Latin-inspired dishes include **Chayote Barrio Kitchen** in Winter Park; **Reyes Mezcaleria** in downtown; **Bulla Gastrobar** in Winter Park; **Cuba Libre Restaurant & Rum Bar** at Pointe Orlando; **Crocante Restaurant + Bar** near The Milk District and many more.

Taste the authentic flavors of Latin American cultures at these family, Hispanic-owned businesses. **Mecatots Bakery and Café** offers a variety of Colombian pastries, desserts and specialty coffees. Enjoy Mexican classics at **Taqueria Las Cazuelas** including queso-fresco'd elote, flan and a tasty variety of tacos. **Old Cuban Cafe** features a menu full of Cuban classics like ropa vieja, picadillo, empanadas, croquetas and more. **Grillers Puerto Rico** offers several types of mofongo, pernil (roasted pork) and sorullitos (corn stick fritters).

LIVE MUSIC, ARTS AND CULTURE EXHIBITS

- At **Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts**, guests can enjoy Emmy Award-winning acts, family-friendly shows and Latin Grammy-nominated musical performances. Hispanic Heritage Month highlights include **Celebrating Hispanic Voices: An Evening of Spoken Word** (Sept. 20), **Raices: The Inheritance in Our Veins** (Sept. 22), **Benise: Fiesta!** (Sept. 26), **Capoeira Cultural Event & Batizado** (Sept. 28), **La Casa de Bernarda Alba** (Oct. 4-6) and Latin pop sensation **Emmanuel** (Oct. 18).
- **Kia Center** will host several legendary Hispanic singers this month, including Colombian singer and songwriter **Silvestre Dangond** (Sept. 21), Mexican group **Banda MS** (Sept. 22) and legendary salsa musicians during the **Orlando Salsa Festival** (Oct. 4).
- Other Orlando live venues will host must-see performances during Hispanic Heritage Month, including: **El Cuarteto de Nos** (Oct. 8) and **Alvaro Diaz** (Oct. 11) at **House of Blues Orlando**, and **Luis Fonsi: 25 AÑOS TOUR** (Oct. 11) at **Hard Rock Live Orlando**.
- The **Orlando Museum of Art's** Art of the Ancient Americas collection features over 900 pieces from indigenous nations of North, Central, and South America, including the largest collection of Mexican Chupícuaro figurines in the southeastern U.S.
- The **Orange County Regional History Center's** First Contact Exhibition in downtown Orlando explores the cultural impact of Spanish explorers in Florida, alongside permanent exhibits on citrus groves, tourism, aviation and theme park history.
- The **Orlando International Airport** is celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month with an art exhibit at Gallery MCO, alongside events like the **Mariachi Oro Internacional** live performance (Sept. 20) and a Dominoes game area for travelers (Sept. 27).