

BRAVING THE BLUES:

Five Tips to Survive Blue Angel Weekend

PRACTICES

July 3, 5, 6, 17,
18 & 24

DRESS REHEARSAL

July 13

PENSACOLA BEACH AIR SHOW

July 14



WHILE THE BLUE ANGELS AIR SHOW NEVER FAILS TO THRILL, IT IS NOT FOR THE FAINT OF HEART. First timers may be in for a few surprises aside from the Blues' death-defying aeronautic feats. Venturing out to the crowded Pensacola Beach can be as harrowing as it is enchanting and if you want to survive, there are a few things you need to know.

GET THERE EARLY The show may not start until 2 pm, but if you want premium parking and your choice spot to catch the show, you need to get there before 7 am. Make like a homesteader and stake your claim early with your lawn chairs and beach umbrellas because it gets pretty competitive out there.

GAS UP The Blue Angels Air Show draws a lot of people which means a lot of traffic. People come and go in droves and it can get pretty congested, particularly on the Pensacola Bay Bridge. Expect to sit in traffic for a long time. Best gas up before heading out to the show and, if you can, carpool.

BRING EARPLUGS The Blue Angels Air Show is a sensory experience – the incredible, mid-air acrobatic sights; the smell of the salt in the air; the rumble, roar and scream of the jet engines so close you can feel it in your chest... and your ears. You will most definitely want to consider taking a good pair of earplugs for this.

USE SUNSCREEN You're in for a full day of fun in the sun so protect yourself! Use plenty of sunscreen, wear a hat and find a shady spot to chill out once in a while. Take a dip to cool off in the Gulf waters, but make sure you reapply after.

HYDRATE Florida summers are unrelenting. July's heat and humidity are killer if you don't prepare and take care. Take plenty of water or sports drinks with you. If you feel thirsty you are already dehydrated, so be sure to drink before you head out and take plenty of sips throughout the day.