

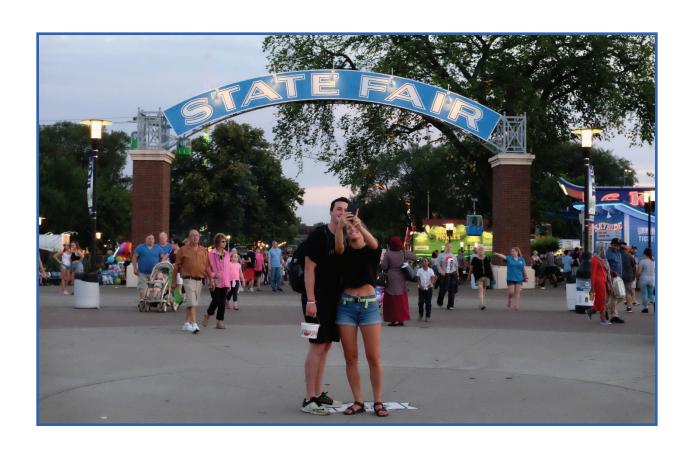




I'M GOING TO THE MINNESOTA STATE FAIR!







THE FAIR

The Minnesota State Fair starts the last Thursday in August and goes through Labor Day at the fairgrounds in Falcon Heights, MN. It is also called the "Great Minnesota Get-Together."







GETTING READY

I need to wear comfortable clothes and shoes at the fair. Most of the fair is outside, so I can look at the weather with the people I am going with to decide what to wear and if I need to bring an umbrella or a jacket. I can bring sensory tools like headphones, fidgets, or sunglasses to help me have fun at the fair. I can decide if I want to wear a face mask, too.







TRANSPORTATION

To get to the fair, I might use Park & Ride or other bus services. This means I would go to a parking lot and get on a bus that will bring me to the fair. I might have to wait for the bus to arrive to pick me up, and the bus may have a lot of people on it. I could also get to the fair by walking, bicycle, public transportation, cab, parking next to the fairgrounds, or some other way.







ENTRANCE

When I arrive, I might need to wait in line to buy a ticket. If I bought my ticket ahead of time, I can go to an entrance. I might need to wait in line to go through the entrance. When it's my turn, I will give the staff my ticket to be scanned. Before I enter the fair, I will go through a metal detector and also may have my bag searched by security. This keeps the people at the fair safe.





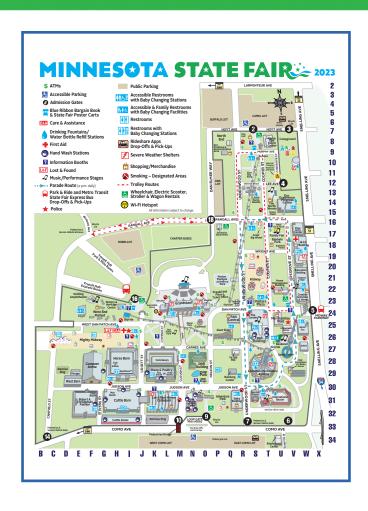


ACTIVITIES

There are many activities at the fair. There are music performances, rides, games, live animals, art and other activities. There are so many food and drink choices at the fair, and a lot of the food comes on a stick!







MAP

If I need help finding something at the fair, I can look at the map. The map will show me where to find the different activities. I can also use the Minnesota State Fair app or the website to find activities and schedules.







CROWDS

There will be large crowds of people at the fair. I will stay close to the people I came with, so we don't get separated. I might have to wait in line for the activities or to get food. If I feel frustrated while waiting, I can tell the person I came with that I need help.







SOUNDS

I will hear many sounds at the fair. I might hear the parade with marching bands and other music. I might hear people talking, cheering, or yelling on rides. If I stay until the evening concert is over, I will hear fireworks. If the sounds are overwhelming, I can wear my headphones or find a quiet space to take a break with the person I came with.







SIGHTS

I will see many sights at the fair. I will see flashing lights by the rides. I will see the rides moving in all different directions. I will see a lot of people at the fair. If I need a break from the sights, I can tell the person I came with.





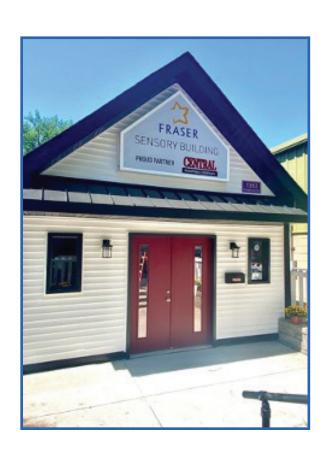


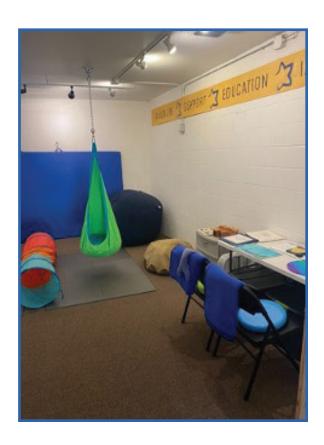
SMELLS

The fair has a lot of different smells. I might notice a big smell from the animals in the barns. I might also smell a lot of different kinds of food. If I don't like these smells, I can tell the person I came with that I need a break. If I go to the barns or animal areas, I will make sure to wash my hands after I visit the animals.









FRASER SENSORY BUILDING

If I feel overwhelmed while I'm at the fair, I can go to the Fraser Sensory Building between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. each day. This building has a take-a-break sensory space with tools and people to help me have fun again. After I visit this space, I can go back to the activities of the fair.







LEAVING THE FAIR

When it's time to leave the fair, I might take a Park & Ride bus back to the parking lot. Or I might walk, bike, use public transportation, take a cab, or use some other way to leave the fair.







I HOPE I CAN VISIT AGAIN NEXT YEAR!

The Minnesota State Fair is a fun place with many activities and foods. I can come back next year and try it again!