

Desert Empire Fair Ride List 2026



FOR YOUR SAFETY:

IT IS ALWAYS UP TO THE RIDE OPERATOR TO DECIDE IF IT IS SAFE FOR YOU TO RIDE

Rides:

Tickets:

Height Req:

Carousel	5	36" with an adult 42" alone ** All riders must have tickets
Starship 3000	6	48" minimum ** No wall climbing
Vertigo	6	48" minimum
Century Wheel	6	42" with an adult 54" alone ** All rider under 18 accompanied by an adult
Air Strike	5	48" minimum
Sound Wave	6	42" minimum
Hawaiian Express	6	42" with an adult 52" alone
Quasar	6	48" minimum
Mardi-Gras Fun House	5	36" with an adult 42" alone **No open toed shoes
Kite Flyer	5	42" Minimum

Quad Runner	4	36"-50" ** No adults
Zipper	6	54" minimum ** No single riders. Size restrictions may apply
Hot Wheels	5	36" with an adult 48" alone
Pirate Jet	5	32" With an adult 36" alone
Ella's Boats	5	30"-48" ** No adults, not over 120lbs
Dumbo Jumbo	5	36" With an adult 42" alone
Rock' N Tug	5	36" With an adult 42" alone

*This is a proposed ride list, and it is subject to change

General Rules:

**No casts, pregnant persons, nor intoxicated individuals allowed on rides

**Children who measure under 36" in height cannot ride any carnival rides alone and children who measure between 36-42" tall can only ride a select few rides and may need to ride with an adult on rides that accommodate both adults and children

**Infants are not allowed on carnival rides

Ride Description Below:

Carousel: This classic carousel has been a favorite of adults and children alike for many years. Riders enjoy a floating sensation while riding one of the beautifully crafted horses or two chariots.

Starship 3000: Step aboard the Starship 3000, one of Butler Amusements' most iconic thrill rides! Once the doors close and the lights dim, this futuristic spacecraft launches into a high-speed spin, using centrifugal force to pin riders against the wall.

Vertigo: The Vertigo, manufactured by ARM, towers a full 100 feet in the air and seats 24 passengers. Each seat holds two riders who are secured by a lap restraint. Once the ride begins, the entire center twists in a circular motion. Riders enjoy a swinging sensation as the entire center track lifts up slowly until reaching the top of the ride. Once the swing ride reaches the top it begins to slowly swing in a descent.

Century Wheel: A towering tradition of Butler Amusements, the Century Wheel dominates the Midway day and night, offering patrons a sweeping view from a height of nearly 70 feet! Passengers are seated in separate gondolas and then whisked smoothly over the top and down again, reminiscent of the Ferris wheel. The Century Wheel is a pleasant ride for the entire family. The Century Wheel is more of a showcase than ever! Recently equipped with a brand-new LED lighting package, the wheel uses less energy and produces a magnificent light show!

Airstrike: This thrilling, high-energy ride is perfect for kids, teens, and families, offering an unforgettable adventure for all ages. The Airstrike promises a spin-tacular journey that you won't soon forget! The ride features 8 uniquely designed spherical passenger vessels, each holding up to 4 passengers. Inside each vibrant orb, you'll find a centrally located steering wheel, giving you control over the spin! That's right, you get to decide how fast you spin, making each ride a unique experience. Twist and turn and send yourself spinning at wild angles as the Airstrike takes you on an unpredictable adventure. As the ride begins, the Airstrike slowly lifts you 7 ½ feet into the air, tilting 20 degrees, giving you a heart-pounding sensation as you sway and rotate. The tilting action adds a whole new dimension to the ride, making you feel as though you're truly spinning from the sky!

Sound Wave: Get ready to rock your senses on The Soundwave, a vibrant and electrifying thrill ride that's impossible to miss! This dazzling attraction lights up the midway with brilliant LED lights, creating a stunning visual experience before the ride even begins.

Once you're strapped into the two-tiered stadium-style seating, the excitement really takes off. The platform begins to spin, lifting you higher and higher until you're soaring completely up and over in a full circular motion. As you crest the top, you'll feel that heart-racing moment where your stomach seems to stay behind — a sensation that thrill-seekers crave!

With its colorful lights, powerful motion, and adrenaline-pumping drops, The Soundwave is the ultimate ride for those who love excitement.

Hawaiian Express:

This fast-paced tropical ride will leave patrons breathless. An erupting volcano entrance welcomes riders for an exciting spin, travelling forward, and around then traveling backwards while negotiating an undulating path. Its unusual size, unforgettable scenery, lights, music, and action make being whisked around and around fun and exciting!

Quasar: Strap in for a high-speed spin on the Quasar! This thrill ride—engineered by ARM—seats two passengers per car and secures you with a sturdy lap bar. As the entire ride spins, the central arm lifts and lowers the wheel, sending each car into a smooth yet unpredictable wave-like motion. It's a one-of-a-kind experience that blends spinning action with floating sensations!

Mardi-Gras Fun House:

Experience the vibrant spirit of Mardi Gras without leaving the midway! This self-contained celebration captures the color, music, and excitement of the iconic New Orleans holiday. With two stories of thrilling mirror mazes, moving escalators, and a stunning blend of music and lights, the Mardi Gras ride offers an immersive experience that's full of surprises, day or night! Get ready for a dazzling ride that brings the party to you!

Kite Flyer: A unique ride where passengers lie horizontally within colorful gliders, experiencing horizontal, vertical, and rotational movement. Riders are lifted high above the ground and can see for miles, creating a thrilling, soaring sensation.

Quad Runner:

The Quad Runner is great for first-time riders. Souped-up 4-wheelers seat two children each and travel in a circle while shaded under a giant umbrella.

Zipper: The Zipper is a Midway legend, a ride that has thrilled generations with its wild, unpredictable motion and high-intensity excitement! One of the most iconic and recognizable carnival attractions! From the moment riders' step into their two-person metal cages, the anticipation begins to build. As the ride starts, the giant, rotating tower boom lifts and begins its powerful, continuous circular motion. But that's just the beginning—each individual cage is free to spin independently, sending riders into an uncontrollable, head-over-heels tumble with every twist and turn! It's three times the action in one heart-pounding ride! The combination of vertical climbs, sudden plunges, and chaotic flips creates a sense of pure weightlessness, leaving riders laughing, screaming, and gripping the bars as they experience unexpected thrills at every moment.

Hot Wheels: Buckle up for a spinning, swirling adventure on the Tilt-A-Whirl! A favorite for thrill seekers, this wild ride features 7 tubs—each seating up to 3 people—that twist and turn on its axis while the entire ride glides over undulating hills. It's a whirlwind of fun that keeps you guessing with every spin!

Jake's Pirate Jet: Set sail on Jake's Pirate Jet and join Jake, the friendly swashbuckler, on an adventure in the sky! This fleet of six pirate ships rises and falls gently, rotating from a central tower for a smooth, swaying experience. It's a perfect ride for little adventurers who want to soar with the wind, all while enjoying the whimsical charm of pirate life!

Ella's Boats: Ahoy, young sailors! Set sail on a delightful adventure aboard Ella's Boats, the perfect first-time carnival ride for little captains and first mates! These charming, pint-sized boats gently float along a circular waterway, creating a smooth and soothing ride that's just right for younger adventurers. Each brightly colored mini boat is designed for maximum fun, bobbing gently as it makes its way around the sparkling water track. As riders cruise along, they'll feel like they're navigating the high seas, a peaceful lake, or even a pirate's hidden cove! With gentle motion and a cheerful, nautical atmosphere, Ella's Boats is a fun, safe, and exciting way to introduce little ones to the magic of carnival rides.

Dumbo Jumbos: Hop aboard one of eight charming, plump elephants for a delightful aerial adventure! This interactive ride lets passengers control their experience by adjusting the vertical motion of their elephant car with easy-to-use control bars. As the ride spins in a circular motion, children (or an adult with a child) can lift or lower their elephant, creating a personalized thrill. Each car comfortably holds up to three children or one adult and one child, making this ride a perfect family experience!

Rock' N Tug: Ahoy, adventurers! It's time to shake things up on the high seas with the Rock N' Tug, a thrilling ride that brings all the excitement of an ocean voyage—without ever leaving the Fairgrounds! Perfect for families, this vibrant tugboat-themed attraction takes you on a wild journey of spins, dips, and waves as it sways and rocks with the rhythm of the ocean. The Rock N' Tug seats up to 20 passengers, making it the ideal ride for families, friends, and little sailors alike. As the boat sets sail, it begins to spin gently, mimicking the feeling of a boat gliding across a lively ocean swell. As you rise and dip with the waves, you'll experience moments of elevation and excitement as the tugboat reaches the peaks of its ride before diving back down with a thrilling splash of movement! With its vibrant colors, ocean-inspired design, and heart-pounding

fun, the Rock N' Tug is a perfect mix of family fun and adventure. Whether you're a seasoned sailor or a first-time voyager, this ride promises endless excitement, laughter, and unforgettable memories on the high seas!