



**ASPEN
IDEAS**
FESTIVAL

ATTENDEE

INFORMATION GUIDE **2025**



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From where to pick up your event pass and how to get around campus, to where to eat and what to wear, this guide is your go-to resource for answers about attending the **2025 Aspen Ideas Festival** and **Aspen Ideas: Health**. We can't wait to see you there!

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DETERMINING YOUR TRAVEL SCHEDULE

*****Please note these are DRAFT times and are subject to change.***

HEALTH: June 22-25, 2025

- Registration Begins: 10:00 AM MT (June 22)
- Programming Begins: 3:00 PM MT (June 22)
- Programming Concludes: 12:00 PM MT (June 25)

FESTIVAL 1: June 25-28, 2025

- Registration Begins: 12:30 PM MT (June 25)
- Programming Begins: 4:00 PM MT (June 25)
- Programming Concludes: 5:00 PM MT (June 28)

FESTIVAL 2: June 28-July 1, 2025

- Registration Begins: 12:30 PM MT (June 28)
- Programming Begins 1:00 PM MT (June 28)
- Programming Concludes: 2:00 PM MT (July 1)

LODGING

Hotels in Aspen book quickly, so we encourage attendees to make their reservations early to secure a space that best meets their needs. [See our lodging list](#) for some options, including several Aspen-area properties offering discounts. Please contact the properties directly to book your stay.

If you would like assistance in finding accommodations, we offer access to two Aspen-area travel specialists. Please contact Marcie Cutler, Ski.com Mountain Travel Expert at marcie@ski.com or (970) 900-8827 or Pam Urig, Stay Aspen Snowmass Vacation Specialist at purig@aspensnowmass.com or (888) 649-5982.

TRAVELING TO ASPEN

We recommend booking your flight into Aspen/Pitkin County Airport (ASE), which is approximately 10-15 minutes from the Aspen Institute's campus and hotels throughout Aspen. During the summertime, direct flights to Aspen are available from Denver, Chicago, Dallas, Houston, Los Angeles and San Francisco. Complimentary airport transportation is included at many of the hotels and should be coordinated directly with the property.

TRAVELING TO ASPEN (cont'd)

Driving Directions

- From Denver, Aspen is 220 miles via I-70 West to Glenwood Springs. From Glenwood Springs, take Highway 82 to Aspen.
- A scenic route from Denver is I-70 West to 91 South through Leadville to 24 South, then west onto Highway 82 over Independence Pass.
- From Grand Junction, Aspen is an easy 128 miles. Take I-70 East to Glenwood Springs. From Glenwood Springs, take Highway 82 to Aspen.
- From Eagle/Vail, Aspen is about 70 miles, first on I-70 West to Glenwood Springs, and then connecting with Highway 82 to Aspen.

GETTING AROUND ASPEN

The [Aspen Institute's campus](#) (1000 N. 3rd Street, Aspen, CO, 81611) is located about 1 mile from downtown Aspen. The following transportation options are available to help you access event activities and explore town.

Ideas Festival Shuttle: Our shuttle service runs on a continuous loop between downtown Aspen and the Aspen Institute's campus during event hours, making stops at several hotels around town. Details about the stops and schedule will be available on our event app and in your program book.

Bike Sharing: [WE-Cycle bikes](#) are a fast and convenient way to get around. Stations are located throughout town and on the Aspen Institute campus near the Aspen Meadows reception and in front of the Paepcke building.

Bus Service: The City of Aspen has a free, city-wide bus system. The cross-town shuttle runs every 30 minutes to and from downtown Aspen to the Aspen Institute campus and the Benedict Music Tent, between 7:54 am and 9:00 pm daily. For more details about public transportation, visit the [Roaring Fork Transportation Authority's website](#).

Parking: There is no parking on the Aspen Institute campus (this includes the Benedict Music Tent parking lot) during the event. Attendees are encouraged to park at the [Rio Grande Parking Garage](#) and take the Parking Garage Shuttle.

If you have special transportation needs, our conference services team is available to assist you (see page 10).



LOCATION & VENUES

The majority of programming for Aspen Ideas: Health and the Aspen Ideas Festival will take place on the Aspen Institute's campus located at 1000 N 3rd St, Aspen, CO 81611. An event map will be available in your program book and on our mobile app to help you navigate.

ONSITE REGISTRATION

You will check-in at the Ideas Pavilion, which is located in the Paepcke parking lot outside of Paepcke Auditorium, to receive your pass, gift bag, program book, and additional event information. Registration hours:

*****Please note these are DRAFT times and are subject to change.***

HEALTH

Sunday, June 22: 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM MT
then daily from 8:30 AM-6:00 PM

FESTIVAL 1

Wednesday, June 25: 12:30 PM-6:00 PM MT
then daily from 8:30 AM-6:00 PM

FESTIVAL 2

Saturday, June 28: 12:30 PM-6:00 PM MT
then daily from 8:30 AM-6:00 PM

ACCESS

Your pass must be worn at all times when you are on the Aspen Institute campus and attending event programming. Health, Festival 1, and Festival 2 attendees will have access to the programming for their designated event segment, including plenaries, breakouts, book talks, evening sessions, special activities, and more. Seating in the venues is on a first come, first served basis. Please plan to arrive early to the sessions you are attending, as seats fill up quickly and latecomers can be disruptive to speakers.

Do you have a friend or family member who doesn't have a Festival pass, but wants to attend a session? Limited public tickets will be available for evening programming. Tickets go on sale in June through aspenshowtix.com or at the Wheeler Box Office.



PROGRAMMING

PROGRAM TRACKS

Aspen Ideas: Health, Festival 1, and Festival 2 are organized around compelling themes that speak to this unique moment in history. The 2025 Program Tracks will be announced in mid-November. During the events, attendees are encouraged to explore sessions across all the program tracks.

SPEAKERS

The Aspen Ideas Festival and Aspen Ideas: Health are known for bringing together an exceptional mix of visionary thinkers and innovative doers across a range of disciplines and viewpoints. Our 2025 speaker line-ups will be announced in the spring, with additional speaker confirmations happening right up until the event. Please keep an eye on your inbox for the latest speaker news.

AGENDA

The full agendas for Health, Festival 1, and Festival 2 will be released by mid-June. You will receive an email, as well as be able to access the agendas on our website, on our mobile app, and onsite. Attendees will be able to choose from dozens of sessions, including one-on-one interviews, panel discussions, workshops, live podcast recordings, and book talks, covering a range of compelling topics.

Special Activities

In addition to on-stage programming, we offer daily activities that enrich the full mind-body-spirit experience, in true Aspen tradition. Follow local naturalists on a sunrise hike beneath the majestic Maroon Bells peaks. Get centered with an outdoor yoga practice in Anderson Park. Join a local expert for a bird-watching walk along the banks of the Roaring Fork River. Lace-up your sneakers for a guided run through a remarkable network of trails. Details will be provided in the agenda.



STAY CONNECTED

MOBILE APP

The 2025 Aspen Ideas mobile app will be released in mid-June. Available on iOS and Android, it will be your go-to guide for your on-the-ground Festival experience, including agenda updates, speaker information, maps, underwriter exhibits, and much more. We will send instructions to attendees via email when the app is ready to download and recommend doing so before arriving in Aspen. Please allow push notifications, as we will use these to give real-time schedule and programming updates.

WEBSITE

The Aspen Ideas website is the digital hub for the event, providing attendees with information on our program tracks, speakers, agenda, and sessions. Within 48 hours of Health, Festival 1, and Festival 2, all sessions recordings will be live on our website and YouTube channel. We encourage you to watch sessions you may have missed in-person and share links to your favorites via social media.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Help extend the reach of your favorite big ideas from the Aspen Ideas stages to social media! To join the virtual conversation around the events, we encourage you to follow our primary accounts for the Festival below and post your own reflections using the event hashtags.

Instagram: [@aspenideas](#)

LinkedIn: [Aspen Ideas Festival](#)

Facebook: [Aspen Ideas](#)

X: [@aspenideas](#)

Threads: [@aspenideas](#)

Event Hashtags: In addition to tagging the account above in your social messages, please use the following hashtags:

HEALTH: [#AspenIdeasHealth](#)

FEST 1 & FEST 2: [#AspenIdeas](#)

PODCAST

Subscribe to the [Aspen Ideas To Go podcast](#) on your favorite service for highlights from Aspen Ideas: Health and the Aspen Ideas Festival. New episodes, featuring conversations from the events, will be released in the weeks and months following.



DINING

Attendees will have access to a range of delicious and nutritious food and beverage options on the Aspen Institute's campus during the events, including breakfasts, lunches, snacks, coffee carts, and evening food trucks. Designated times and locations for these dining options will be highlighted on the mobile app and in your program book.

For in-town dining options, please visit the [Aspen Chamber](#) website to learn about local restaurants in downtown Aspen.

ALTITUDE, WEATHER, & ATTIRE

Aspen is a walking city situated nearly 8,000 feet above sea level. To help you acclimate, make sure to drink lots of water, monitor your alcohol intake, and wear sunscreen.

Weather can range from highs in the 80s to lows in the 50s during the summer. Cool evenings and afternoon thundershowers are common. Layers are key!

Festival attendees dress comfortably, yet professionally (aka: "Aspen Casual"). We highly recommend layering, bringing a light jacket, and wearing comfortable shoes to help you get around campus and town. If you plan to participate in morning yoga, trail runs, birdwatching, and guided nature walks, please pack accordingly.

ASPEN-AREA ENTERTAINMENT & RECREATION

We encourage attendees to make the most of their time in the Rocky Mountains. In addition to our daily Aspen Ideas activities, check out the [Aspen Chamber](#) website for other entertainment and recreation recommendations.

JOIN THE SOCIETY OF FELLOWS

The Society of Fellows is a community of supporters who play a key role in sustaining the Aspen Institute's mission, expanding its programs, and ensuring its future. To find out more, [visit their website](#).



TIPS FOR FIRST-TIMERS

PLAN YOUR SCHEDULE

- Step outside of your comfort zone and take full advantage of the Festival's multi-disciplinary programming. In addition to attending sessions related to your work, branch out and join sessions on topics that expand your thinking into new fields.
- Download the mobile app in June; it's easy to use and always the most up-to-date source of information. Star your favorite must-see speakers and sessions to create a personalized agenda.
- Don't miss the interactive workshops, breakouts, and roundtables on the agenda. These offerings allow attendees to dive deeper on select topics and take part in hands-on learning in more intimate settings. Some may require advance sign-up, so keep an eye on your inbox for details.

MAKE CONNECTIONS

- The Festival is an unparalleled networking opportunity, so come eager and ready to meet fellow changemakers working across disciplines. Introduce yourself and feel empowered to start a conversation with anyone, from fellow attendees to speakers.
- Embrace the formal and informal opportunities to connect with others. Attend the opening reception. Strike up a conversation on the walking paths across campus. Sit with someone new during meals. Meet a new contact at the espresso bar. Bond with others during guided nature hikes. The possibilities are endless.
- What happens in Aspen, shouldn't stay in Aspen. Commit to staying in touch with your new connections after you return home. Through collaboration, we can find new ways to turn ideas into action.

KEEP AN OPEN MIND

- Lead with curiosity as you attend sessions. Come with an open mind and collaborative spirit. Don't be afraid to ask hard questions during Q&As and challenge your own thinking by exploring new topics and perspectives.

COMMUNITY AGREEMENT

The Aspen Institute is dedicated to advancing a free, just, and equitable society. Consistent with that mission, the Institute is committed to creating a safe and vibrant community that is respectful, inclusive, and welcoming to people from all different backgrounds and across the world. We recognize people will have different viewpoints and perspectives. However, only when we treat people with mutual respect and dignity can we truly come together to share a free and open exchange of ideas. So we offer [this Community Agreement](#) as a code of conduct to help stakeholders understand what we expect for them when they are engaging with the Institute community, as well as to guide them on what does not belong. If we all follow this Community Agreement, we can ensure everyone feels empowered to participate and further promote intellectual growth and curiosity.

PRINCIPLES OF THE ASPEN INSTITUTE

Our founding commitment to a humanistic outlook remains at our core and reflects our belief that the dignity of every person is paramount, that social progress is imperative and attainable, that we can achieve breakthroughs by engaging with humanity's accumulated wisdom, and that the inner life and values-based leadership require nurturing. As we have gained new insights and understanding over the years, our conception of these points has changed. But our commitment to this humanistic outlook endures.

Our programs today reflect our foundational belief that dialogue among diverse people and across diverse perspectives is essential both to improving our understanding and to finding solutions to modern challenges. This enduring commitment has enabled the Institute to make unique contributions in the search for understanding and solutions. We seek to engage people of integrity and outstanding character from an ever more diverse cross-section of society. Read more about the [Principles of the Aspen Institute](#).



CONFERENCE SERVICES

If you have additional questions about attending Aspen Ideas: Health or the Aspen Ideas Festival, our Conference Services team is available to help. Please contact us via email (events@aspeninstitute.org) and someone from our team will get back to you within one business day.

CANCELLATION POLICY

Should you not be able to attend, please contact Morgan Walsh (morgan.walsh@aspeninstitute.org) to request a refund, per our policy. Written requests are required and will be credited as follows:

- **Before June 1, 2025:** 80% refund
- **June 1-15, 2025:** 50% refund
- There are **no refunds after June 15, 2025**