



Annual Tulip Festival Blooms at Thanksgiving Point

Utah's only Tulip Festival likely to host over 140,000 visitors

LEHI, Utah (March 29, 2022) – The annual **Thanksgiving Point Tulip Festival**, presented by the Utah Community Credit Union (UCCU), returns to the Ashton Gardens this year from April 8 to May 7. As the only Tulip Festival in the region, nearly 300,000 tulips imported directly from the Netherlands create the display for one of the best tulip festivals in America.

In addition to the budding bulbs, the festival will include a number of fun activities, like weekend musical performances, an expanded Tulip Tot Playland with a new windmill play structure, and free guided garden walks. New this year, Thanksgiving Point is offering add-on experiences, including clear-top cabana rentals and curated picnic baskets. 2022 also features notable artist-in-residence Sarah Richards Samuelson who will create plein air paintings, live digital art, and will host public art workshops. Guests must reserve all tickets in advance by visiting thanksgivingpoint.org.

The Tulip Festival hosts more than 140,000 guests each year. The display expands over the 50-acre Ashton Gardens and features the “Thanksgiving Point Tulip,” or the “Tulipa Thanksgiving Point.” This highly fragrant, lily-flowering tulip is a bright sunny yellow and was registered on the International Register of Tulip Names in 2020 to commemorate Thanksgiving Point’s 25th anniversary.

This year, the Tulip Festival offers:

- **Tulip Festival Picnic Baskets**, perfect for a romantic day in the gardens. Enjoy a charcuterie spread and sparkling drinks for two on a commemorative picnic blanket. Each Picnic Basket is \$70.
- **VIP Clear-Top Cabana Rentals** will be available for rent for a maximum of eight guests each on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays during the festival. Each rental includes 90-minutes in the clear-top cabana, a charcuterie box for 8, and flavored sparkling drinks for 8. Each rental is \$300.
- **Complimentary Guided Garden Walks** will be available for those who purchase admission to the Tulip Festival on Tuesdays and Thursdays for the time-ticketed admission at 11 am. The guided garden walks are led by Ashton Garden docents and are about an hour and a half in length. The docents will talk about the history of the gardens and explain the plants within.
- **Ultimate Spring Flower Tours** are available on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings at 9:30 am. This tour is a more in-depth version of the complimentary tour and includes a tulip bulb dissection. The Ultimate Spring Flower Tour is \$65 per person and

includes admission to the Tulip Festival, VIP Parking, the VIP tour, one beverage voucher, one gift shop voucher, and one voucher for a half-dozen tulip bulbs (redeemable Fall 2022) or a bouquet of Fresh Cut Tulips.

- **Electric Golf Cart Tours** are available on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. For \$500, the Electric Golf Cart Tour includes Tulip Festival admission for five guests, VIP parking, chauffeured golf cart access to the Tulip Festival, a docent-led tour through the gardens, an 11 am reservation to the Trellis Café for 5 guests, and a \$75 credit to the Trellis Café.
- **Spring Staycation Package** is a hotel and admission package. The \$155 package includes a one-night standard hotel room stay at the Lehi Home2 Suites, two “Flexible Tulip” tickets (untimed entry to the Tulip Festival and VIP parking), and one Gift Shop voucher.
- **Tulip Festival 5k** will be held on Saturday, April 30. This 5k runs right through the gardens at the peak of the tulip blooming season.
- **Live performances** on Fridays and Saturdays between 11 am and 3 pm. The performances will be located at the Waterfall Amphitheatre and will feature local artists. The performances are included with Peak admission.
- **Live art by artist-in-residence Sarah Richards Samuelson**, also known as the “Tulip Painter.” She will have a tent and will be creating live throughout the festival. Samuelson is also designing the Thanksgiving Point Tulip Festival commemorative poster, which will be on sale in the Ashton Gardens Gift Shop.
- **The Art of Spring** is the official art programming for the month-long festival. Classes, programs, and interactive garden tours led by local artists will occur throughout the festival, some of which are included with admission.
- **Tulip Festival Photo Contest** allows guests a chance to win a Thanksgiving Point Family Membership. Photos can be submitted using the hashtag #TulipPhotoContest and by tagging Thanksgiving Point (@thankspoint) on Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter. Each Friday during the festival (starting April 15), Thanksgiving Point judges will select a Photo of the Week. The Photo of the Week will be featured on Thanksgiving Point’s Instagram page and on the Thanksgiving Point marquee for the duration of the week. Each chosen photo will also win a Thanksgiving Point Family Membership.
- **Children’s activities in the Tulip Tot Playland** will be available on Fridays and Saturdays. These lawn games are included with Peak festival admission.
- **Cut tulips** at the Learning Garden, which allow guests to purchase small bouquets directly from our gardens. One bunch (5 stems) is \$10 and is only available while supplies last.

- **Take-Home Grow Kits** are also available at the Learning Garden for \$15 each. Each kit includes a pot, soil, flower seeds, grass seeds, and a booklet to track plant growth and learn about the scientific process.
- **Daily concessions** from Thanksgiving Point catering and additional food trucks and vendors on Fridays and Saturdays.

The Tulip Festival will be open in the Ashton Gardens from April 8 to May 7, 9 am to 8 pm, Monday through Saturday. The Ashton Gardens are located at 3900 N. Garden Drive in Lehi, Utah.

The Tulip Festival is a time-ticketed event and guests are encouraged to purchase their tickets in advance. Off-peak days (Monday-Thursday) are \$24 for adults, \$17 for children (ages 3-12), \$19 for youth (ages 13-24), and \$21 for seniors (65+). Thanksgiving Point Members receive free admission on off-peak days.

Peak Days (Fridays and Saturdays) are \$29 for adults, \$22 for children, \$24 for youth, and \$26 for seniors. Members receive a significant discount and can purchase peak tickets for \$12/person.

The Thanksgiving Point Tulip Festival is made possible through support from Utah Community Credit Union (UCCU). Thanksgiving Point achieves its mission with help from generous corporations, foundations, individuals, and government agencies.

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About Thanksgiving Point

Thanksgiving Point is a community-owned nonprofit with the mission to bring the joy of learning and the wonders of the natural world to life through world-class experiences that engage, delight, and inspire. Created in 1995 by Alan and Karen Ashton, Thanksgiving Point is a center of community engagement and welcomes more than two million annual visitors to visit, dine, play, and explore together. Thanksgiving Point is located at 3003 North Thanksgiving Way in Lehi, Utah. For more information, call 801.768.2300 or visit thanksgivingpoint.org.

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