



KNOW BEFORE YOU GO
The American Legion's 104th National Convention

August 25 – 31, 2023

Subject to Change Without Notice

As of Aug. 16, 2023

TIME ZONE:

Charlotte is in the Eastern Time Zone.

TEMPERATURE:

The average high temperature in Charlotte during August is 87 degrees F; average low is 67 degrees F. The extended forecast may be found at [Charlotte, NC Monthly Weather | AccuWeather](#). Currently, excessive heat warnings have been issued along with potential storm risks. Plan and pack accordingly.

HEADQUARTERS HOTELS:

The headquarter hotels for The American Legion and the Sons of The American Legion are the Westin and JW Marriott. The American Legion Auxiliary will be at the Hilton.

MEETINGS/EVENTS LOCATIONS:

The American Legion, Sons of The American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary General Sessions will be held at the Charlotte Convention Center, located at 501 S. College St., Charlotte, N.C. 28202. The center will open one hour prior to the start of the first event each day. The Brevard Street entrance will only be open Sunday, Aug. 27, through Wednesday, Aug. 30.

The Charlotte Convention Center will also be the site of the exhibit hall, color guard and band contests, Patriotic Memorial Service, National Commander's Banquet, and Auxiliary States Dinner.

National Staff Offices for The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, Sons of The American Legion, Distinguished Guest Registration and Badges & Packets will also be in the Charlotte Convention Center. Please visit www.legion.org/convention/resources for exact meeting room locations.

REGISTRATION:

Those interested in attending should pre-register in advance with their respective American Legion Department or be a Distinguished Guest/invited guest with The American Legion. There will be on-site registration this year at the Charlotte Convention Center in the foyer of East Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard Entrance, Concourse Level. To register on-site, you will need your ID, American Legion Family Membership card and \$35 cash.

CREDENTIALS:

All attendees must wear the proper credentials to access most areas. If you pre-registered with your department, you will obtain credentials on-site from your department.

DRESS CODE:

Recommended dress code while in the convention audience and commission/committee meetings is business casual, which is defined as trousers and collared polo shirt – preferably Legion polo – for men and appropriate parallel dress for women. Comfortable shoes but no flip flops. If onstage at any point, business dress (shirt, tie, and jacket – appropriate parallel dress for women).

- All Commission and Committee Meetings: Business casual. Those preferring to wear Business dress may do so.
- National Executive Committee Meetings, audience: Business casual. Those preferring to wear Business dress may do so.
- National Executive Committee Meetings, dais: Business dress
- National Convention, audience: Business casual. Those preferring to wear Business dress may do so.
- National Convention, audience: Business casual. Those preferring to wear Business dress may do so.
- National Convention, stage appearances: Business Dress

AIRLINES/TRANSPORTATION:

Check your airline's website and/or download your airline mobile app to get the most timely updates.

Upon arrival at the Charlotte Douglas International Airport and/or downtown Charlotte area, wait times and costs may have increased with Uber, Lyft, taxis, etc. Plan accordingly. Due to wait times increasing with TSA security and construction at the Charlotte Douglas International Airport, it is highly encouraged to arrive at the airport no later than two hours prior to your departure time.

Due to airline shortages, have a plan in place should your flight be cancelled or delayed. Keep in mind to notify your point-of-contact to adjust any housing accommodations.

If renting a vehicle at the airport, all rental car check-in counters are on the same level, but pick-up could be on a different level. Signs are visible for assistance. Please watch for traffic control operators when crossing from baggage claim exit.

FOOD AND BEVERAGE:

Food and beverage options will be located throughout the Charlotte Convention Center. Please utilize these areas to enjoy your culinary delights and refreshing beverages.

The Charlotte Convention Center is a cashless food and beverage facility. The center accepts all major credit cards, Apple and Google Pay. For The American Legion National Convention, the center has incorporated a "cash" card system that can be redeemed at any of their outlets. Cards may be purchased with cash in nearby locations of the food court.

SAFETY AND SECURITY:

No firearms or weapons are allowed in the Charlotte Convention Center.

Should an incident occur inside the Charlotte Convention Center, attendees should go to the nearest house telephone and dial 6090 or dial 704.339.6090 from a cell phone. For any medical or life-threatening emergency, always dial 911. Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) and first aid stations are located throughout the center. Please be aware of these locations as well as your nearest exits.

A Medical Services letter will be included in each registration bag.

For most hotel elevators, guestroom access may only be for registered hotel guests via a secured key card.

Should you become ill or experience any COVID type symptoms, please advise your Department Adjutant. Throughout the center, hand sanitizing stations are in place.

The Convention/Mobile App will be the format used to reach attendees in an emergency. Please ensure you have downloaded the app prior to your arrival.

NEW THIS YEAR:*CHAIR YOGA:*

American Legion posts around the country are offering this gentle form of yoga that is performed while seated or with the aid of a chair. Come and start your morning off with this wellness activity! For those more experienced, feel free to bring your own yoga mat. Namaste!

Friday, Aug. 25 through Wednesday, Aug. 30
Charlotte Convention Center, Room 201 C&D, Meeting Level
5:45 a.m. (approximately one hour)

NJROTC:

Introducing an exciting addition to this year's National Color Guard Contest. A contest will feature an inaugural NJROTC competition class. This competition class will be comprised of four impressive NJROTC units from the great state of North Carolina.

Friday, Aug. 25
Charlotte Convention Center, Hall A, Exhibit Level
Starts at 4 p.m.

TRANQUILITY ROOM:

This space is designated for attendees who need a quiet, calming area.

Friday, Aug. 25 through Thursday, Aug. 31
Charlotte Convention Center, Room 210, Meeting Level
8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

SCOOTERS/WHEELCHAIRS/MOBILITY DEVICES:

Care Works Mobility is the current, available company offering scooter rentals. Visit www.legion.org/convention/resources for rental contact information.

For attendees with scooters or wheelchairs, please enter the Charlotte Convention Center from College Street or East Martin Luther King Jr. Entrances. From there you will be directed to elevator access. Wheelchairs and any mobility assistance devices (walkers or canes) are only available in the center for medical emergencies. Please order in advance and/or bring with you, if needed.

If staying at the Westin Hotel and attending a meeting only in the West Meeting Wing of the Convention Center (rooms W201 – W211), it is recommended to access the over street bridge to enter the building. Otherwise, unless inclement weather conditions, please utilize the College Street entrance.

SHUTTLES:

From most non-headquarters hotels, shuttles will operate Aug. 25-31. A detailed schedule is currently on www.legion.org/convention/resources.

OFF-SITE EVENTS:

- Friday, Aug. 25 at 8 p.m. the Carolina Panthers welcome us and our guests with discounted tickets to the Bank of America Stadium, where the Panthers take on the Detroit Lions.
- Saturday, Aug. 26 at 7:04 p.m. will be Legion Night at Truist Field where the Charlotte Knights host the Memphis Redbirds. National Commander James Troiola will throw out the first pitch.

Visit www.legion.org/convention/resources to order discounted tickets for these off-site events before the deadline. Transportation to these events is on your own.

OTHER:

With all service-related venues, wait times may have increased and amenities may have been scaled back (housekeeping on limited service, etc.) Patience and flexibility are appreciated during your travel and stay experience.

In each General Session Hall and the Exhibit Hall, there will be a device near the entrance to complete a survey which will assist in future convention planning. Another survey device will be located next to on-site registration in the foyer of the East Martin Luther King Jr. Concourse.

For the most up-to-date information while on-site in Charlotte, download the mobile app:

[Mobile Apps | The American Legion](#)