

Comprehensive Guide to the Explore Asheville Event Calendar

The **Explore Asheville Event Calendar** is one of the most visited pages on our website, with more than 1.6 million views from June 2024–May 2025. Submitting events is a great way to help drive visitation and promote your business.

PRO TIP: After submitting an event through the calendar system, send the details to news@exploreasheville.com to maximize visibility across all of our platforms! Your message will go directly to the teammates at Explore Asheville who work with national and regional press, as well as those who create content for our social channels, website, and marketing efforts.

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SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION & CALENDAR TYPES

Explore Asheville's Event Calendar is designed to showcase the vibrant variety of events happening across Buncombe County. In 2025, we expanded our leisure event calendar to better serve different audiences—visitors, local residents, and tourism industry partners. Events are now displayed in three different places based on how they're categorized: the main **Leisure Event Calendar**, the **For Locals/Community Events Calendar** and the **Industry Events Calendar**.

To make sure your event appears in the right places and reaches the correct audiences, it's important to tag it correctly. Here's how each category works:

1. Main Event Calendar (Leisure Calendar)

Audience: Visitors and the general public **URL**: https://www.exploreasheville.com/events

This is the main calendar on our site and where most events appear, like festivals, concerts, art markets, and more.

- Includes all events except those tagged ONLY as "For Locals" or "Industry Events"
- Events tagged Community Events will appear here too, since they're open to both locals and visitors

2. For Locals/Community Events Calendar

Audience: Local residents

URL: https://www.exploreasheville.com/community/events

This calendar is for community events from public gatherings to resident-only programs.

- Shows events tagged as Community Events and/or For Locals
- Community Events are open to everyone (locals and visitors), like a neighborhood concert or art market
- For Locals Events are meant for residents only, like a cat neuter clinic or a town meeting

3. Industry Events Page

Audience: Travel & hospitality employees in Buncombe County **URL**: https://www.exploreasheville.com/partners/industry-events

This calendar features professional development, networking, and partner events tagged as Industry Events.

- If your event is **only tagged as Industry**, it will **only show on this page**, not the main calendar.
- If your event is tagged Industry + other categories, it will show here and on the main calendar.

VIEW THE QUICK TAGGING GUIDE ON PAGE 10

SECTION 2: EVENT REQUIREMENTS & GUIDELINES



To be approved for the *visitor-facing* Explore Asheville Event Calendar, your event must meet these requirements:

- It must take place in Buncombe County. The only exceptions include significant festivals or cultural events in the surrounding WNC region.
- It must be tourist-friendly. Events primarily for locals—like neighborhood block parties or tuition-based programs—are more suited for the Community Events Calendar. Explore Asheville reserves the right to move events from the visitor-facing calendar to the community calendar.
- It cannot be a sale, discount, or promotion. If you're offering a special deal, please list it in the Partner Portal under "Deals," not as an event.

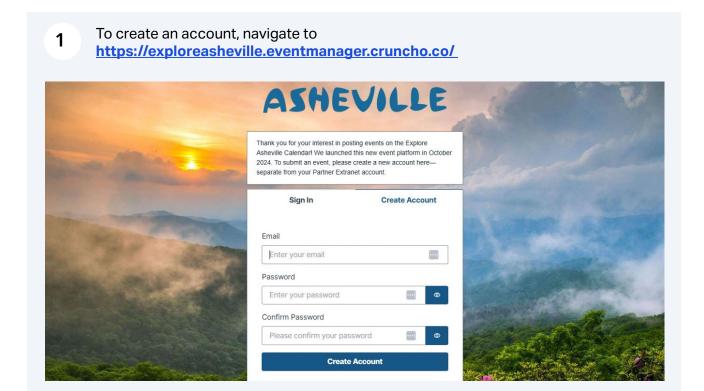
SECTION 3: GETTING STARTED & CREATING AN ACCOUNT



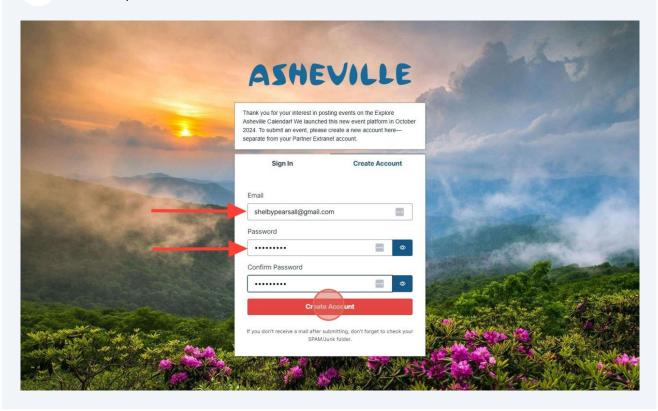
In 2024, Explore Asheville introduced a NEW events calendar management system. Please note: This system is separate from the Partner Portal and lives on a different website: https://exploreasheville.eventmanger.cruncho.co/

How to Get Started

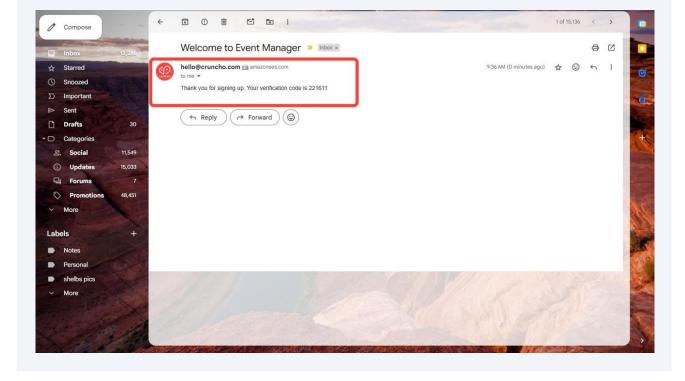
- You'll need to create a new account to submit events—your Partner Portal login will not work here.
- If you see a message saying "email not recognized" when logging in, it means you haven't created an account yet. Follow the prompts to set one up.
- Multiple users from the same organization can create separate logins, but to keep all your events in one place, your team can share one login or contact us to set up user groups.



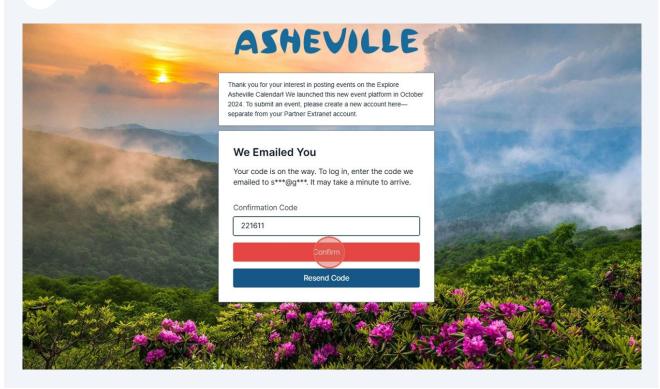
2 Enter the **email** and **password** that you want to be associated with the events account, then click **Create Account**.



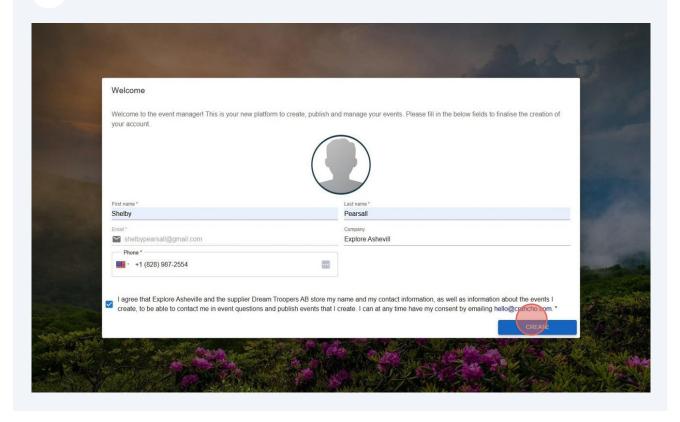
In a new tab, check your email for a message from hello@cruncho.com with your confirmation code.



4 Enter your code in the **Confirmation Code** field, then click **Confirm**.



6 Fill in the next fields, then click **Create**.



(i)

Your new events account is ready to go!

SECTION 4: NAVIGATING THE EVENTS HOMEPAGE

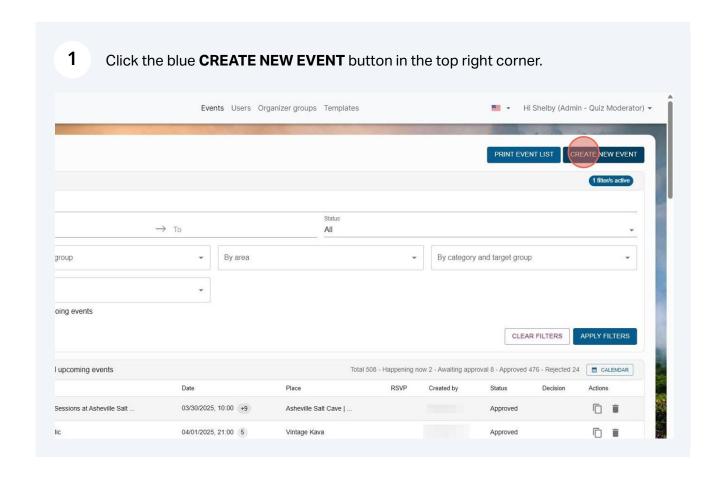
- i The homepage is divided into three main sections:
 - Filter
 - 2. Current and upcoming events
 - 3. Past events
- FILTER: If you need to edit, duplicate, or resubmit an event, use the filter tool to 1 find it. Filter by keyword, date, status, category, and venue to narrow your search. ASHEVILLE Events Users Organizer groups Templates ■ ▼ Hi Shelby (Admin - Quiz Moderator) ▼ **Events** PRINT EVENT LIST CREATE NEW EVENT ▼ Filter Q Free text By organizer group By area By category and target group Hide ongoing events CLEAR FILTERS Current and upcoming events Total 508 - Happening now 2 - Awaiting approval 8 - Approved 476 - Rejected 24 📑 CALENDAR : Name Created by

CURRENT AND UPCOMING EVENTS: This section displays all events you've 2 submitted that are happening now or scheduled for the future. CLEAR FILTERS · Current and upcoming events Total 508 - Happening now 2 - Awaiting approval 8 - Approved 476 - Rejected 24 : Name Place Created by Status Family Sessions at Asheville Salt 03/30/2025, 10:00 +9 Asheville Salt Cave | . Approved 04/01/2025, 21:00 5 Open Mic Vintage Kava Approved ☐ Log's Electric Space Whistle Soun. 04/26/2025, 20:00 6 Vintage Kava Approved GAME NIGHT featuring Gamer's ... 04/01/2025, 18:00 +9 TRVE Brewing Co. Approved 03/27/2025, 20:30 +9 ■ Bachata Dance Lesson and Social. Approved Anti Form: Robert Morris's Earth P... 03/26/2025, 11:00 +9 Asheville Art Museum Approved 04/02/2025, 18:00 3 ☐ Wine & Watercolor 2 Beverly Rd Approved Bar Feud :: A Family Feud Style B.. 04/14/2025, 19:00 3 The Whale :: Outpost ☐ Drink & Craft: Collage Night 04/09/2025, 18:00 3 The Whale :: Outpost Approved Greetings From Asheville Tourism . 03/26/2025, 11:00 +9 Asheville Art Museum Approved 「 意

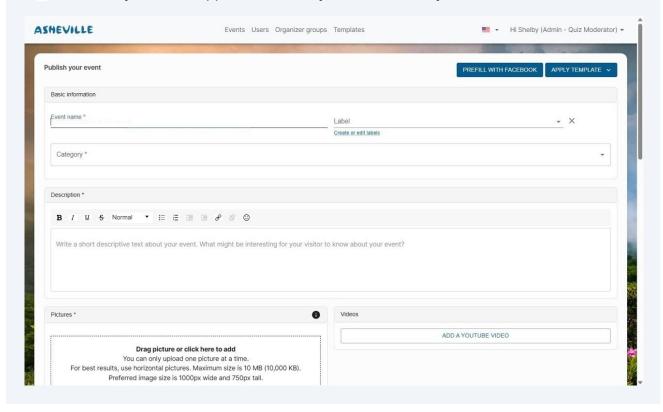
PAST EVENTS: This section shows all past events. You can use the "Copy" icon here 3 to clone past events here & save time on new submissions. Past events Total 1001 : Name RSVP Created by Status Two Nights with They Might Be Gi... 03/25/2025, 20:00 The Orange Peel Approved ALT ASO: R&B @ White Horse Bla.. 03/25/2025, 19:00 Approved Laughs & Libations Comedy Night 03/25/2025. 19:00 District 42 Approved An Exclusive Culinary Experience: ... 03/25/2025, 18:00 Arden Approved Crypt Convos: Burial Beer X Fidens 03/25/2025, 18:00 Burial Beer Co. South AYPROS March Pub Club @ WXY... 03/25/2025 17:00 Aloft Asheville Downto Approved Celebrating 8 Years of Well Played! 03/25/2025, 10:00 Well Played Board Ga. Approved ☐ ACOTAR Trivia 03/24/2025, 19:00 The Whale :: Outpost ☐ What's Shaking? Music presents: 03/24/2025, 16:00 The Mule at Devil's Fo.. Approved ☐ The Misfit Improv Comedy Show 03/23/2025, 19:30 Approved 3 4 5 101 > Last

SECTION 5: CREATING AN EVENT

Basic Navigation

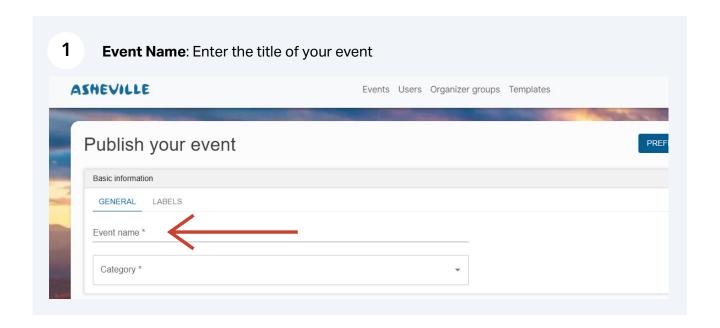


Fill out as many fields as you can—providing complete information helps ensure your event appears accurately and is more likely to attract interest.



3 Click the blue **SUBMIT EVENT** button in the bottom right corner. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XXwb-oOdLZg O No price information Adding a Booking link automatically adds a Book button in the event's detail page. Phone number for Company/Organization hosting the event - +1 (828) 087-5917 spearsall@exploreasheville.com Explore Asheville https://www.exploreasheville.com ■ Instagram ▼ Url: https://www.instagram.com/visitasheville/?hl=en Facebook - Url: https://www.facebook.com/Asheville/ ADD NEW SOCIAL MEDIA LINK 03/26/2025 12:24 PM Explore Asheville - Test Required field

Detailed Breakdown of Event Submission Form



Label (optional): Toggle to "Labels" to indicate your event's frequency—select Daily > 1 week), Weekly (>2 weeks), or Monthly (>2 months).

ASHEVILLE

Events Users Organizer groups Templates

Publish your event

Basic information

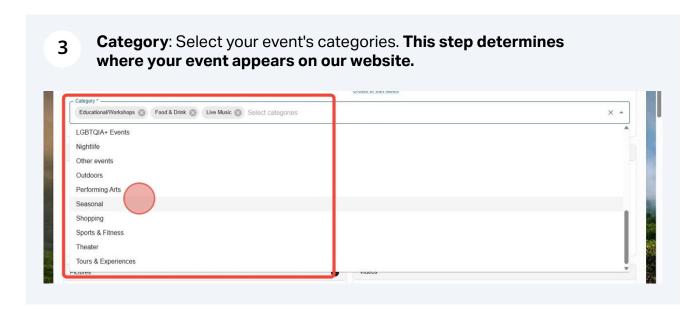
GENERAL LABELS

Label

Recurring Daily

Recurring Weekly

Recurring Monthly



Categorizing Events Correctly

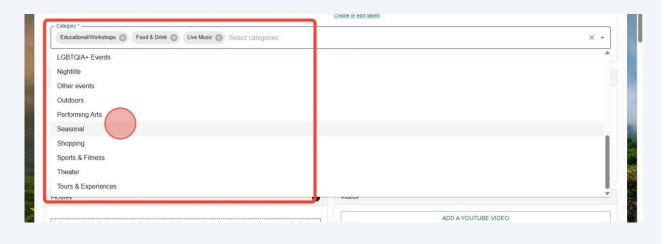
When submitting an event, be intentional with your category selections. Here's some examples of how tagging affects visibility:

Category Tags Used	Calendar Event Appears On	Audience	Examples
Community Events	Main (Leisure) + Community	Visitors, Locals	Art market, benefit concert
For Locals	Community only	Locals only	Cat neuter clinic, town meeting
Community Events + For Locals	Community only	Locals only	Job fair, bake sale
Industry Events only	Industry only	Industry employees	Networking event, trainings
Industry + Educational/ Workshop	Industry only	Industry employees	Keynote speaker, workshop
Live Music + Food & Drink	Leisure only	Visitors only	Food tour

3A To appear on the **main calendar** (visitor-facing):

Tag your event with general categories, such as Live Music, Festivals, Arts & Culture, Food & Drink, Comedy, LGBTQIA+ Events, and more.

You can include *Community Events*, but do not include *For Locals*, or *Industry Events* as additional tags if you want your event to appear on the main calendar.



3B To appear on the **Community Events Calendar**:

Tag your event with the "Community Events" category

- Community Events only = appears on both the main calendar and community calendar
- Community + another category = appears on both the main calendar and community calendar



3C To appear on the Industry Event Calendar:

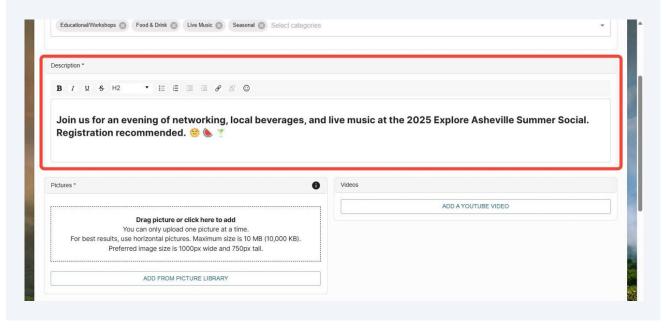
Tag your event with the "Industry Events" category

- Industry Events only = appears ONLY on the industry calendar
- *Industry + another category* = appears ONLY on the industry calendar



Tip: If your event is only for locals or only for the travel and hospitality industry, use just the For Locals or Industry Events categories.

Description: Provide a short, engaging summary of your event. Enhance your description by using formatting options like bold, italics, underline, headings, bullet points, hyperlinks, and even emojis to make it more appealing.



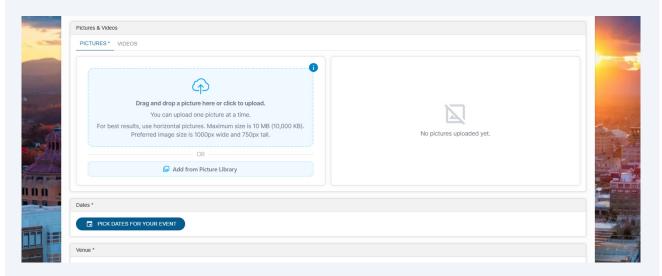
Tip: Avoid including the date, time, or prices in your event description—those details belong in their specific fields. Instead, focus on what makes your event unique and highlight interesting details that will appeal to visitors.

5 Photos

- · Required: submit at least one photo
- Recommended image dimensions: 1000px wide by 750px tall
- Maximum file size: 10MB
- · For best results, use horizontal photos without text

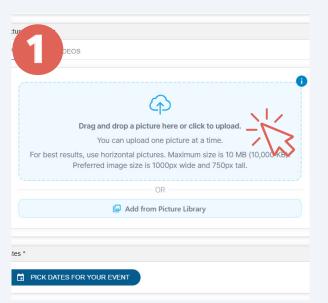
Photo upload options:

- 5A. Upload from computer files (recommended)
- 5B. Drag-and-drop your photo directly into the submission form
- 5C. Choose from the provided stock image library



5A Photo Upload Option 1 (recommended): Upload from computer files

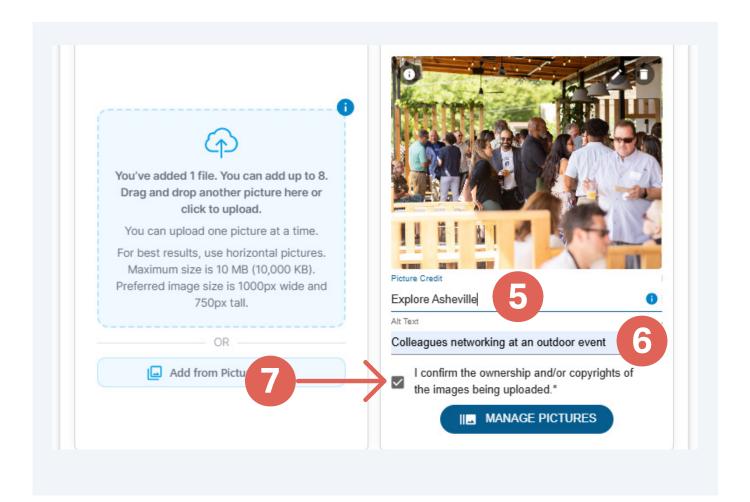
- 1. Click inside the dotted box that says "**Drag and drop a picture here or click to upload**"
- 2. Locate and select the photo in your computer files to upload
- 3. Adjust the crop by dragging the crop box to your preferred size and fit
- 4. Click Save
- 5. Optional: Add a picture credit for the photographer or the artist
- 6. Optional: Add alt text to describe the content and function of the photo for users who may not able to see it
- 7. Check the copyright box under the photo preview





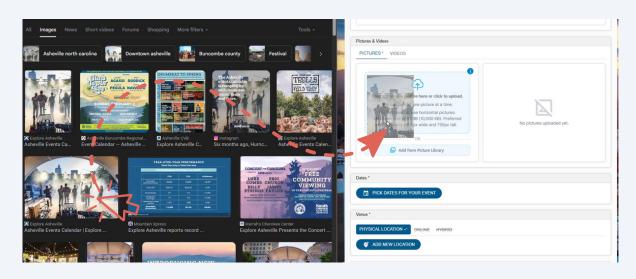






5B Photo Upload Option 2: Drag and drop

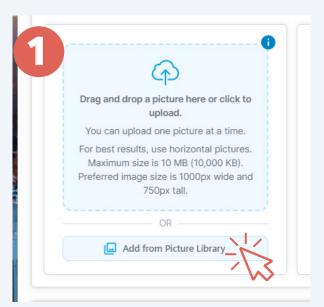
- 1. Find the photo you'd like to use on your computer, website, etc.
- 2. Drag the photo into the dotted upload box
- 3. Adjust the crop/fit by moving the crop box slightly
- 4. Click Save
- 5. Optional: Add a picture credit for the photographer or artist
- 6. Optional: Add alt text to describe the content and function of the photo for users who may not be able to see it
- 7. Check the copyright box under the photo preview



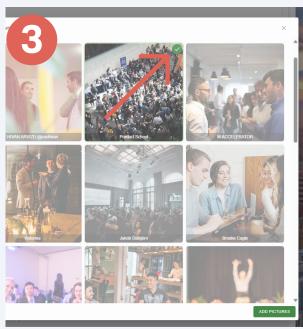
5C Photo Upload Option 3: Use a stock photo from the free library

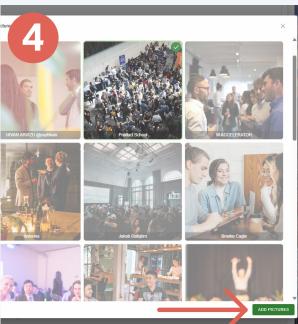
If you don't have a photo for your event, you can choose a rights-approved image from the provided library:

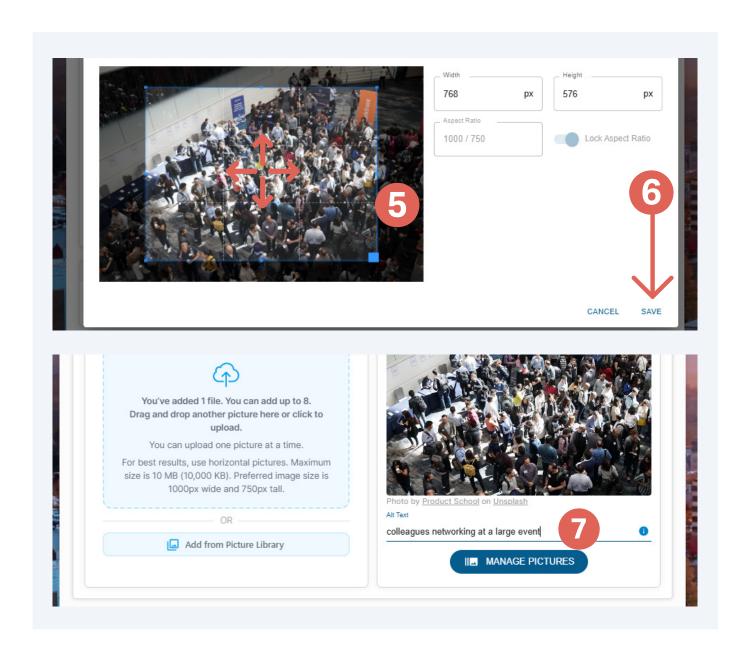
- 1. Click the Add From Picture Library button
- 2. Enter a keyword related to your event in the search bar
- 3. Select one or more photos (a green check mark will appear on selected images)
- 4. Click Add Pictures
- 5. Crop the photo as needed, then click Save
- 6. Optional: Add alt text to describe the content and function of the photo for users who may not be able to see it





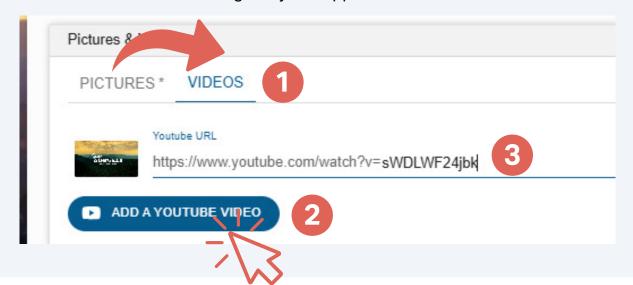




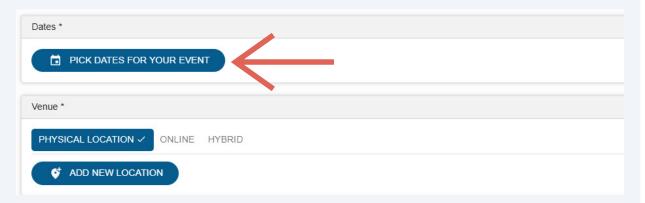


6 Videos (optional): Only YouTube videos are supported

- 1. Toggle to the "Videos" tab.
- 2. You may add a video, but the video will not display on the event listing.
- 3. Videos in event listings may be supported in the future.



7 Dates: Click "PICK DATES FOR YOUR EVENT" button



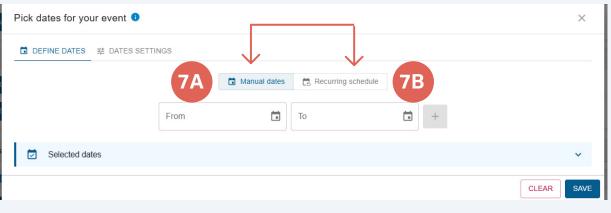
Select either "manual dates" or "recurring schedule," depending on the event type.

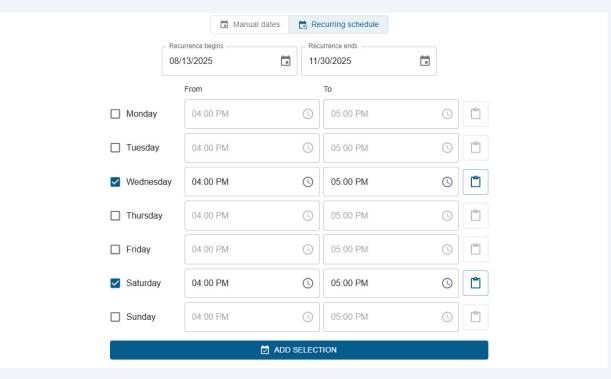
7A. Manual Dates

Ideal for occasions that **don't** take place on a weekly/monthly cycle, such as weekend-long events, single or two-day happenings, and dates with irregular occurrences. **Choose this option to manually select specific start and end times for each event.**

7B. Recurring Schedule

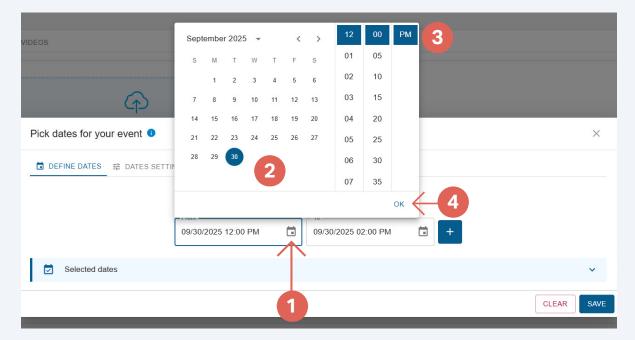
Ideal for events that recur weekly/monthly. Choose this option to select several dates at once.



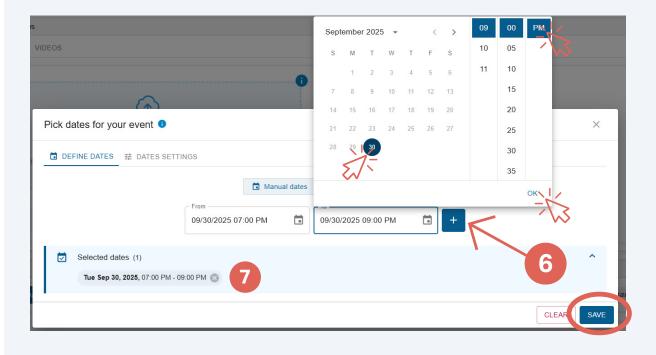


7A Select dates - Manual dates

- 1. In the "From" field, click the calendar icon
- 2. Select the **start date** of the event
- 3. Select the **start time** of the event
- 4. Click **OK**



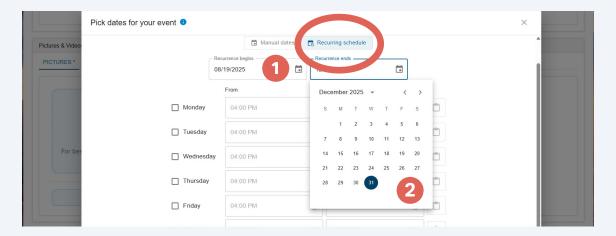
- 5. Repeat steps 1-4 in the "To" field
- 6. IMPORTANT: Click the blue + icon to add the date
- 7. Ensure your date(s) are added by checking under the "Selected dates" field



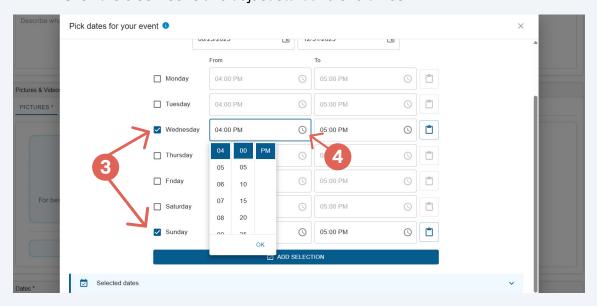
IMPORTANT: Click the blue **SAVE** button in the bottom right corner.

7B Select dates - Recurring schedule

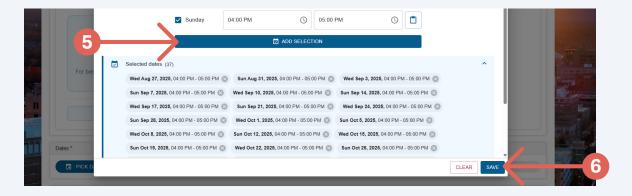
- 1. In the "Recurrence begins" field, click the calendar icon and select the start date of the series
- 2. In the "Recurrence ends" field, click the calendar icon and select the end date of the series



- 3. Select the check boxes next to the days of the week your event occurs on
- 4. Click the clock icons and adjust start and end times



- 5. IMPORTANT: Click blue ADD SELECTION button
- 6. IMPORTANT: Click blue SAVE button

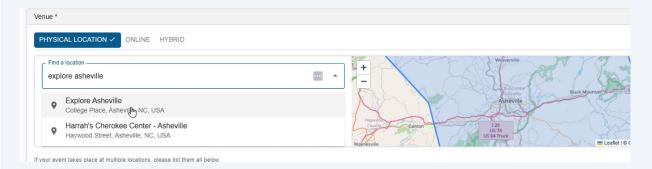


8 Location

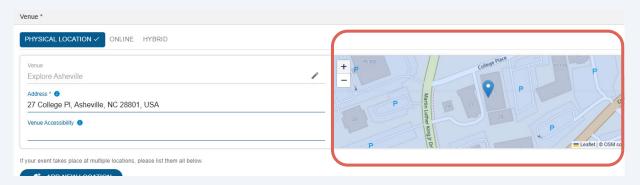
Click blue ADD NEW LOCATION button



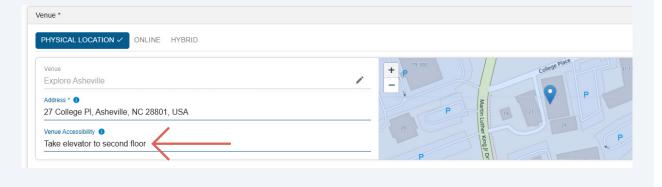
Start typing the **venue name** (**not the address**), then select the correct location from the suggestions.



Confirm the location by checking the map that auto-populates.



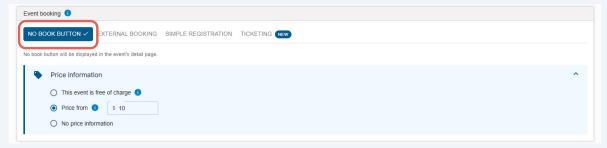
Optional: Add details like the specific room, parking details, unit number, or stage name to help visitors find your event easily.



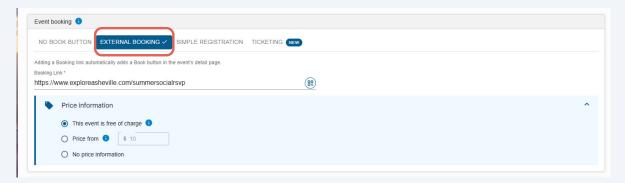
There is a designated perimeter around Buncombe County for events on the Explore Asheville Event Calendar. **Events outside of Buncombe County are not eligible**, except in special cases such as major events. If you receive an error message and need help, contact us at partnersupport@exploreasheville.com

Event booking (*optional*) You have the option to include pricing details, booking links, and registration or ticketing forms in your event listing. Select from the four available choices and provide the relevant information for the option that best meets your requirements.

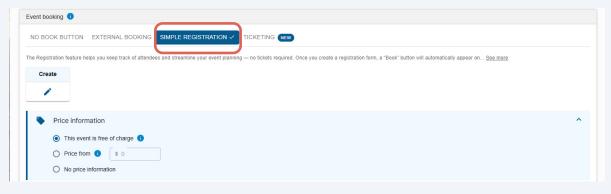
No Book Button: Ideal for free events or when you wish to show the price without offering registration options.

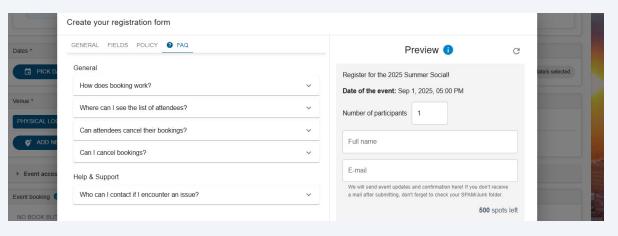


External Booking: Ideal for events that utilize an external booking site, whether free or paid. This option adds a "**Book Now**" button to your event listing.

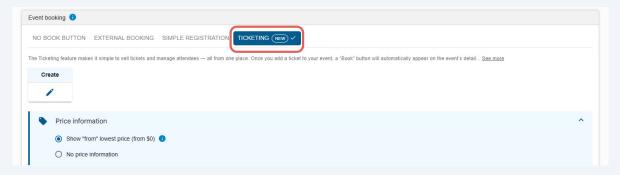


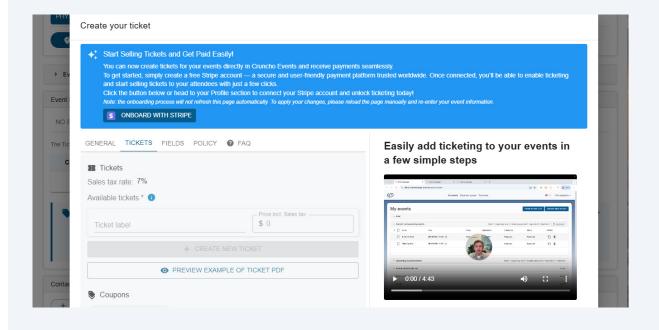
Simple Registration: Allows users to register directly on your event listing at **ExploreAsheville.com**. It includes a "**Book Now**" button on your event listing and allows you to oversee registrations through your events account.





Ticketing: Allows users to buy tickets for your event via **ExploreAsheville.com**. This option adds a "**Book Now**" button and allows for ticket sales and management using Stripe along with your events account.



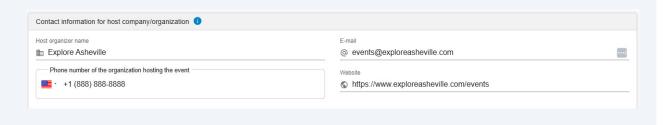


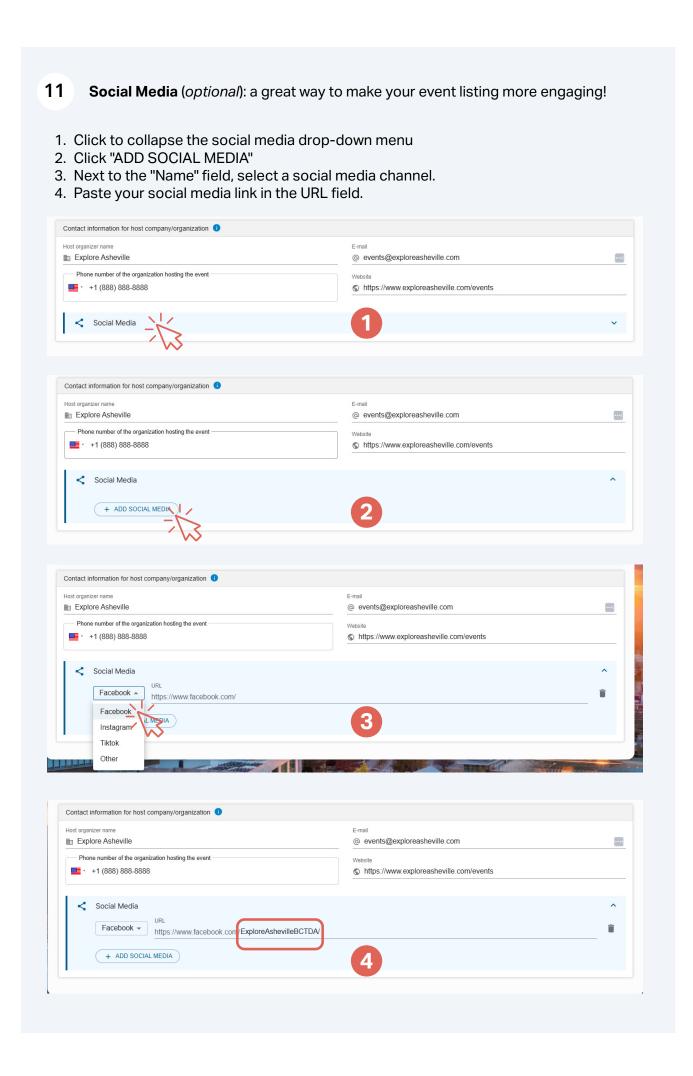
10 Contact information for your host company/organization



The contact information you enter here will be displayed on your event listing on ExploreAsheville.com for visitors to view and use.

- Host Organizer Name: Add the name of the business/organization hosting the event, not a person's name.
- E-mail: Business/event organizer email, if applicable
- **Phone number:** Business/event organizer phone, if applicable
- Website: Business/event page—preferably the page that mentions your event

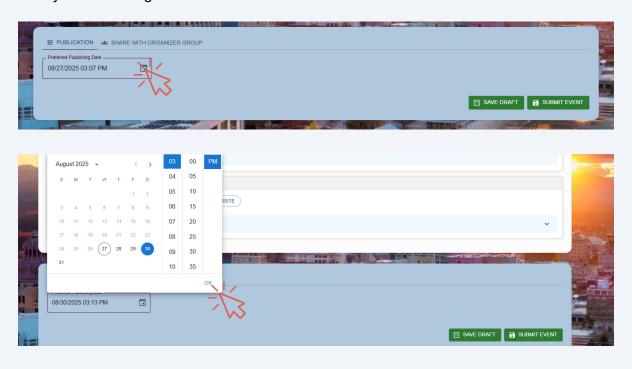




12 Publication (optional)

This feature is for organizations that have all their event information ready but don't want to publish it yet. **If you'd like the event posted immediately, leave this field as is.**

To select a future publishing date, click the clock icon in the "**Preferred Publishing Date**" field, and then use the calendar to pick the date and time you want your event to go live on our website.



13 Share with organizer groups (optional)

Organizer groups link individual user accounts from the same organization, allowing multiple team members to access and manage shared event submissions. This enables collaboration without sharing login credentials.

If your organization is part of an organizer group, select the group from the dropdown when submitting an event. This grants all group members access to view and edit the event after submission.

To request an organizer group for your team, contact partnersupport@exploreasheville.com



Submit: Click Submit Event to send your event to the Explore Asheville Event Manager for review.

** PUBLICATION 181 SHARE WITH ORGANIZER GROUP

Preferred Publishing Date

08/30/2025 03:13 PM

Thank you for submitting your events to the Explore Asheville Event Calendar!

SECTION 6: APPROVAL QUEUE + EVENT DENIAL REASONS



Submitting an event does not guarantee publication on ExploreAsheville.com. All event submissions undergo an approval process managed by Explore Asheville staff.

To ensure your event is reviewed and has time to be promoted, please submit it (and any edits) at least 10 business days before the event's start date.

i Event Denial Reasons

Not all submitted events meet the criteria for publication on **ExploreAsheville.com**. Common denial reasons include:

- Event takes place outside of Buncombe County
- Event is **already listed** on ExploreAsheville.com
- Event submission is **incomplete** or contains **incorrect information**
- Event is taking place at a private residence
- · Event link is broken
- Formatting issues or blurry photo

If you have questions about the event policy or need clarification on why your event was not approved, please contact partnersupport@exploreasheville.com.

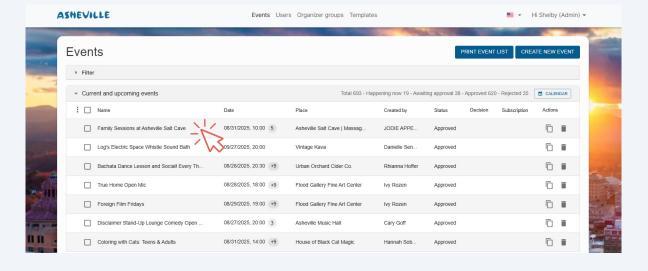
SECTION 7: VIEWING & EDITING ACTIVE EVENTS



After submitting your events, you can view them on your home screen. Once the event is created, it will appear under the "Events" tab, along with all the other events you've submitted.



 Locate the event under the "Current and Upcoming Events" tab on your home screen and click on the event you want to edit



2. Make the edits, then click "Save and Close" at the bottom of the submission form.

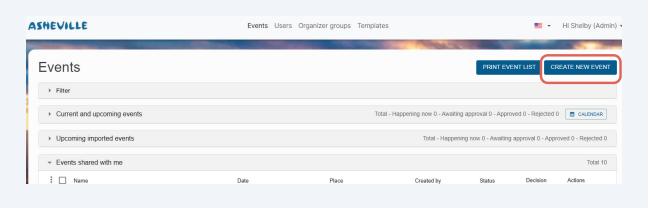


Your edits will be sent to the Explore Asheville Event Manager for review.

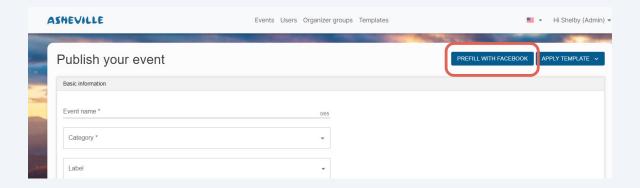
SECTION 8: STREAMLINING EVENT SUBMISSIONS WITH FACEBOOK

If you've already created a **Facebook Event**, you can use the URL to pre-fill our form:

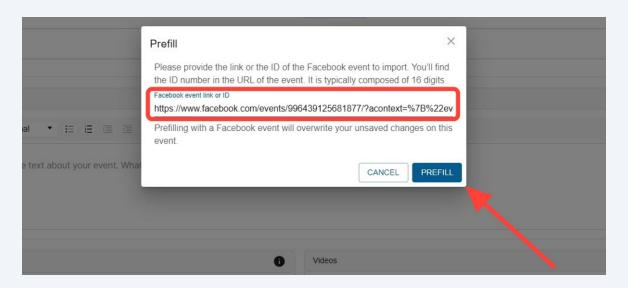
1. Click the blue "CREATE NEW EVENT" button in the top right corner of the home page



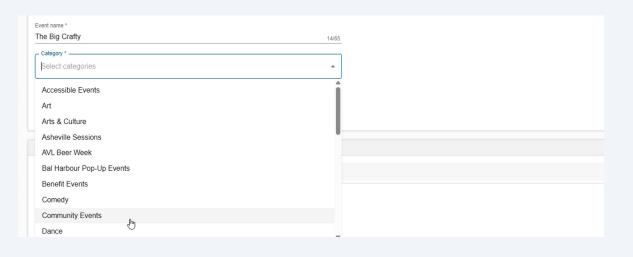
2. In the top right corner of the event submission form, click **PREFILL WITH FACEBOOK**.



3. Paste the URL of your Facebook event into the provided field and click PREFILL.

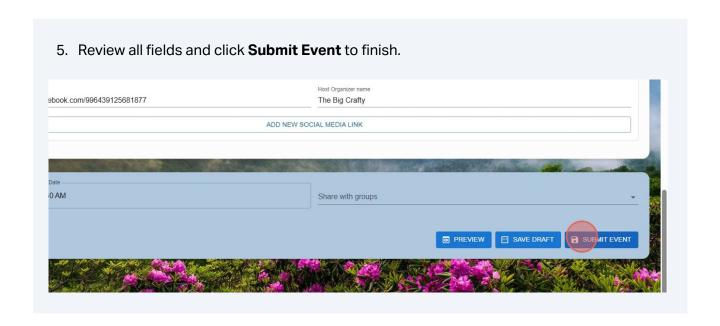


4. **Adjust the event categories**. All Facebook events default to the "other events" category, so make sure to select any relevant subcategories.





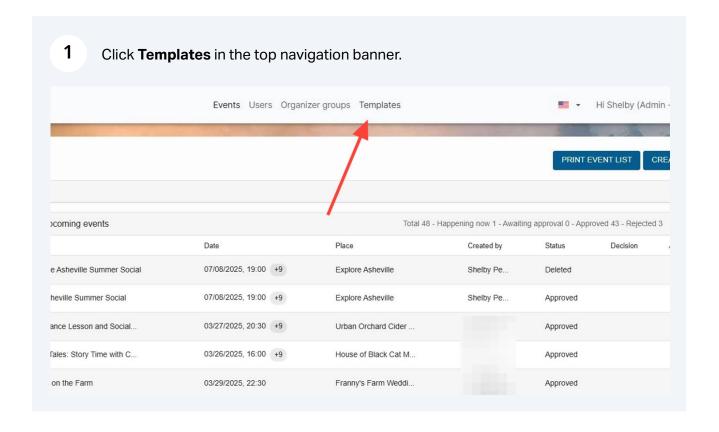
Verify that all fields are complete and accurate. While the Facebook data transfer helps fill in most of the details, it's always a good idea to double-check everything for accuracy. There might be small discrepancies, so take a moment to ensure everything looks right before submitting.

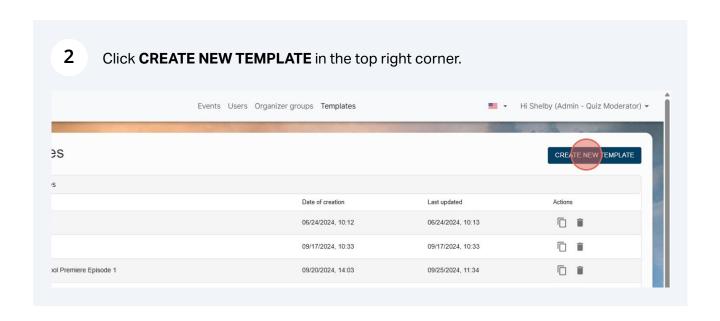


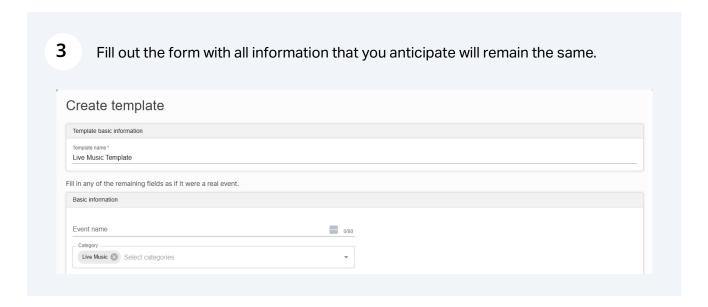
SECTION 9: EVENT TEMPLATES

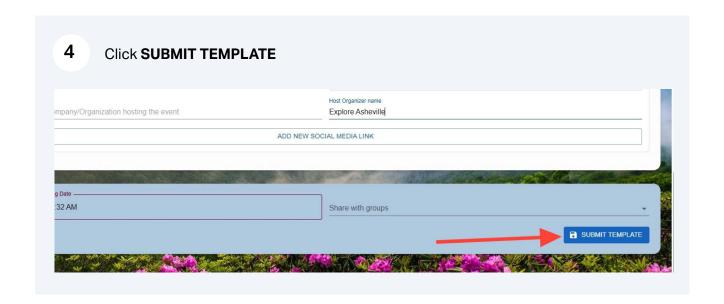
Event templates allow you to create reusable event submissions with predefined details. If you frequently submit similar events, using templates can save you time by allowing you to reuse common information, reducing the need to enter it each time.

Creating an Event Template

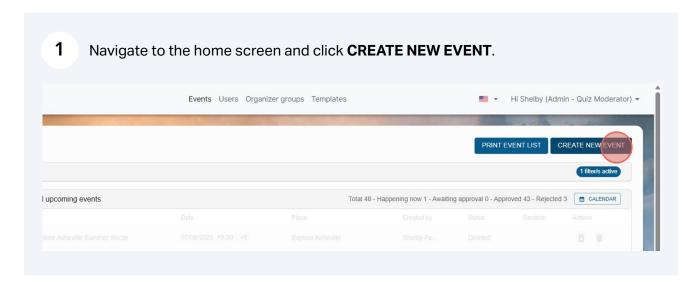








How To Use a Template



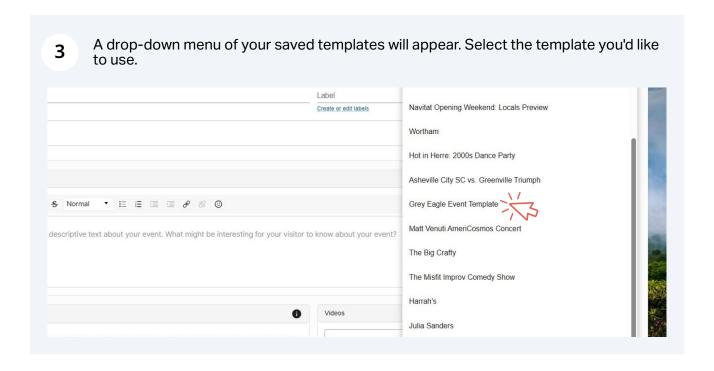
2 In the top right corner of the submission form, click APPLY TEMPLATE.

Events Users Organizer groups Templates

PREFILL WITH FACEBOOK APPLY TEMPLATE

Label

Create or edit labels



SECTION 10: FAQs

Can I still use the Partner Portal to submit events?

No. All event submissions and management are now handled exclusively through this event platform.

What is an organizer group?

An organizer group allows multiple team members from your business to access and manage the same event submissions. The feature promotes collaboration without sharing individual login credentials.

Should my business share one account or should everyone have an individual account?

Either approach works. A shared account can simplify management, while individual accounts offer more personalized control. Choose the option that best fits your team's workflow.

How do I set up an organizer group for my business?

Contact partnersupport@exploreasheville.com to set up an organizer group for your team.

What if I don't have a photo for my event?

You can use stock images from our Explore Asheville Photo Library. Look for the "Add From Picture Library" button when uploading event photos.

Can I schedule an event to be published at a later date?

Yes, the platform allows you to set future publish dates for your events.

How does Facebook integration work?

You can pre-fill your event submission form using a Facebook event link. Simply paste the URL into the designated field, and the platform will auto-populate many details for you.

I use Eventbrite for my events. Do I need to submit them separately to Explore Asheville?

We offer options for Eventbrite users. Contact us to set up either automatic approval of your Eventbrite events or to continue submitting separately.

What if I start creating an event but can't finish it in one sitting?

The new platform allows you to save drafts of your events. You can return to complete and publish them when you're ready.

How can I make my event listing more engaging?

The new platform allows you to add YouTube videos, create RSVP forms, and include social media links directly in your event listings. We also recommend using high-quality images without text.

How soon will I see my event on ExploreAsheville.com?

Event Policy: For processing and minimum exposure, events and/or event edits must be submitted no fewer than 10 business days prior to the event's start date. Submitting events does not guarantee posting.

Need help? Contact <u>partnersupport@exploreasheville.com</u>.