



Roux the Day Gumbo Cook-Off

Saturday, November 8, 2025

Georgia Beer Company
109 S. Briggs Street, Valdosta, GA

Roux the Day Gumbo Cook-Off will have a minimum 3-person judging panel to select winners. The cook-off will also include a prize for the best decorated tent and a people's choice award. Teams will vie for bragging rights for who can cook the best gumbo!

Details

Each team can have up to four team members. Teams will be responsible for any ingredients, meats, and seafood for their entries.

Alcoholic beverages will be available for sale in the event area. No alcoholic beverages are allowed to be brought into the event. Anyone found to be in violation will be asked to remove the alcohol from the event. A second violation may result in disqualification and removal from the event.

You are encouraged to have a team name. It is not required, but you will only be noted and announced as a number when winners are selected.

Each team will have a designated team captain. The team captain is responsible for:

Submitting a gumbo sample for judging in the specified container.

Ensuring team compliance with all rules

Ensuring safe food handling

Ensuring that all team members conduct themselves in a manner that promotes a safe, fun, and appropriate event.

Booth & Entry Fee

Entry Fee: \$75.00

10'x10' booth space- please provide your tent, table, and all items needed to cook and serve your gumbo.

No power will be provided; generators are only allowed if it is a silent generator.

Please plan to utilize propane tanks for cooking.

Cook-Off Rules

1. Each team must cook a minimum of five gallons of gumbo and rice to complement 3-oz servings.
2. Teams are prohibited from selling gumbo. Gumbo will be available for tasting in 3-oz cups only to people with a tasting ticket that has paid for access to participate.
3. Gumbo must be prepared from scratch. Roux can be prepared at home, with no premixes or commercial roux. All ingredients are subject to inspection by the designated Gumbo Coordinator. Inspections of products and processes will occur throughout the event.
4. All food must be prepared in a sanitary process.

5. The event will have music provided. Teams are asked if they have music players to use in such a way that it does not disturb other teams or cause ill effects to the event.
6. Gloves are required to be worn by all team members handling food.
7. All preparation and cooking must occur in the team's designated location, in the open, and not in closed tents or trailers.
8. All decorations should be family-appropriate with a Mardi Gras theme. Offensive decorations, signs, or materials will be removed.
9. Each team will be assigned a team number for sample submission for judging. The team captain will verify the team number is on their sample container. The sample containers will be provided for you on the event day. Other markings or text can be placed on the sample submittal. There should be no rice in the sample submittal.
10. Teams will have shared access to a water supply and hand-washing facilities.
11. Teams should keep their areas clean throughout the event and clean up when done. There will be access to trash receptacles.
12. The event Krewe will provide each team with the sample cups and spoons for the visitors' tasting on the day of the event.

Cook-Off Schedule

8:00 AM

Teams can begin setting up, and cooking begins

11:00 AM

Event music set up begins

1:00 PM

People's Choice judging begins; all attendees with taste tickets are allowed to sample gumbo.

2:00 PM

Team Captain will submit their gumbo sample for judging.

3:00 PM

People's Choice judging ends; sampling for those with taste tickets is still allowed, but will not apply to People's Choice.

4:00 PM

Winners will be announced with an awards presentation.

5:00 PM

Festival Ends

Categories & Awards

- Judging will be based upon:
- Aroma
- Consistency
- Color
- Taste
- Aftertaste

Best Gumbo

- 1st Place
- 2nd Place
- 3rd Place

Best Decorated Tent:

Competitors are encouraged to decorate their tents, and a team will be chosen for Best Decorated Tent.

People's Choice:

The People's Choice winner will be determined by which team receives the most tickets from attendees with wristbands who paid to participate in the People's Choice portion of the competition. 3 oz. samples will be served to attendees with wristbands. These attendees will have one ticket to vote for their favorite gumbo. The container to drop these tickets in will be provided by the event staff and given to each team to place on their serving.

