THUNDER OVER DOVER OPEN HOUSE FAQ’s

Q: What is an Open House?

A: Dover Air Force Base is hosting an open house to enhance the public awareness of Air Force preparedness, to demonstrate modern weapon systems and capabilities, to promote positive community and international relations, to showcase our Airmen and to support Air Force recruiting and retention. Opening Air Force bases to the public provides opportunities for education and generates interest in the military and its role in national security. An Air Force open house is a community relations activity, which highlights the mission, resources and personnel of the host base.

Q: What is special about this Open House?

A: The United States Air Force Thunderbirds will return to the Dover skies August 26-27, 2017, 9 a.m.–4 p.m. for the Thunder Over Dover: 2017 Dover AFB Open House. This event is open to the public with free admission!

Help celebrate our heritage at this open house as Dover AFB will be celebrating its 75th Anniversary, the U.S. Air Force’s 70th Anniversary, and the City of Dover’s 300th Anniversary!

Please visit the official Dover AFB Open House page for the latest information. Demonstrations and acts are subject to change.
Q: Where can I park?

A: People traveling from the North need to go into Dover AFB’s North Gate entrance, where they will be directed to park on the ramp. Handicapped parking is available. Vehicles arriving from the South will be instructed to park at Bergold farm, where they will have shuttles to take everyone to the display area.

Q: What are some of the Aerial Acts?

A: Some of the aerial acts include the Thunderbirds, U.S. Air Force Academy Wings of Blue parachute team, Army Special Operations parachute team Black Daggers, C-17 Demonstration team, World War II aircraft, and more.

Q: What else will be going on?

A: We have a kid zone where your children can play and interact with games and activities, an Australian strongman will attempt to pull a C-17 by himself and more!

Q: What will happen if I lose my child or get separated with my group?

A: You have the opportunity when you arrive to the Open House to get a wristband for you and your child. Your phone number will be written on a wristband that stays with your child. In the event that you and your child gets separated, you will be called by an Open House
representative who is ensuring the safety of your child. If you have a missing child, please find the nearest Open House representative and let them know the situation.

Q: What are the times of the Open House?
A: Gates to Dover AFB’s public access and Bergold Farms parking open at 9 a.m., the Opening Ceremony begins at 10 a.m. and the aerial demonstrations begin at 11 a.m. The show runs until 5 p.m. There is no overnight parking on base or Bergold farm parking areas.

Q: Where can I find the schedule?
A: The Open House schedule, and many other tidbits of information regarding the day’s events, are all on our Thunder Over Dover website, www.dover.af.mil/ThunderOverDover

Q: Can I bring a cooler? How about a backpack?
A: Please leave coolers at home. There will be food and drinks available for purchase at several venders. Diaper bags and small backpacks are okay but excessively large items are prohibited.

Q: I am a photo enthusiast, can I bring my camera?
Definitely bring your camera, but please leave your tripods and any large equipment home. Camera bags must be no bigger than 12” x 12”. A full list of what you can and can’t bring are all on our Thunder Over Dover website, www.dover.af.mil/ThunderOverDover
Q: What should I bring?

A: Ensure you wear comfortable shoes, bring water in a refillable container, a camera, hearing protection, and sunscreen. You are also welcome to bring strollers and folding chairs. A full list of what you can and can’t bring are all on our Thunder Over Dover website, www.dover.af.mil/ThunderOverDover

Q: What am I not allowed to bring?

No firearms or toys that resemble firearms. No coolers or large bags or backpacks. A full list of what you can and can’t bring are all on our Thunder Over Dover website, www.dover.af.mil/ThunderOverDover