

THUNDER OVER DOVER OPEN HOUSE FAQs

Q: What is an Open House?

A: An Air Force open house is an invitation to the community to learn about the military and the host base's contributions to national defense. Thunder Over Dover "opens" Dover Air Force Base to the public, demonstrating its readiness to provide rapid global airlift and showcasing our trained Airmen and the capabilities of our modern weapons systems.

Q: What is special about this Open House?

A: This is the first time at an Air Force installation that both the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds and U.S. Navy Blue Angels have co-headlined an event! Additionally, the U.S. Marine Corps Harrier demonstration team, as well as many other acts will perform!

Q: How much does it cost to attend the Open House?

A. General admission and parking are free and open to the public. Premium seating is available for purchase at doverfss.com/airshow.

Q: What are the times of the Open House?

A: Gates open to the public at 9:00 a.m. The opening ceremony starts at 12 p.m. The show runs until 5 p.m. Please note that there is no overnight parking on base.

Q: Where can I park?

A: We invite the public to join us on base and park on our main ramp, on the very same parking spots that our mighty C-5Ms and C-17s call home. Handicapped parking will be available to those with prominently displayed placards. Those requiring handicapped parking should enter through Dover AFB's Main Gate

-Spectators traveling from the north need to go into Dover AFB's North Gate entrance via Exit 97 from Route 1, from which point they will be directed to park on the ramp.

-Spectators traveling from the south need to go into Dover AFB's Main Gate entrance via Exit 93 from Route 1, from which point they will be directed to park on the ramp.

-DoD ID cardholders may enter through the AMC Museum gate, accessible via Route 9, from which point they will be directed to park on base near the east end of Atlantic Avenue.

-Distinguished Visitors and credentialed media members may enter using the South/Commercial Gate.

Q: Can I bring non-DOD guests in through the DOD gate if I am a DOD ID cardholder?

A: DOD ID cardholders may accompany non-DOD ID cardholders as they enter the designated DOD gate next to the AMC Museum, so long as they are in the same vehicle as the DOD ID cardholder.

Q: What should I bring?

A: Ensure you wear comfortable shoes, and bring the following items: water in a refillable container (free water will be available), a handheld camcorder or camera, binoculars, hearing protection, sunscreen and bug repellent. You are also welcome to bring strollers and folding chairs. Camera bags/diaper bags/purses should be no larger than 12"x12".

Q: Can I bring a cooler? How about a backpack?

A: Please leave your coolers at home. Food and drinks will be available for purchase from vendors. Small bags are permitted, but items larger than a cubic foot are prohibited.

Q: Can I bring my camera?

A: Bring your camera, but please leave your tripods and any large accessories or photography equipment at home. As a reminder, camera bags must be no bigger than 12"x12".

Q: Can I bring a service animal?

A: Service animals and service animals-in-training will be allowed; however, the animal must be equipped with a proper identifying harness, and its owner must provide proper documentation upon request.

Q: What can I not bring?

A: Please do not bring large backpacks, bags or coolers. In addition, all visitors are subject to search by 436th Security Forces Squadron members at any time on the installation and will NOT be allowed to pass through security with weapons of any kind (e.g., pocket knives, tools, scissors, box cutters, nun-chucks, billy clubs, large/heavy chain-link jewelry or belts, mace/pepper spray, firearms, etc.). Please do NOT bring toys resembling firearms! Also prohibited are drones, laser pointers, aerosol cans silly string, glass containers of any kind, alcohol and illegal drugs, fireworks, bicycles, skateboards, roller skates, roller blades, large umbrellas or portable tents, and pets (service animals are allowed).

Q: What are some of the aerial acts?

A: Some of the aerial acts include the the USAF Thunderbirds, US Navy Blue Angels, USMC Harrier Demo Team, C-17 Globemaster III Demo Team, the Black Daggers: the U.S. Army Special Operations Command Parachute Team, World War II aircraft, Rob Holland airshows, Extreme Flight, and much more. For a full list of aerial performers visit:
<https://www.dover.af.mil/Thunder-Over-Dover-2022/Performers/>

Q: What are some of the static displays?

A. Static displays include the C-5M Super Galaxy, the C-17 Globemaster III which flew a record number of Afghan civilians to freedom during Operation Allies Refuge, many “War Birds”, the A-10 Thunderbolt II, F-15E Strike Eagle and much more! For a full list of static displays, visit:
<https://www.dover.af.mil/Thunder-Over-Dover-2022/Static-Displays/>