



**FESTIVAL WATCH**

**A Taste of the Old West**

Of the countless glorious fall festivals across the U.S., we love these three — offering authentic seasonal events and activities showcasing the unique heritage of each region.

**The Trailing of the Sheep Festival** (Sun Valley, Idaho, October 10-14, [trailingofthesheep.org](http://trailingofthesheep.org)) Hundreds of sheep parading down Ketchum’s Main Street, en route from their summer enclave to winter pasture, commences five days of culinary, cultural, and arts festivals across Sun Valley.

**National Craft and Cowboy Festival** (Branson, Missouri, September 12-October 27, [silverdollarcity.com/theme-park/Festivals/National-Harvest-Festival](http://silverdollarcity.com/theme-park/Festivals/National-Harvest-Festival)) The nation’s largest festival saluting the legacy of the Great American Cowboy includes Western-themed music events, art and crafts, pioneer cooking, barn dances, and a rollicking Wild West show.

**Annual Buffalo Roundup and Arts Fest** (Custer, South Dakota, September 27-29, [gfp.sd.gov/buffalo-roundup](http://gfp.sd.gov/buffalo-roundup)) Bring binoculars and a folding chair to watch real-life wranglers rustle 1,300 American bison, then count, sort, and brand them in their winter corrals.

CAROL WALLER, 2/SILVER DOLLAR CITY ATTRACTIONS; CUNARD CRUISE LINE



**THIS JUST IN**

**Cruising Solo**

Many cruise lines, which historically have imposed outrageously high “single supplement” penalties on passengers traveling alone, are now offering accommodations designed for solo travelers, without added fees. Solo staterooms on Cunard Cruise Line include amenities similar to traditional staterooms, just smaller, with a single-person bed. Both Norwegian Cruise Line and the American Queen Steamboat Company call their single accommodations “studio staterooms.”

**PRACTICAL MATTERS**

**EARBUD HEAVEN**

Etymotic’s mk5 high-fidelity isolator earphones are genius accessories for travel, commuting, and active adventures. Cutting-edge technology produces pitch-perfect sound quality while the high noise isolation tunes out the world around you (\$64.95, [etymotic.com](http://etymotic.com)).