

Vacation Escapes

Celebration Of A Century

(NAPSA)—A pair of spectacular events are marking 100 years of excitement and adventure in Tampa, Florida.



The Gasparilla Pirate Fest is one of the country's largest and most unique outdoor celebrations.

The Gasparilla Pirate Fest, February 7, 2004, is a quirky, spirited celebration in which rowdy swashbucklers invade the city via pirate ship in a colorful sea battle, then take to the streets to share their "treasures" of beads and doubloons in a waterfront parade. Tampa's signature event, this colorful celebration of legendary pirate José Gaspar draws nearly half a million people each year.

The Florida State Fair, which runs February 5-16, 2004, will roll out a number of special events, exhibits and attractions to complement traditional favorites like fair food and midway rides. A centennial exhibit will showcase the evolution of the State Fair, from its modest roots to the sprawling festival it is today.

To learn more, contact the Tampa Bay Convention & Visitors Bureau at 1-800-44-TAMPA or visit www.VisitTampaBay.com.