

CONTACT: Kristy Kneiding
760-568-5240

PALM DESERT'S GOLF CART PARADE

PALM DESERT, CA – If you love a parade, you'll absolutely adore the Palm Desert Golf Cart Parade. In an area that boasts more than 100 golf courses, and in a city where golf carts are street-legal, this annual event makes perfect sense!

The Palm Desert Golf Cart Parade started as a lark for the locals in 1964 and today features more than 100 creatively decorated golf cart "floats" that parade down the exclusive El Paseo shopping district to the delight of more than 25,000 spectators. Marching bands, jugglers, clowns, and celebrities also take part in this fun-filled family event that takes place every October.

A contest is held each year to determine the parade theme, giving amateur float-builders a "platform" on which to create their entries for this nationally known event. Previous years' themes have included "The Future's So Bright You Gotta Wear Shades," and "Laughter Is The Best Medicine." Prizes for the golf cart floats are awarded in various categories including Most Creative, Most Amusing, and Most Unusual.

The day of the Palm Desert Golf Cart Parade begins with the Palms to Pines Rotary Club's annual pancake breakfast from 7:30 a.m. to noon, and the parade steps off at 1 p.m. Following the parade, the golf carts are lined up along El Paseo so visitors and residents can get a closer look. From 1:45 to 4:30 p.m., there's a street festival with live entertainment and children's activities. An awards ceremony caps off the festivities.

Proceeds from the annual Palm Desert Golf Cart Parade benefit local charities. For more information about the annual Palm Desert Golf Cart Parade, go to www.golfcartparade.com.

Information: For complete visitor information on Palm Desert and a free Vacation Guide, call the Palm Desert Visitor Center at 800-873-2428, or visit online at www.palm-desert.org.

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