

Two further Cat Festivals (2008)

(page checked December 2025)

[‘Further’ in view of the [Ypres Cat Festival](#) or *Kattenstoet*, described separately.]

Cat’n Around Catskill

Since the summer of 2007 the village of Catskill in New York State has held a rather unusual kind of cat festival: a street art exhibition called **Cat’n Around**.

The idea is that decorated, larger-than-life feline busts are placed along the main downtown village streets. They are available from about February, when the unadorned busts arrive from Chicago where they are made, until June when the festival opens, for artists to embellish and decorate in whatever style they please, producing an array of capricious, whimsical and fantastical cat figures.



There are some very imaginative designs, as illustrated by the few examples shown below from earlier years. and a full gallery of all 50 of the 2014 designs, with their names, is at [Victoria Chewens Photography](#) (now archived; can be viewed by supplying an e-mail address). By 2024 the number had increased to 70, which can all be found [here](#).





A [YouTube clip](#) shows the 2007 cats in their positions in the town, and is well worth a view as it gives a better idea of the size of the statues and their variety, but be aware that not everyone liked them and some of the comments are quite uncomplimentary. Images of many of the 2007 cats *in situ* can also be seen [here](#).

After adorning the Catskill streets throughout the summer, the festival culminates in a live auction of the cat figures at a 'Cat's Meow Auction and Gala' held in the autumn, for which tickets are sold. Proceeds benefit local non-profit organisations, and also provide a scholarship for a graduating student from Catskill High School to further his or her education in the arts. To give an example, the 2008 event was sold out and 30,000 dollars was put back into the community from the proceeds, the highest figure paid for a single cat being 4,500 dollars.

Brief details of Cat'n Around are at [HOCA \(Heart Of Catskill Association\)](#). The best way to follow the action, though, is via the active and current [Facebook page](#), which has a lot of information and images of the cats *in situ*. 2016 marked the tenth Cat'n Around Festival, and it seems to be well-established as an annual event. If any reader goes to Catskill during the time the cats are on display in the streets, we'd love to receive some first-hand photos of them 'on location'!

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Moon Cat Festival in Spain

For six years from 2006 a **Moon Cat Festival** was held in Lloret de Mar on the Costa Brava in Spain, for a week from around late February to the beginning of March, under the auspices of the Cat Museum ([Casa de los Gatos](#)).

These festivals did look to be really fun and colourful events, although they weren't like the festival at [Ypres](#) where people just go to watch. Rather, people were expected to take an active part in them, with a fancy-dress parade and competition, dancing, karaoke and other activities for the really keen cat lover! They were run as week-long package holidays, and only those on the holiday could participate; most of the activities were not open to the general public, although it seems that anyone could join in the fancy-dress parade through the town. Also, part of the programme involved an excursion for three nights to Madrid, Barcelona, or one of two destinations in France, although participants could choose to remain in the Lloret de Mar hotel instead and make local trips if they so wished.

There seem to have been no further festivals since 2011; maybe there was insufficient support. There is a short video of parts of the 2011 event on [YouTube](#).

Should you be in the area, the museum itself looks to be well worth a visit in its own right.



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