

VENICE AFTERBURN 2018 WRAP-UP REPORT

The Venice Afterburn 2018 was very successful and ran very smoothly. The location was once again the Windward Plaza, a partially cemented and partial grassy area that extends along the beach in the heart of Venice, and is a bit over 2 acres.

As always, Friday started a bit slow and it got pretty full after sunset while Saturday had people coming through all day. We welcome both burners and passers-by, and this year we made a bit more effort in signage with the goal of explaining the non-burners what this is all about.

We decided to have 3 days this year, instead of the usual 2 days: Friday to Sunday. As always, we had a big amount of beautiful mutant vehicles, art installations, theme camps and performances.

The third day, Sunday, was dedicated to a more 'mellow' vibe, while giving more time to the big art cars to break down; we had a yoga and healing program, as well as a couple live bands and a closing sunset Dj set of Trevor Moontribe.

Another big change was that we installed a temporary event fence around the venue perimeter. This was decided, after a lot of thinking and production meetings, because the previous year we experienced a little bit of 'unsafety' in the later hours of Saturday. Being Venice, and since the event welcomes everyone in respect of the Burning Man principle of radical inclusion, last year we had some pickpocketing and the fence we brought in 2018 really helped discouraging people with not-so-good intentions.

We feel that the fence added extra safety and we were happy with the results, and we will definitely keep going in that direction.

Every year we try to improve and make this event a little bigger, and in 2018 we finally had a professionally ran fire circle by the main stage, and we are very satisfied of the turnout.

The Venice Afterburn was curated by Daniela Ardizzone, and co-produced by Daniela Ardizzone with Sunny Bak of the Venice Art Crawl (a committee of the Venice Chamber of Commerce).

2018 was also the year in which we created the 'Venice Afterburn Rangers'. The VA Rangers helped facilitating public safety, in conjunction with some Black Rock Rangers that volunteered their time to the Venice Afterburn.

We estimate that about 3000 people attended the event in 3 days. We can't wait until next year!