

# Van's Warped Tour Preview

Since summer 1995, The Vans Warped Tour has traveled the US bringing some of the best rock, punk and alternative music to fans all over the nation (including some stops in Canada). This summer will be no different. With what people are saying is one of the best line-ups since 2012, Warped Tour will be back to play the Xfinity Center in Mansfield, Massachusetts, on July 13.

Over 70 bands tour with the festival, so there is more than enough music, sets and genres to go around. There's a little bit of everything mixed in and everyone who goes no doubt will find something they enjoy. On top of the bands, there are many different booths, meet & greets and things to do besides checking out some killer bands.

While I'm upset some favorites won't be at the Mansfield date, such as 3OH!3 and Good Charlotte, there will still be amazing bands ready to give you a performance of a lifetime. For a lot of bands, Warped Tour is something that kicks off their career, so there are always many different newcomers on the tour that are excited to show people what they've got. So, even if you don't know their name, if you have some time, check out their set. They are more than likely to surprise you and who knows, you may find your new favorite band! But, as always, there are bands on the tour that are easily recognizable and have established themselves in the alternative world. And there are a few on this year's tour that you should not miss.

Top 10 Bands to See at Warped Tour Mansfield (in no particular order):

1. Four Year Strong — Four Year Strong will definitely be in their element on the July 13 date as it will be their "hometown" show (they're from Worcester, it's close enough). They're one of those bands that will have you headbanging and dancing at the same time and they are worth the time to watch their set.
2. New Found Glory — If you're looking for a good rock set to jam out to, New Found Glory has what you want. With high energy songs that will have you jumping to every beat, they know exactly what they are doing, having been around this scene for a long time.
3. Reel Big Fish — This ska (combination of Caribbean mento, calypso, American jazz and rhythm and blues) punk band definitely brings something different and highly enjoyable to their sets. They are well known for their high energy shows. This is absolutely not a set to miss at this year's Warped Tour.
4. We The Kings — If this doesn't bring you back to your middle school years, I cannot tell you what could. We The Kings have been around for a while and while nothing beats their classics like "Check Yes Juliet," their new stuff is amazing. They are a very humble band and never fail to put on a killer performance.
5. Yellowcard — Another band that many people grew up listening to, very well known for their song "Ocean Avenue." It's amazing getting to hear songs that you grew up listening to being played live. Even if you don't know any other songs by Yellowcard, it is worth it to watch their set just to hear "Ocean Avenue." This is especially a set not to miss considering that they will be releasing their final album and going off on their final tour this fall, so it may be one of the last chances to see such an amazing band play live.

6. Sum 41 — While Sum 41 has been around for 20 years, their music still kicks some major butt. When it comes down to it, they have always been a rock band and they know how to rock out. That alone is a reason you cannot miss their performance at Warped.
7. Tonight Alive — If you're looking for strong female vocals and an absolutely killer performance, this band is definitely one to check out. They're from Australia and their lead singer, Jenna McDougall, brings a high energy performance that has the entire crowd entranced. And their music is A+, high energy with some amazing lyrics that tells a story. Their sets always amaze me.
8. Falling In Reverse — There isn't much one can say about this post-hardcore band besides the fact that they know how to run the stage. Ronnie Radke, the frontman, has gone through a lot in his life, yet still knows how to show people what a good time is about with music that gets a crowd going. They aren't for everyone, but if you like them, you will enjoy seeing them live.
9. The Maine — This pop-punk band have definitely made their name in the alternative world. Their music spans the genre, having darker songs mixed in with some lighter and upbeat songs. Their songs tell a story, are personal and relatable. This band does it for themselves and because of that, they end up doing it for everyone else, too. They're humble and know how to put on a good show, so this set is one that has to be seen.
10. Issues & Set It Off — Okay, so these two bands are very different but I wanted them both on the list because they are that kind of band that you just get drawn to. Issues is a metalcore band who put on a very high energy set. Set It Off is a pop punk/rock band that know what they are doing up on stage. Both bands have addicting music that makes you want to come back for more.