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## **Concert review: 2014 Governors Ball Music Festival**

Once again, <u>Governors Ball</u> came to town with a huge lineup and huge crowds. The three day festival, held on Randall's Island, was sold out. With acts like Jack White, The Strokes, Bastille, Vampire Weekend, Empire of the Sun, Tyler the Creator, J. Cole, Damian Marley, Phoenix and Foster the People on the bill, that comes as no surprise. Even Sen. Chuck Schumer made an appearance before Frank Turner's set to tell the crowd how proud he was of the turnout, and hoped that Governors Ball could outshine other major festivals like Coachella in the future.

Going to Governors Ball is not for the weak. Due to current construction activity on Randall's Island, no festival parking was allowed. This meant the only options were public transportation (shuttle bus/ferry), or walking. This Examiner chose to walk across the RFK Bridge, which, aside from pedestrian traffic jams on the way in and out on Saturday, worked out pretty well. On the positive side, you saved a few bucks each day and had more control over your comings and goings. On the down side, a mile long walk back to Manhattan wasn't exactly appealing after a day of circling the events area back and forth from stage to stage. But having hours of memories to think about on the voyage home was a helpful distraction from the mounting burning sensation happening on the soles of your feet! The beautiful weather this year also made for a pleasant commute, which was a welcomed change from last year's mud extravaganza (my wrap up <u>here</u>).

Besides memorable music performances, the <u>food selection</u> was also quite amazing. There were plenty of temptations ranging from <u>Sticky's Finger Joint</u>'s salted caramel pretzel chicken poppers to <u>Arancini Brothers'</u> famous Nutella risotto concoction to classic offerings like <u>Mile End Deli</u>'s Black & White Cookie and the traditional festival Corn Dog. Which brings to mind another plus to the copious amounts of walking- being able to work off those festival food calories!

Check out my slideshows from the 2014 Governors Ball here:

Day 1 (Bastille, Jenny Lewis, La Roux, Damian Marley, TV On The Radio)
Day 2 (Fitz and the Tantrums, Glitch Mob, The Strokes, Sleigh Bells, Jack White)
Day 3 (Wild Belle, Sen. Chuck Schumer, Frank Turner & The Sleeping Souls, Tyler The Creator, J. Cole, The Kills, Foster the People, Empire of the Sun, Vampire Weekend)

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