KENNY CHESNEY I GO BACK 2023 IN LEXINGTON, KY WITH SPECIAL GUEST KELSEA BALLERINI

A Full-On Taste of East Tennessee Brings the Music to the People Presented by Blue Chair Bay Rum



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Lexington, KY (November 21, 2022) -- When Kenny Chesney wrapped his 2022 *Here And Now* tour – playing to over 1.3 million people and breaking personal records in many of the 21 NFL stadiums he played – the East Tennessee songwriter/superstar knew he wanted to create a touring experience to make 2023 every bit as special. He made the decision to dial in on those cities that were a major part of establishing what has become the soundtrack of coming of age in the 21st Century, naming the tour *I Go Back* and taking his music to the fans beyond the stadium markets.

"I can still hear No Shoes Nation singing those songs after being apart for four whole summers," Chesney, who just received 28 RIAA gold, platinum and multi-platinum certifications, says. "It's a sound that reminds me how much music *really* means to people. It's not about the numbers, but the joy you see on people's faces – and the more I thought about it, the more I thought about taking the music to the people who were there when this thing was taking off."

Joining the only country artist who's made *Billboard*'s Top 10 Touring Acts of the Past 25 Years for the last 14 years for this highly anticipated tour is three-time GRAMMY nominee Kelsea Ballerini. A songwriting force, she launched her singular career with three consecutive No. 1s and a Best New Artist GRAMMY nomination and has not looked back. Having enlisted Kenny for their No. 1 "half of my hometown," which won the 2021 Country Music Association Vocal Event and Video of the Year Award and was nominated for the 2022 CMA Single of the Year, she, too, embodies that feeling of loving where you're from, but knowing your heart has bigger dreams.

"Music has taken me so many incredible places," Ballerini says. "Around the world, singing with some of my heroes in pop, alternative and contemporary music, but singing with Kenny is going home. He was the only voice I heard on 'half of my hometown,' and when he comes in, it's just like hitting the Knoxville city limits. So to be able to go out to those cities like the place he and I grew up with an artist who's accomplished what he has, it's a lot like going home."

Hailed as "The King of the Road" by the *Wall Street Journal* and "The People's Superstar" by the *Los Angeles Times*, Chesney's music distills living beyond the media centers – recognizing the dignity, richness and fun of an authentic American life. As *Variety* offered of his immediacy and appeal: "classic-rock-infused country with his in-the-moment philosophy."

"I Go Back 2023 is going to be so awesome," Chesney raves. "To be able to take this music to where it comes from? To have Kelsea Ballerini out there with me, maybe even singing 'half of my hometown'? It's going to be a tour unlike any other – and I can't wait."

I Go Back 2023 is Presented by Blue Chair Bay Rum. American Express® Card Members can purchase tickets in select markets before the general public beginning Wednesday, November 23 at 10 a.m. local time through Thursday, December 1 at 10 p.m. local time. Tickets on sale December 2 at 10 a.m. local time at KennyChesney.com.

Kenny Chesney I Go Back Tour:

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March 25	State College, PA	Bryce Jordan Center
March 30	Wichita, KS	INTRUST Bank Arena
April 1	Oklahoma City, OK	Paycom Center
April 6	Uncasville, CT	Mohegan Sun Arena
April 8	Wilkes-Barre Township, PA	Mohegan Sun Arena at Casey Plaza
April 12	Birmingham, AL	Legacy Arena at the BJCC
April 14	Jacksonville, FL	Daily's Place Amphitheater
April 16	Ft. Lauderdale, FL	Tortuga*
April 25	Lexington, KY	Rupp Arena
April 27	Greenville, SC	Bon Secours Wellness Arena
April 29	Greensboro, NC	Greensboro Coliseum
May 4	Moline, IL	Vibrant Arena at The Mark
May 6	Grand Rapids, MI	Van Andel Arena
May 9	Grand Forks, ND	The Alerus Center
May 11	Sioux Falls, SD	Denny Sanford Premier Center

May 13	Lincoln, NE	Pinnacle Bank Arena	
May 18	Fort Wayne, IN	Allen County War Memorial Coliseum	
May 20	Evansville, IN	Ford Center	
May 25	Charleston, SC	Credit One Stadium	
May 27	Orange Beach, AL	The Wharf	
July 22	Des Moines, IA	Hy-Vee Indy Race*	
*previously announced			

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About Central Bank Center

Located in Lexington, Kentucky, the **Lexington Center Corporation** (LCC) is a not-for-profit 501c3 corporate agency of the Lexington Fayette Urban County Government. It was established in 1974 to manage and maintain Rupp Arena at Central Bank Center, the Central Bank Center (formerly Lexington Convention Center), Triangle Park, and the Lexington Opera House. One of the nation's most storied entertainment destinations, Central Bank Center venues collectively welcome an average of 1.3 million patrons annually.

Since 1976, **Rupp Arena at Central Bank Center** has served as the home court of the University of Kentucky men's basketball team, regularly leading the national attendance average. Rupp Arena has hosted legendary artists such as Justin Timberlake, Paul McCartney, Garth Brooks, Chris Stapleton, and many more. Since 2018, Oak View Group and Live Nation Arenas have provided booking services to Rupp Arena. During the last 18 months, Rupp Arena has broken all previous audience attendance and revenue records in its storied 43-year history.

The Lexington Opera House, built in 1886 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is one of the premier performing arts centers in the region. Since its opening, the Opera House has played host to such famous stage performers as W.C. Fields, The Marx Brothers, Al Jolson, Julie Harris, Steve Martin, Brian Wilson, and Graham Nash. It has undergone two major renovations and remains a cultural destination in downtown Lexington.

The Central Bank Center holds over 200 meetings, trade shows, and special events annually. It just completed a transformative \$310 million expansion, featuring a dramatic, light-filled architectural design that offers over 200,000 SF of flexible meeting and event space. For more, visit www.centralbankcenter.com or follow us on Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter.

About OVG360:

OVG360, a division of the Oak View Group, which was founded by Irving Azoff and Tim Leiweke and supported by Silverlake, specializes in event programming venue assessments and security and emergency preparedness. OVG360 can also provide full management services for arenas, stadiums, convention centers, and performing arts centers. Oak View Group is the largest developer of sports and entertainment facilities in the world with \$4.5 billion of deployed capital across eight projects.