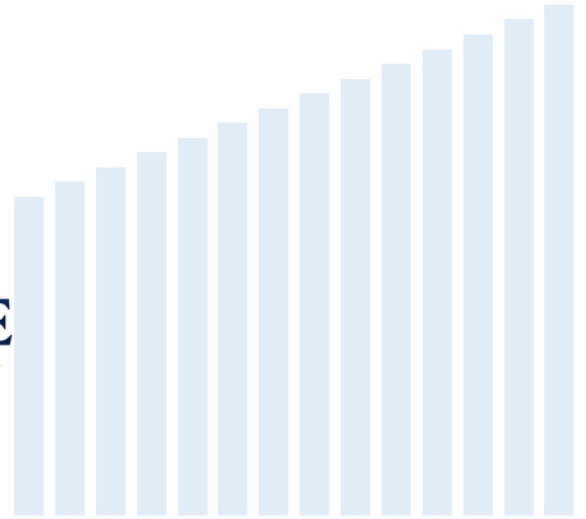




LOCAL EVENTS APP

START HERE

A picture-first guide written for a complete beginner

THE THREE RULES

1. Extract the ZIP before doing anything.
2. Edit only config.js and events.js at first.
3. Use File > Save - never Save As.

1. DOWNLOAD AND OPEN THE APP

Start with the ZIP file you downloaded

PC

Use a tablet, laptop, or desktop if possible.

A larger screen is recommended for this type of project.

1

Download the ZIP

Download the app ZIP file to Downloads, Desktop, or another folder you can easily find.

2

Find the ZIP

Locate the file you just downloaded. Do not try to edit files while they are inside the ZIP.

3

Extract All

Right-click the ZIP and choose Extract All. Choose Extract Here only if that is the option shown.

4

Open the folder

Open the new extracted folder created after the ZIP was unpacked.

5

Preview the app

Double-click index.html inside the extracted folder. The app should open in your web browser.

ZIP

DOWNLOADED ZIP



FOLDER

EXTRACTED FOLDER



WEB

OPEN index.html

**ALWAYS EXTRACT THE ZIP FIRST.
DO NOT EDIT FILES WHILE THEY ARE STILL INSIDE IT.**

2. UNDERSTAND THE EXTRACTED FOLDER

These are the files and folders a beginner needs to recognize first.

1

index.html

Double-click this file to preview the app in your browser. Do not use it for the beginner edits in this guide.

2

config.js

Change the app title, market, profile, contact details, hero image, overlay, colors, and sponsor information.

3

events.js

Replace the sample event listings with real local events, one event at a time.

4

images folder

Stores the hero pictures and any other local images used by the app.

5

instruction files

Keep START_HERE, READ_ME, and help files available while working.

**DO NOT RENAME, MOVE, OR DELETE FILES
UNLESS THE GUIDE SPECIFICALLY TELLS YOU TO.**

3. OPEN THE CORRECT FILE FOR EDITING

Preview file and editing files are different.

PREVIEW

index.html

Double-click index.html to see the app in your web browser. You normally do not edit this file during the beginner setup.

EDIT

config.js / events.js

Right-click the file, choose Open with, and select Notepad or another plain-text editor.

1

Right-click config.js

Do not double-click and hope Windows guesses correctly.

2

Choose Open with

Select Notepad or another plain-text editor.

3

Make one change

Change only the item you intend to change.

4

Save and preview

Use File > Save, then refresh index.html in the browser.

**USE A PLAIN-TEXT EDITOR.
DO NOT EDIT THESE FILES IN MICROSOFT WORD.**

4. CHANGE YOUR APP IDENTITY

Open config.js and change the sample identity information to your own.

1

App title

The name visitors see at the top of the app.

2

Market or city

The town, city, neighborhood, or audience you serve.

3

Profile description

A short explanation of who you are and what the app provides.

4

Contact details

Email, phone, social links, and the Get In Touch button.

5

Sponsor details

Information shown when a business or group supports the app.

EXAMPLE

"Your Name Here" becomes "Doug Palmer"

Change the words inside quotation marks. Keep the punctuation.

5. CHANGE THE HERO IMAGE

Use one of the included pictures or add a picture that represents your local market.

1

Choose an image

Use hero-default.jpg, hero-city-lights.jpg, hero-community.jpg, or a JPG/PNG image of your own.

2

Copy it into images

Place your image file inside the images folder in the extracted app folder.

3

Copy the exact filename

Include the extension, such as .jpg or .png.

4

Update config.js

Replace the current hero image filename with the exact new filename.

5

Save and refresh

Use File > Save, then refresh the browser preview.

EXACT MATCH

`las-vegas . jpg`

`Las-Vegas . JPG`

Capital letters, spaces, and the file extension can matter.

**THE FILENAME IN config.js MUST EXACTLY MATCH
THE IMAGE FILE INSIDE THE images FOLDER.**

6. CHOOSE THE HERO OVERLAY

The overlay is a transparent dark layer that keeps words readable over the picture.

LIGHT

The picture stays brighter. Use this only when the text remains easy to read.

MEDIUM

The recommended starting point. It balances image visibility and text readability.

DARK

Use when a bright or busy picture makes the words hard to see.

BEST BEGINNER CHOICE: MEDIUM

Preview the app. Then switch to Light or Dark only if needed.

7. ADD AND EDIT EVENTS

Open events.js. Work on one complete event at a time.

1

Event title

The name of the event.

2

Date and time

When the event begins.

3

Location

Venue name and address or area.

4

Description

A clear summary of what visitors should expect.

5

Image and link

Optional picture and the official event or ticket page.

6

Category / featured

Controls filtering and whether the event receives special placement.

**CHANGE ONE EVENT, SAVE, AND TEST IT.
DO NOT REPLACE EVERY SAMPLE EVENT AT ONCE.**

8. SAVE CORRECTLY - THIS MATTERS

CLICK FILE > SAVE
DO NOT CLICK SAVE AS

Why this matters

1

Save

Updates the file you are already editing.

2

Save As

May create a duplicate, rename the file, or add the wrong file extension.

3

Correct filename

config.js or events.js

4

Wrong filename

config.js.txt or events.js.txt

STOP AND CHECK THE NAME BEFORE CLOSING THE EDITOR.

The file must still end in .js - not .txt.

9. PREVIEW AND TEST YOUR CHANGES

Return to the browser after each small group of changes.

☐

App title and local market

☐

Hero image and overlay

☐

Profile and contact information

☐

Each new or edited event

☐

Buttons and outside links

☐

Desktop and mobile-width appearance

☐

Spelling, dates, addresses, and prices

SEEING AN OLD VERSION?

Press Ctrl + F5 to force the browser to reload the latest files.

10. PUBLISH THE APP FOR FREE

Free static hosting can be used for learning, testing, and an early launch.

1

Create a free-host account

Use the free static host selected in the current RSDLC instructions.

2

Create a new site

Choose the option to deploy or upload a new project.

3

Upload the extracted folder

Upload the app folder and its contents - not the ZIP file.

4

Wait for publishing

The host will supply a public web address when deployment finishes.

5

Test the live app

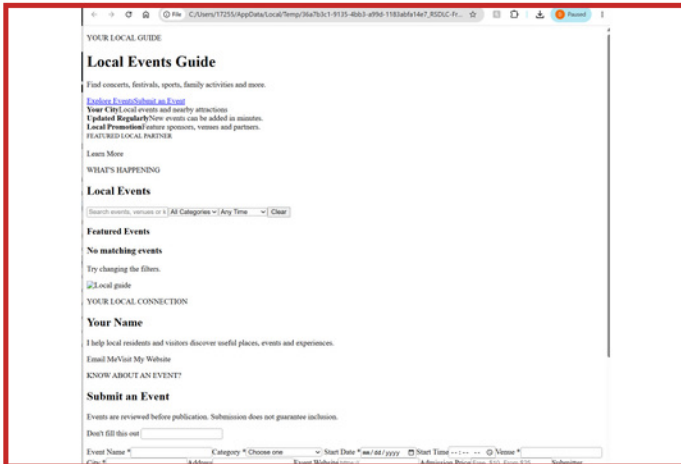
Open the supplied address and test the complete app again.

WHEN TO MOVE TO PERMANENT HOSTING

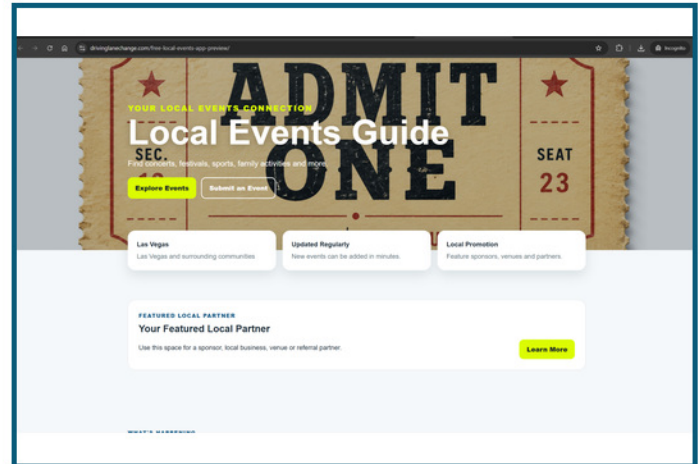
Use permanent hosting and a custom domain once you begin presenting the app professionally, attracting sponsors, collecting leads, or earning revenue.

WHY DOES THE APP LOOK DIFFERENT?

The app may look plain when opened from your hard drive, but polished after it is placed on a web server.



OPENED FROM THE HARD DRIVE



OPENED FROM A WEB SERVER

BEGINNER EXPLANATION

Your hard drive is storage, not a web server.

When you double-click index.html, the browser uses a file address beginning with file://. The browser may block or fail to load style sheets, scripts, images, fonts, or event data. The words may still appear, but the app can look like a plain document.

A web server sends all app files together.

A service such as Netlify gives the app a normal https:// address. It delivers index.html, CSS, JavaScript, images, and data in the way a website expects. That is why the hosted version looks complete.

The plain local preview does not automatically mean the app is broken.

Extract the ZIP and keep every app file and folder together. After editing, upload the extracted app folder - not the ZIP - to Netlify or another web host. Then test the public link.

BOTTOM LINE: Your hard drive stores the app. A web server presents it as a real website.

11. BEFORE YOU BEGIN SELLING

Use this checklist before accepting money from a business, group, or event organizer.



The app has a clear local focus and real events.



Your contact information and links work.



Sponsored and advertising placements are clearly identified.



Affiliate or referral relationships are disclosed.



Images, logos, and text are permitted for commercial use.



Prices and services are written clearly.



Businesses understand exactly what they receive.



No guaranteed-income claims are made.

THE APP IS THE ASSET.

Audience, relationships, promotion, and execution create the business.

12. GET HELP WHEN YOU GET STUCK

Do not panic. Capture what you see and ask a focused question.

1

Say which step you are on

Example: I am on Step 5, changing the hero image.

2

Copy the exact error

Do not paraphrase it. Copy the full message.

3

Upload a screenshot

A screenshot often reveals the problem immediately.

4

Say what you want changed

Name the title, image, event, color, or setting.

5

Ask for beginner instructions

Request one action at a time, with exact clicks.

6

Test one change

Save, preview, and return with the new result.

COPY-AND-PASTE PROMPT

I am a beginner working on the RSDLC Local Events App. I am on Step __. I want to change __. Here is my screenshot or exact error. Tell me exactly what to do next using simple step-by-step instructions.

NON-MEMBERS: ChatGPT assistance
for troubleshooting and beginner guidance.

RSDLC MEMBERS: ChatGPT +
RSDLC human support and monetization training.

13. FINAL LAUNCH CHECKLIST

Check each item before calling your app ready for public use.

☐

ZIP extracted before editing

☐

Sample events replaced or updated

☐

App previewed in a browser

☐

Files saved with File > Save

☐

App title and market changed

☐

Buttons and links tested

☐

Profile and contact information changed

☐

Live version tested

☐

Hero image selected and visible

☐

Backup copy of the working folder kept

☐

Overlay checked for readability

YOU DO NOT NEED TO KNOW EVERYTHING FIRST.

Make one change. Save it. Preview it. Continue.

That is how the app becomes yours - one successful step at a time.