

Tabs

For Safari on iPhone

When you open a page on Safari, for example:

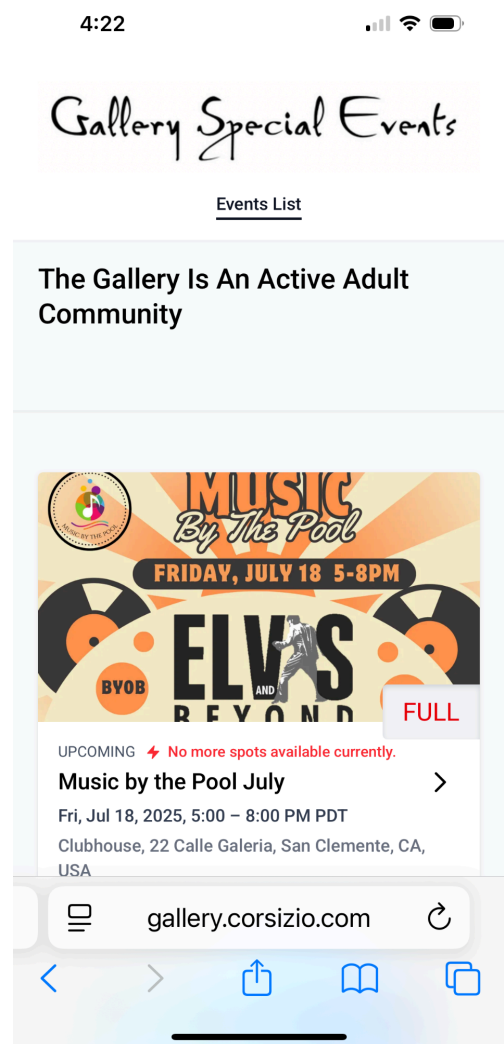
On the bottom, there are several icons (from left to right). We'll use those icon names in this article:

1. "Previous" icon "<" takes you to the previous tab
2. "Next" icon - ">" takes you to the next tab
3. "Share" icon - An open square with an upward arrow, takes you to various actions for the current webpage, such as copy the link, add to reading list, add to bookmark,...etc.
4. "Book" icon - an open book shape, takes you to your bookmarks, or Reading List, or browsing history.
5. "Tabs" icon - two overlapped squares, takes to the list of your open tabs

On the iPhone, a tab is like a new Safari window. Click on the "Tabs" icon (double overlapped squares) will take you to the list of your Safari tabs. If you have not set any tab folders, the default is "private" and "# Tabs" (where # is the total number of your open tabs). If the # is larger than 20, you probably better do something. Too many tabs will impact iPhone performance, consume memory space, and even drain the battery.

Manage Tabs

- How to see your tabs - As mentioned above, you can see all your tabs. The iPhone screen may hold 4-6 tabs. You have to roll up and down to see all tabs if you have more than the screen can display. You can use search to find a specific tab.
- How to select a tab (making it active) - Double click on the tab.
- How to create a new tab - click on the "+" sign on the left bottom.
- How to close a tab - Click on the "x" of that tab. Or, select and hold the tab you want to close, and click on "Close Tab"
- How to close all tabs - Select and hold any tab, and click on "Close Other Tabs". All gone! More accurately, it will close all tabs of that tab folder.



- How to close some tabs - Select and hold a tab, and click on “Select Tabs”, then select the tabs you want to close, and do “close” (bottom page). Viola!

Tabs are easy and handy but you don’t want to keep too many (although they can be organized in folders). They make your iPhone slow, and shorten battery life.

More advanced topic: Tab folders. You can organize your tabs into tab folders, such as “Sports”, “Travel” “Health”, etc. That way, you can store more tabs but still have easy access. I am not a fan of organizing tab folders. The main reason is that tabs consume iPhone resources.

The last topic on the “private” tabs. Private tabs will not track your browsing history. When you close the private tabs, there is no place you can get back. You can track your browsing history on any other tabs, except the “Private” tab.