

FREEDOM festival

WHAT TO EXPECT GUIDE

For audiences who may need to know more about Freedom Festival before they attend



FREEDOM FESTIVAL: A WHAT TO EXPECT GUIDE

Hello! We are Freedom Festival Arts Trust, and we make Freedom Festival happen.

This guide is going to explain what you can expect at Freedom Festival this year. We know for some audiences with additional access needs that knowing more about our shows can help you prepare for your visit. A **What To Expect Guide** will tell you what the Festival will be like as an audience member, so you can decide when to visit and what you would like to see. This guide is to be used alongside our **Festival Guide**. You will also find an Access Page on the Freedom Festival website, which covers accessible toilets and parking.



If you need any further information or have any questions, we want to hear from you. Email access@freedomfestival.co.uk or call 01482 818379 and ask to speak to someone about access.



FREEDOM festival



Zone 1



Zone 2



Zone 3

What is Freedom Festival?

Freedom Festival is an arts festival, which means for five days there are lots of events happening indoors and outdoors, including circus performers, music, exhibitions and dance.

Where is Freedom Festival?

There will be events across the city centre for the whole Festival. The events are organised into zones: Zone1, Zone 2 and Zone 3.



What will it be like on the day?

Most of Freedom Festival happens outdoors in public spaces. This means you can watch a show and leave at any time if you need to. There is no pressure to stay for the whole show if you can't do so, and you're welcome to leave and come back at any of our outdoor shows.

- Freedom Festival is a busy event, so there will be crowds, like at a concert or a sports event. It won't get too loud, but it may be noisier at certain shows!
- At most shows, at any time, you can move around if you need to, and you can ask questions.
- If you need support, Gig Buddies and Nice Twice Club have spaces on Princes Dock Street and we have roaming support offered by Elephant in the Room Inclusion Services and our friendly volunteers.
- Most events happen during the daytime and use natural light, but some shows will use different lighting. Any strobes or flashing will have a warning.
- Our indoor shows are all different, so we advise you check their description in the Festival Guide. If you need support accessing these shows, please let us know!

If you have any questions, you can ask a volunteer! They are here to help. They will be wearing their blue HEY Volunteering uniforms.



Some shows we recommend you come and see:

We've picked these shows as they are easy to follow, fun and suitable for all ages.

Check out our **Festival Guide** for more information!



Breath



Parade



Posse



Pirate Taxi

**Electric
Feel**



This What To Expect Guide is a companion to the full Festival Guide, which you should use alongside this guide. Here is last year's as an example.



The following pages cover what to expect at the shows at Freedom Festival 2025. This is designed for audiences with additional access needs, to support your visit and to help you plan what to see.



TICKETED EVENTS



THE GENESIS

This is an indoor ticketed contemporary circus performance at Hull Truck Theatre with 17 incredibly talented performers. It is fully seated.



THE TORCH

The show is indoors at Hull Truck Theatre. The Torch is a live piece of gig-theatre built on hip-hop, soul and Afrobeat, with live harp, synth and rap. It is fully seated.



NIGHT OF THE WEREWOLVES

Night of the Werewolves Live is an interactive comedy horror show where audiences will have to work out, accuse, and brutally 'murder' fellow audience members. There are adult and family versions.



You can book tickets on our website
<https://www.freedomfestival.co.uk/whats-on/>



CIRCUS



TAROO

Circus shows at Freedom Festival often get busy. All circus performances apart from The Genesis are outdoors, so you can move round and use as much space as you need. It's encouraged you make noise, talk, clap and cheer. Most shows use natural lighting.

**ELECTRIC
FEEL**



ANCHORED IN AIR



DUO CHAOS



PARADE



POSSE



SUMA



MUSIC AND DANCE

Parade and Posse move through the streets and stop at points to perform. The audience can move with them. We expect it to be loud and busy at these shows.

SUMA is performed in Queen Victoria Square. They use flashing lights in the performance. We expect it to be loud and busy at this show.



BEATS BUS



You can learn to beatbox with Beatsbus at their workshops. You should expect to take part at these sessions.



BUSK STOP

Keep an eye out across the festival for our pop up music performers. You can come and go as you please at these shows.



TAMAR AND JO



A music video themed party with mini performances and dance-alongs to the best pop music video dances old and new!

FREEDOM FILMS

We're excited to be bringing Freedom Films to Stage at the Dock this year. Curator Mosa Mpetha presents a film programme centring the stories of everyday heroes among us. Please check film certification before booking. Family friendly films are available.



STREET PERFORMANCES

Sliding Slope, Castaway, Pirate Taxi, Kakapo and son and Ichi are just some of the street performances at the festival- our street performances often attract large crowds. You should expect some audience interaction!



INTERACTIVE PLAY

We're thrilled to have some wonderfully interactive experiences at this year's festival- why not have a go at The Strange Travels of Mr Tonet and Pentagon?



PENTAGON

The Pentagon is a freestanding five-sided doodle art installation, uniquely designed by artist and cartoonist, Scott Walker. Have a relaxing colouring session..



THE STRANGE TRAVELS OF MR TONET

Discover a world full of sound and light through a series of boxed games that you can interact with. Take your time and enjoy this wonderful experience..

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