WHAT TO EXPECT
FESTIVAL SQUARE
What is the event?

Festival Square is an outdoor space with a free programme of live music and performance, as well as places to buy food and drink.

When is the event?

Festival Square is open from Friday 30th June until Sunday 16th July.

It is closed on Mondays.

What time is Festival Square open?

Festival Square is open:

- Tuesdays: 12pm-12am
- Wednesdays: 12pm-12am
- Thursdays: 12pm-1am
- Fridays: 12pm-2am
- Saturdays: 10am-2am
- Sundays: 10am-2am
Venue entrance

You can enter Festival Square through the archway which has triangle shapes around it opposite the River entrance to Aviva Studios.

You can also come in through another arch which looks the same and is near the railway bridge coming from Liverpool Road.

If you have brought a bag with you, the security staff will need you to open it before you come in so they can check what’s inside.

Point of assistance

There will be volunteers around Festival Square who can help you. They will be wearing blue t-shirts and blue lanyards.

There will be an access volunteer standing in front of the accessible viewing platform.

Tickets

There are no tickets needed for Festival Square. You can visit whenever you like, as often as you like.

When Festival Square is busy, you might have to queue to get in. If you will find it hard to queue for access reasons, talk to a member of the team.
Accessible Viewing Platform

There is an accessible viewing platform facing the stage in Festival Square. You can sit here if you need a wheelchair space, a seat, or to be out of the crowd for access reasons.

There will be a steward at the bottom of the ramp who can help you find a space on the platform.

Seating in Festival Square

There is a mix of seating in Festival Square, including seats and benches with arms and backs.

There are picnic tables close to the food stalls.

You can sit wherever you like.

About the space

The area of Festival Square closest to the building is under cover and is the stage and performance area. It is likely to be crowded, noisy and busy on this side of the square in the evenings as lots of people want to see the performers.

The area closer to the river will have seats and picnic tables to enjoy food and drink. It may get busy here at sometimes too, but there is space to spread out.
What to expect at the event

Festival Square is a place to relax, meet up with friends and enjoy lots of live music and performance.

On the stage, you will see everything from live bands and DJ sets to family-friendly fun, spoken word and talks. There will be lots of different types of music.

During the daytime, the acts and the atmosphere will be more relaxed, and in the evening, it will be more lively, loud and energetic.

You can stand or sit in front of the stage, near the performances, or you can choose to sit away from the stage, closer to the river.

Audience behaviour

People at Festival Square might be clapping and cheering for the acts they have enjoyed.

At some times, people might be dancing in front of the stage area, or in other places around the square.

You can join in with clapping, cheering and dancing if you want to, but you don’t have to.

You can get up, move around, and leave the Square whenever you need to.

Housekeeping information

If you need a break, our team can help you find a quieter part of Festival Square, or you can go inside our building, Aviva Studios – which is next to Festival Square – where there are quieter places to sit.

There will be ear defenders available to borrow from the team in Festival Square, or you are welcome to bring your own.
Most days, there will be a BSL interpreter at Festival Square to interpret the performance at 5pm.

Facilities

Toilets:
Toilets, including accessible toilets and a Changing Place, are inside Aviva Studios. They are in the brick arches at the back of the Social.

If you need to leave Festival Square to go to the toilets inside Aviva Studios, someone will stamp your hand. If you don’t want this to happen, you can say no.

Food and drink:
You can buy food and drinks inside Festival Square from the wooden stalls. There is a big choice of different food.

You can also buy food and drinks inside Aviva Studios, in the Social.

Access contact
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