

# The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

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# The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland



England –  
the land of festivals.

# Bath Fringe Festival

- ❑ Bath Fringe was founded in 1981
- ❑ In many ways the Bath Fringe was a direct descendant of the Walcot Festivals of the 1970s and 1980s, which had included elements of theatre, pop festival, and local creativity, supported by Bath Arts Workshop
- ❑ The festival is among the oldest continually operating in England, and includes around 200 events, taking place around the late May Bank Holiday, running for 17 days at the end of May and beginning of June.

# Cooper's Hill Cheese-Rolling

- ❑ The Cooper's Hill Cheese-Rolling and Wake is an annual festival held on the Spring Bank Holiday at Cooper's Hill, near Gloucester in the Cotswolds region of England
- ❑ The event is traditional. In recent years, it has been managed in a quasi-official manner, but the events of 2010 and 2011 took place spontaneously without any management. Spectators were furious at the prospect of being charged a £20 entry fee.
- ❑ From the top of the hill a round of Double Gloucester cheese is rolled, and competitors race down the hill after it. The first person over the finish line at the bottom of the hill wins the cheese.

# Glastonbury Festival

- ❑ The Glastonbury Festival of Contemporary Performing Arts, commonly abbreviated to Glastonbury or even Glasto, is a performing arts festival that takes place near Pilton, Somerset, England, best known for its contemporary music, but also for dance, comedy, theatre, circus, cabaret and other arts.
  
- ❑ Since 1981, the festival has been organised by local farmer and site owner Michael Eavis (through his company Glastonbury Festivals Ltd)

# Notting Hill Carnival

- ❑ The Notting Hill Carnival is an annual event which since 1964 has taken place on the streets of Notting Hill, Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, London, UK each August, over two days
- ❑ It is led by members of the West Indian community, particularly the Trinidadian and Tobagonian British population or 'Trinis', many of whom have lived in the area since the 1950s
- ❑ The carnival has attracted up to 2 million people making it the second largest street festival in the world after the Rio Carnival held in Brazil

# City of London Festival

- ❑ The City of London Festival is an annual arts festival that takes place in the City of London, England, over two to three weeks in June and July
- ❑ The Festival is strongly geared towards classical music, but also offers a programme that includes jazz, world music, opera, film screenings, lectures and guided tours.
- ❑ Performances are usually held within local venues including some of London's ornate churches, St Paul's Cathedral and Livery Company Halls.



# Northern Ireland



# Festivals in Northern Ireland:

- Belfast Festival at Queens;
- St Patrick's Festival;
- City of Derry Drama Festival

# BELFAST AND THE NORTH



# Belfast Festival at Queens

The Festival covers all art forms including theatre, dance, classical music, literature, jazz, comedy, visual arts, folk music and popular music. It attracts over 100,000 visitors.



# St. Patrick's Festival

Saint Patrick's Festival is celebrated as a national holiday. The Festival involves a lot of delightful events. It attracts around 1 million people.







## City of Derry Drama festival

The Festival offers some fantastic opportunities to watch the classical and entertaining dramas of the region.





# Festivals in Scotland

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Scotland

# Edinburgh International Festival

The **Edinburgh International Festival** is a festival of performing arts that takes place in the city of Edinburgh, over three weeks from around the middle of August

The International Festival brings top class performers of music (especially classical music), theatre, opera and dance from around the world to perform. The festival also hosts a series of visual art exhibitions, talks and workshops.



*The festival was started in the year 1947, after the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War as a means of providing the spirit of life and rejuvenate the people of the entire world*



*In 1999, the  
Edinburgh  
International  
Festival  
moved to a  
permanent  
home in*

*The Hub*

# *Braemar Gathering and Highland Games*

An annual [Highland Games Gathering](#) is held at Braemar on the first Saturday in September and is traditionally attended by the [British Royal Family](#). It features the finest Pipe Bands, pipers, Highland dancers.



# Beltane's Day



- A pagan fire festival which goes back to pre-Christian times - originating with Baal in Phoenicia. It was supposed to encourage the crops to grow. There has been a holiday at the start of May in many parts of Scotland for centuries.





# Hogmanay



Hogmanay is still a more important festival in Scotland than Christmas. They inherited the celebration from the Vikings and have a long rich heritage associated with this event.

# Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo

is an annual series of Military tattoos performed by British Armed Forces, Commonwealth and International Military Bands and display teams .

The event takes place annually throughout August, as part of the Edinburgh Festival.

Although the first Tattoo in Edinburgh, entitled "Something About a Soldier", took place at the Ross Bandstand at Princes Street Gardens in 1949, the first official Edinburgh Military Tattoo began in 1950 with just eight items in the programme.



*Now, on average, just over 217,000 people see the Tattoo live on the esplanade of Edinburgh Castle each year*

Welsh festivals.





# Saint David's Day

- **Saint David's Day** is the feast day of Saint David, the patron saint of Wales, and falls on 1 March each year. The date of 1 March was chosen in remembrance of the death of Saint David. Tradition holds that he died on that day in 589. The date was declared a national day of celebration within Wales in the 18th century.
- To celebrate this day, people wear a symbol of either a leek, or daffodil. The leek arises from an occasion when a troop of Welsh were able to distinguish each other from a troop of English enemy dressed in similar fashion by wearing leeks. An alternative emblem developed in recent years is the daffodil.

# National Eisteddfod of Wales

- The National Eisteddfod of Wales is one of the great festivals of the world, attracting over 160,000 visitors every year. An eclectic mixture of culture, music, visual arts and all kinds of activities for people of all ages, there's something for everyone on the Maes during the first week of August every year. It's an ideal opportunity to promote and encourage people to use and learn Welsh locally, to take part in cultural activities in their area, and it's also a great opportunity to promote the region as a tourist destination.

# Cardiff Design Festival

- Cardiff Design Festival is an annual celebration of design in October. There's a program of design related events that inform, inspire and provoke. And The Best of Welsh Design is showcase of design talent in Wales.