

# Major Events, Exhibitions and Festivals

January to December 2018

This round-up gives vital media information about events in Brighton & Hove. While every care has been taken to ensure that all the events listed are accurate at the time of going to press, VisitBrighton cannot be held responsible for any errors, omissions or subsequent alterations. For more information, as well as images, please contact [media@visitbrighton.com](mailto:media@visitbrighton.com).

## Headlines

### Snailspace Brighton & Hove

As the leaves turn golden in Autumn 2018, Martlets and Wild in Art will be coming out of their shells as The Snailway arrives in Brighton & Hove.

Snail sculptures will be popping up throughout the city, decorated by local artists and community groups with the support of philanthropic local businesses.

#BeMoreSnail and take the slow road around our city. Wander wherever the urge takes you.

Wonder at the unique sculptures – enjoy and share experiences with friends old and new.

### Royal Pavilion Estate

Combining a royal palace and Regency garden, a museum and art gallery and three performing art spaces, the estate is the cultural heart of Brighton & Hove. Phase one of the future development of the estate is due to be completed in Autumn 2018 including: improvements to the Studio Theatre with a new ground floor bar & café opening on to New Road; creation of a new Corn Exchange viewing gallery; transformation of the Corn Exchange with new seating and a dedicated creative space. [brightondome.org/our\\_future](http://brightondome.org/our_future)

### Volks Railway

The country's oldest electric railway will have a brand new purpose-built heritage visitor centre at the Aquarium station to tell the story of Magnus Volk and his pioneering railway. Three of the original carriages will be restored which will increase the capacity on the railway.

[www.visitbrighton.com](http://www.visitbrighton.com)

## New Openings

### Hotel Indigo

The new hotel is due to open in August 2018 with 98 boutique rooms and conveniently located at the back of Brighton Station, just a few minutes from the bohemian shops of the North Laine. All the rooms will feature rainfall showers and free Wi-Fi and there will also be superior rooms with four-poster beds. [www.ihg.com](http://www.ihg.com)

## Sea Lanes

A proposal has been put forward for a 25 metre heated pool on Madeira Drive (between Brighton Palace Pier and Brighton Marina) next to Yellowwave Beach Sports Centre. The new attraction aims to open in June 2018, subject to planning approval.

## EVENTS

### JANUARY

#### 5 to 14 January

##### **Holiday on Ice: TIME - Brighton Centre**

The spectacular ice show returns to the Brighton Centre for its only UK tour date. The new show TIME will celebrate the best and most memorable times of our lives featuring music from the Universal Music Publishing catalogue. [brightoncentre.co.uk](http://brightoncentre.co.uk)

#### 25 January to 10 February

##### **War Horse - Brighton Centre**

The National Theatre's acclaimed production of War Horse, embarks on a major tour of the UK, coming to The Brighton Centre for the first time. The tour of War Horse coincides with the Centenary commemorations of the end of the First World War and follows the production's enormously successful tour of the UK and Ireland in 2013-2014. [brightoncentre.co.uk](http://brightoncentre.co.uk)

### FEBRUARY

#### 10 to 18 February

##### **Brighton Science Festival - Citywide**

Get your geek on! Past events have included Lego Robots, Dinosaurs, a chance to build your own games console and The Simpsons & their Mathematical Secrets. [www.brightonscience.com](http://www.brightonscience.com)

#### 24 to 25 February

##### **Brighton Tattoo Convention – Brighton Centre**

The convention has grown year on year into a major event on the world tattoo calendar. The Brighton Tattoo Convention welcomes over 300 world class tattooists, scores of traders, exhibitions and of course thousands of visitors to The Brighton Centre on the iconic sea front. [brightontattoo.com/](http://brightontattoo.com/)

#### 25 February

##### **The Grand - Brighton Half Marathon - Brighton Seafront**

The Grand Brighton Half Marathon 2018 is on Sunday 25 February. A beautiful seafront course, amazing crowd support and one of the first half marathons on the running calendar is an event not to miss. [www.brightonhalfmarathon.com](http://www.brightonhalfmarathon.com)

## MARCH

### 3<sup>rd</sup> March

#### The Big Cheese Festival

The event will feature a plethora of the finest international cheesemakers and mongers showcasing their amazing cheeses. Wander your way around our food court and sample a selection of delicacies, all with one thing in common...You've guessed it, CHEESE.

<https://www.thebigcheesefestival.co.uk/>

### 24 to 25 March

#### VegFest UK - Brighton Centre

Europe's prime vegan festival VegfestUK will be back at the Brighton Centre for a weekend of vegan food, shopping and education! [brighton.vegfest.co.uk](http://brighton.vegfest.co.uk)

### 18 March

#### Pioneer Run - Madeira Drive

Pioneer Run is a must-see event with more than 300 machines and their 'careful owners' there for your amazement and enjoyment. This huge museum-for-a-day gives a fascinating insight into the very early history of the motorbike, as it evolved from the bicycle. [www.sunbeam-mcc.co.uk](http://www.sunbeam-mcc.co.uk)

## APRIL

### 13 to 15 April

#### Brighton Marathon Weekend - Ends Madeira Drive

The Brighton Marathon is one of the UK's favourite 26.2-milers. With a stunning backdrop of the sea in one of the country's most vibrant cities, the race gets bigger and better every year. Renowned for its buzzing atmosphere and roaring crowd support, the course winds through the city streets, finishing up on the spectacular Brighton seafront [www.brightonmarathon.co.uk](http://www.brightonmarathon.co.uk)

### 21 April

#### Ace Café Reunion 'inCarNation'- Madeira Drive

Calling all Petrol heads! Brighton's famous seafront road, Madeira Drive will again host the UK's finest on four wheels as Ace Cafe London present the 5th annual InCarNation Brighton. [www.ace-cafe-london.com](http://www.ace-cafe-london.com)

## MAY - THE Festival Month!

### 5 to 7 May

#### Foodies Festival - Hove Lawns

The UK's largest celebration of food & drink will see visitors flock to Hove Lawns to enjoy an array of culinary activities including a live entertainment stage, cooking demonstrations and tasty treats from some of the top city restaurants. [www.foodiesfestival.com](http://www.foodiesfestival.com)

### 6 May

#### Historic Commercial Vehicle Run

The London to Brighton Run of the Historical Commercial Vehicle Society is one of the best of the year's events along the Drive. Around 200 vehicles are entered, covering a wide range of both historic periods and commercial functions. <http://www.hcvs.co.uk>

#### Weekends throughout May

#### Artists' Open Houses - Citywide

**For all things Brighton & Hove: [www.visitbrighton.com](http://www.visitbrighton.com)**

Artists' Open Houses is the biggest free arts event in the UK, with over 1,000 artists exhibiting in 200 houses and art studios opened to the public across the city. [www.aoh.org.uk](http://www.aoh.org.uk)

#### **4 May to 3<sup>rd</sup> June**

##### **Spiegeltent**

Outdoor site at the heart of Brighton Fringe! A great place to hang out & see shows, with 2 venues, amazing pub, lovely food & fun gorgeous gardens! Escape & Explore in Spiegel world!  
<http://www.brightonspiegeltent.com/>

#### **4 May to 3 June**

##### **Brighton Fringe – Citywide**

The Brighton Fringe is one of the world's largest fringe festivals. Brighton Fringe runs alongside (and beyond!) the Brighton Festival with cabaret, comedy, classical concerts, club nights, theatre and exhibitions, as well as street performances throughout the city. [www.brightonfringe.org.uk](http://www.brightonfringe.org.uk)

#### **5 to 27 May**

##### **Brighton Festival - Citywide**

The largest multi-arts festival in England, the Brighton Festival hosts a sensational programme of art, theatre, dance, music, literature and family shows. The 2018 Guest Director is the Brighton-based visual artist David Shrigley. In addition to new work from David Shrigley, the festival will also feature exclusives, world and UK premieres from a wide range of international, national and local artists and companies. [www.brightonfestival.org](http://www.brightonfestival.org)

#### **20 May**

##### **Mini Run – Madeira Drive**

One of the biggest runs along Madeira Drive with parked minis stretching all the way from the Sealife Centre to Blackrock. In addition, the Mini Run is also an enormous market. Madeira Drive is full of market stalls selling everything and anything you could want for your mini.  
<https://www.l2bminirun.co.uk/>

#### **17 to 19 May**

##### **The Great Escape - Citywide**

Since its launch The Great Escape festival has established itself as the place to catch the next big thing. Over the years acts that have played the festival have gone on to become household names including: Adele, White Lies, Kasabian, Mumford & Sons, Tinie Tempah, Ellie Goulding, Chase & Status, Foster the People, Rizzle Kicks, Jake Bugg, George Ezra and Royal Blood  
[www.escapegreat.com](http://www.escapegreat.com)

#### **19 May**

##### **Brighton Music Run – Madeira Drive**

Brighton's newest event! Run, dance, sing your way around the 5k beachfront course to a variety of musical genres and combine two of Brighton's biggest loves - music and running.  
<https://www.brightonmusicrun.com/>

#### **25 to 28 May**

##### **Elderflower Fields Festival – Pippingford Park**

A family friendly festival set in the stunning Sussex countryside. The event includes fun activities, locally sourced food and an eclectic mix of live music acts. [www.elderflowerfields.co.uk](http://www.elderflowerfields.co.uk)

#### **26 to 27 May**

##### **Funk the Family Festival - Hove Park**

**For all things Brighton & Hove: [www.visitbrighton.com](http://www.visitbrighton.com)**

Funk the Family is a rather splendid, all-day festival, born in Brighton & Hove with an emphasis on really high quality, live music, paired with brilliant entertainment, for all the family.

[www.funkthefamily.co.uk](http://www.funkthefamily.co.uk)

## **28 May**

### **Hove Carnival – Hove Park**

Hove's **free** fun family event is back on Bank Holiday Monday.

<https://www.themartlets.org.uk/Event/martlets-hove-carnival>

## **JUNE**

### **2 to 3 June**

#### **Vegan Summer Festival Brighton - The Level**

A huge outdoor vegan celebration taking place at The Level, Union Road, Brighton with over 100 stalls, cookery demonstrations, talks, children's activities, bars and live music.

<http://www.veggies.org.uk>

### **14 June – 15 July**

#### **Brighton's Big Screen – venue tbc**

Live Sport, Blockbuster, Classic & Family movies on the UK's largest cinema on Brighton beach!

<http://brightonsbigscreen.com/>

### **14 to 17 June**

#### **Brighton Bear Weekender - City Wide**

Brighton Bear Weekend is an annual event for bears, cubs and friends in Brighton on the south coast of England. [brightonbearweekend.com](http://brightonbearweekend.com)

### **17 June**

#### **BHF London to Brighton Bike Ride - End Madeira Drive**

The annual bike ride from the capital to the coast in aid of the British Heart Foundation is the UK's largest charity bike ride with 27,000 riders. <https://www.bhf.org.uk/get-involved/events/bike-rides/london-to-brighton-bike-ride-2018>

## **JULY**

### **7 to 8 July**

#### **Paddle Round The Pier – Hove Lawns**

A weekend of beach events which gets bigger every year, Paddle Round the Pier invites all kinds of vessels to take to the sea and spectators to enjoy the festivities on-land.

[www.paddleroundthepier.com](http://www.paddleroundthepier.com)

### **7 to 8 July**

#### **Kite Festival – Stanmer Park**

A perfect family event, the Brighton Kite Festival is one of the longest running kite festivals in the UK, flying for over 35 years. [www.brightonkiteflyers.co.uk](http://www.brightonkiteflyers.co.uk)

## **AUGUST**

### **3 to 5 August**

#### **Pride - City Wide**

The celebration of LGBT life in the UK's 'gay capital' includes a huge, colourful Pride Parade through the city with floats, music and amazing costumes, and a big party in Preston Park. Great fun, Pride is open, accessible and suitable for all. [www.brighton-pride.org](http://www.brighton-pride.org)

### **18 to 19 August**

#### **Thai Festival - Preston Park**

Experience the taste of Thailand this summer and enjoy with all the family. Thai beer garden, traditional music and dancing, world class food and children's play area [www.magicofthailand.co.uk](http://www.magicofthailand.co.uk)

## **SEPTEMBER**

### **1 September**

#### **Speed Trials - Madeira Drive**

Britain's oldest motor racing event first staged in 1905, showcasing a wide range of cars and motorbikes racing over a quarter of a mile along Brighton's historic beachfront.

[www.brightonrun.co.uk](http://www.brightonrun.co.uk)

### **9 September**

#### **Brighton Burn Up (Ace Café) - Madeira Drive**

The Brighton Burn Up & Ride with the Rockers, has been an integral part of Ace Cafe Reunions since 1996, and is a free, grand day out at the seaside on Brighton's famous seafront road, Madeira Drive. With trade and club stands and displays, live music and special guests, it's an experience not to be missed! [www.ace-cafe-london.com](http://www.ace-cafe-london.com)

### **15 to 16 September**

#### **Fiery Food Festival - Victoria Gardens**

The Fiery Foods Festival is back and it is bigger, better and badder than ever before! Lots to do for all the family! <http://fieryfoodsuk.co.uk>

### **15 to 16 September**

#### **The Sport & Fitness Show and Brighton Triathlon - City Wide**

Brighton and Hove seafront will provide the iconic backdrop to the official Brighton and Hove Triathlon. Now in its third year, Professional Triathletes, and first-timers alike will commence their race along Brighton & Hove Seafront. Alongside of the event there will also be a Sport & Fitness show which promises to be fun and inspirational packed with the widest range of sports and fitness experiences, demos from top fitness brands and nutrition experts, and exciting new technology. [www.brightonandhovetriathlon.com](http://www.brightonandhovetriathlon.com) / [www.sportandfitnessshow.com](http://www.sportandfitnessshow.com)

### **22 September (TBC)**

#### **The Color Run – Madeira Drive**

Dubbed 'The Happiest 5k on the Planet', the concept is simple; dress in white, run, walk, skip or hop 5km with your friends, family or colleagues and finish the day head-to-toe in kaleidoscopic colour, having incredible amounts of fun along the way.

## **OCTOBER**

## **7 October**

### **Bright 10 - Hove Lawns**

Get yourself to the start line and enjoy this fast and accurately measured course that takes in all the highlights of the fantastic city. With up to 5,000 runner registrations expected, and over the classic 10 mile race distance, the Bright 10 is a very achievable challenge event. It's hoped that the classic 10 mile distance will resonate with both a traditional and new audience.

[www.bright10.co.uk](http://www.bright10.co.uk)

## **11 to 13 October**

### **Oktober Fest – The Level**

Taking place inside one of Europe's largest bier tents for a Bavarian style festival including a showcase some of the best and authentic oompah bands from around the world across all sessions. Plus a large selection of traditional German foods plus those all-important steins!

## **14 October**

### **Brightona – Madeira Drive**

There will be live music, trade stalls, competitions, bikes, hotrods, trikes, scooters and lots more! With thousands of people flooding to Brighton on the South coast, whether you are a bike enthusiast, love a bit of rock and roll or just enjoy a day out with your friends and family – this is the event for you! <http://www.brightona.co.uk/>

## **26 October to 11 November**

### **Brighton Early Music Festival – Citywide**

The second-largest early music festival in the UK, the festival is well known for its lively and inspired programming, with events exploring different art forms and performance formats. The theme for 2018 will explore Britain's long and often tempestuous relationship with the rest of the Continent from medieval times onwards [www.bremf.org.uk](http://www.bremf.org.uk)

## **NOVEMBER**

## **2 November**

### **Coles Fireworks – Preston Park**

Funfair & firework display. <https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/event/funfair-and-family-fireworks>

## **3 November**

### **Family Firework Spectacular – Nevill Recreation Ground**

Award winning fireworks to music. <http://www.familyfireworks.co.uk/>

## **4 November**

### **London to Brighton Veteran Car Run - Ends on Madeira Drive**

This annual event commemorates the Emancipation Run of 14 November 1896. Today, this run attracts hundreds of vintage vehicles from the UK and abroad as well as thousands of spectators. A fantastic photo opportunity! [www.lbvcr.com](http://www.lbvcr.com)

**Date tbc**

**CineCity - Various venues**

**For all things Brighton & Hove: [www.visitbrighton.com](http://www.visitbrighton.com)**

Celebrating the best in local, national and international film on screens across the city, events include premieres and previews, artists' cinema and installations, treasures from the archive, retrospectives, free education screenings and events, talks and debates. [www.cine-city.co.uk](http://www.cine-city.co.uk)

**Date tbc**

**Royal Pavilion Ice Rink - Royal Pavilion**

Situated in the gardens of Brighton's iconic pleasure palace, the Royal Pavilion, this beautiful outdoor ice-rink allows up to 250 skaters per session, with penguin stabilisers for younger skaters and a learners area for the unsure-footed. There will be a restaurant and vantage point, offering great views of the colourfully lit Royal Pavilion [www.royalpavilionicerink.co.uk](http://www.royalpavilionicerink.co.uk)

**DECEMBER**

**First three weekends in December**

**Christmas Artists' Open Houses - Citywide**

Explore over 100 houses across the city, to see and buy the work of local artists, or to simply enjoy a mince pie and mulled wine. [www.aoh.org.uk](http://www.aoh.org.uk)

**21 December**

**Burning the Clocks - Winter Solstice Parade, ends on Brighton Beach**

The dark grip of long wintry nights is broken by a flicker of light... Started in 1993, Burning the Clocks represents an alternative to the commercial Christmas. Thousands of people gather to make paper and willow lanterns to carry through the city before burning them on the beach as a token for the end of the year and to greet the lengthening days. [www.burningtheclocks.co.uk](http://www.burningtheclocks.co.uk)