

Major Events, Exhibitions and Festivals

January to December 2019

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.

Headlines

Hanningtons Estate

Once the home of Hanningtons department store, or 'The Harrods of Brighton', Hanningtons Estate is undergoing a huge transformation under the ownership of Redevco, with a projected opening of spring 2019. Already home to several well-known high street brands, the Estate will blend a mix of old and new to attract retailers and create a place people want to explore, meet, eat, drink and shop. The plans include the creation of a new entrance to The Lanes and will provide modern stores, cafes and restaurants, apartments and offices, enhancing the city's already vibrant retail and leisure offer.

<http://www.hanningtonsestate.com/>

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. Royal Pavilion & Museums and Brighton & Hove City Council are working together on a plan to continue to protect and restore this rich heritage, starting with a major refurbishment of Brighton Dome Corn Exchange and Studio Theatre. The aim is to reconnect and revitalise the historic buildings and gardens as one; to create a world-class cultural destination for heritage, culture and the performing arts infused with the vibrant spirit of Brighton past, present and future.

brightondome.org/our_future

9 June

Elton John Farewell Yellow Brick Road Tour - 1st Central County Ground, Hove

Elton John's eagerly anticipated Farewell Yellow Brick Road Tour visits Brighton and Hove in June. Elton first played at the home of Sussex Cricket 12 years ago, and this will be his third visit to The 1st Central County Ground, a venue he enjoys playing very much.

<https://sussexcricket.co.uk/news/elton-john-kicks-uk-leg-farewell-tour-1st-central-county-ground>

EVENTS

JANUARY

21 to 26 January

The Full Monty – Theatre Royal

Based on the smash hit film and adapted for the stage by Oscar-winning writer Simon Beaufoy, this hilarious and heartfelt production of The Full Monty has taken the world by storm and become one of Britain's most successful shows.

<https://www.atgtickets.com/shows/the-full-monty-the-play-by-simon-beaufoy/theatre-royal-brighton/>

FEBRUARY

16 to 24 February tbc

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

23 to 24 February

Brighton Tattoo Convention – Brighton Centre

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 seafront. The convention has grown year on year into a major event on the world tattoo calendar.

www.brightontattoo.com

24 February

The Grand - Brighton Half Marathon - Brighton Seafront

2019 will be the 29th year of The Grand Brighton Half Marathon. One of the first major half marathons in the running calendar, the race is now one of the most popular in the UK.

www.brightonhalfmarathon.com

MARCH

24 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

APRIL

6 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 9th annual InCarNation Brighton.

www.ace-cafe-london.com

13 to 14 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

MAY - The Festival Month!

3 May to 2 June

Spiegelent

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.brightonspiegelent.com/>

3 May to 2 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.

<https://www.brightonfringe.org/>

4 to 6 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

4 to 26 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 2019 Guest Director is Malian singer, songwriter and multi-instrumentalist Rokia Traoré.

<https://brightonfestival.org/>

Weekends throughout May

Artists' Open Houses - Citywide

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

9 to 11 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.

<https://greatestescapefestival.com/>

11 May

Brighton Run|2|Music – Madeira Drive

After the success of last year's event, Brighton Run|2|Music is expanding to include a 10K and Half Marathon route starting from the same iconic spot under the arches of Madeira Drive. The 5K and 10K runs will have the same fun run feel, with an emphasis on enjoyment, while the half-marathon gives runners the opportunity to stretch themselves.

<https://www.brightonrun2music.com/>

12 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>

19 May

Mini Run – Madeira Drive

One of the biggest runs along Madeira Drive with parked minis stretching all the way from Sea Life Brighton 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/>

24 to 27 May

Elderflower Fields Festival – Pippingford Park

An award winning three day festival, designed especially for families with children. A wild weekend adventure, packed full of music, sports, nature and the arts, all set in the heart of the beautiful Sussex countryside.

www.elderflowerfields.co.uk

JUNE

1 June

Kemptown Carnival

Brighton's much loved Kemptown Carnival is set to return in style on June 1st 2019, in partnership with the Brighton Palace Pier.

<http://kemptowncarnival.com/>

2 June

London to Brighton Classic Kit & Sports Car Run

Madeira Drive is the finish line for this fun day out for sports car enthusiasts. All kit, sports and replica cars are welcome to join!

<https://www.classicmotorevents.co.uk/kit-and-sports>

8 to 9 June

Brighton Vegan Festival

Annual vegan festival at The Level.

13 to 16 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

For all things Brighton & Hove: www.visitbrighton.com

16 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 participants.

<https://www.bhf.org.uk/how-you-can-help/events/bike-rides/london-to-brighton-bike-ride-2019>

JULY

6 to 7 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

13 to 14 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 nearly 40 years.

www.brightonkiteflyers.co.uk

26 July to 26 August

Luna Beach Cinema – Seafront

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

<https://www.lunabeachcinema.com/>

AUGUST

2 to 4 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

17 to 18 August

Magic of Thailand

Annual Thai festival at Preston Park.

<http://www.magicofthailand.co.uk>

SEPTEMBER

7 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.

<http://www.brightonandhovemotorclub.co.uk>

7 September

Memory Walk

Sponsored walk for Alzheimer's Society.

<https://www.memorywalk.org.uk>

For all things Brighton & Hove: www.visitbrighton.com

8 September

K9 Challenge

A unique, fun, running with dogs event combining exercise with your best four-legged friend. Run or walk 5 kilometres through Stanmer Park's beautiful woodland.

<https://www.letsdothis.com/e/brighton-k9-challenge-92451>

8 September

Ace Café reunion: Brighton Burn Up

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!

<https://london.acecafe.com>

14 to 15 September

Brighton Triathlon - City Wide

Brighton and Hove seafront will provide the iconic backdrop to the official Brighton and Hove Triathlon. Now in its fourth year, Professional Triathletes and first-timers alike will commence their race along Brighton & Hove Seafront. There is also a Scootathlon for children aged 3 to 8 on the Saturday and an Event Village to explore all weekend.

www.brightonandhovetriathlon.com

22 September

Apple Day

Have a thoroughly apple-themed day at our annual seasonal celebration in and around the Stanmer orchards.

<https://brightonpermaculture.org.uk/courses/appleday>

28 September

Boundary Festival

Boundary is a Brighton-based electronic music festival, taking over Stanmer Park for a daytime party every September.

<https://boundarybrighton.com/>

OCTOBER

6 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

11 to 12 October

October Fest – The Level

Annual beer festival held in a giant tent.

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

13 October

Brightona

Brightona started from very humble beginnings at Brighton Marina in 2004 and is now one of the biggest charity motorcycle events in the south of England.

<http://brightona.co.uk/>

27 October

Halloween Fun Run – Hove Lawns

This spooktacular fun run is suitable for the whole family – runners and walkers must arrive in fancy dress! All finishers will receive a monster medal and a trick or treat goody bag.

25 October to 10 November

Brighton Early Music Festival – Citywide

The second-largest early music festival in the UK, this is well known for its lively and inspired programming, with events exploring different art forms and performance formats.

www.bremf.org.uk

NOVEMBER

2 November

Family Firework Spectacular – Nevill Recreation Ground

Award-winning fireworks set to music.

<https://nevillfireworks.co.uk/>

3 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.veterancarrun.com

Dates tbc

CineCity - Various venues

For two weeks every November, CINECITY brings the best in world cinema to Brighton. The festival encompasses film screenings, exhibitions, Q&As, live scores, retrospectives and pop-ups; screening an eclectic mix of international previews and premieres, treasures from the archive, artists' moving image and live cinema events.

www.cine-city.co.uk

Dates 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 also be a restaurant and vantage point, offering great views of the colourfully lit Royal Pavilion

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 simply to enjoy a mince pie and mulled wine.

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