

LEICESTER RIVERSIDE FESTIVAL

SATURDAY 1 & SUNDAY 2 JUNE 2024

25
Years!



**Bede Park, Western Boulevard, River Soar, DMU Campus
and Castle Gardens**

Introduction



Leicester's biggest free family festival is set to bring the city's waterways and parks alive once again with a fun-packed programme of activities for all ages.

The annual Riverside Festival returns on Saturday 1 and Sunday 2 June, spread over five areas: Bede Park, Castle Gardens, Western Boulevard, the Mile Straight of the River Soar and De Montfort University (DMU) Campus.

Celebrating 25 Years!

Leicester's first Riverside Festival started back in 1997 and was a simple Sunday afternoon event on the banks of the River Soar. Over the past 25 years the festival has developed into Leicester's largest free festival, with a weekend of programming across multiple sites and up to 40,000 visitors.

2024 will be no exception and we are pleased to announce our new partnership with De Montfort University, enabling more opportunity for the festivals growth.



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Music

Leicester has an incredibly rich history when it comes to music and the city has produced some outstanding artists.

The Riverside Festival has supported hundreds of local singers, bands and performers over its 25 years. The Main Stage, generously sponsored by JTH, will return to the Piazza hosting a weekend of eclectic sounds from some of Leicester's most talented musicians, including from HQ Records, EAVA FM and 2 Funky Arts.

New for 2024!

Ibiza Classics

A Chilled Ibiza Classics DJ tent on Bede Park, creating that summer vibe to kick off the event season.

Dance Creatives

Sunday
Pop-up dance performances around site from DMU, Curve, Darbar, Nupur Arts.

Stick It On

Saturday
Look out for the DJ Dance Floor on DMU Campus with Stick It On; a wonderfully unique activity where the audience become the DJ giving you 15 minutes of fame to rock the dance floor.



Heritage Trail



Leicester
Storyofleicester.info

The Riverside Festival sits on a site of incredible history, so take the opportunity over the weekend to visit some of these key locations and landmarks including Castle Motte, St Mary De Castro Church ground, The Magazine, Newarke Houses Museum and The Stephen Lawrence Research Centre.

Some DMU buildings will only be open on Saturday from 12noon including, Trinity Chapel, DMU Museum, Leicester Castle Business School, and DMU The Gallery.

As well as the self-guided Heritage Trail, where you can stroll through thousands of years of history, there are opportunities to view physical and digital photography archives.

Leicester Museums

Visit the 1950s fire engine and 164, Leyland double decker bus from the Leicester Museums Technology Association.

Cabinet of Curiosity is out on tour! Bringing together objects and artifacts from the natural world.

Riverside Land Train

For many years Bede Island South was home to Vic Berry's locomotive scrapyard until it was redeveloped. You can view some of these images on Bede Park and on the DMU screen.

To honour this hop aboard the Land Train and take a ride around DMU Campus to some of the heritage spots you can visit over the weekend. Visitors can get on and off the Land Train at the designated Train Stop near Trinity House on The Newarke.

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cycling, and bus routes,
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*Where possible an estimation is given.

DMU campus



© Frederick Warne
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Outdoor Cinema – The World of Peter Rabbit & Friends (Sunday)

12.30pm - 2.30pm

The enchanting original animated series from the 1992 Beatrix Potter collection will be shown on the Vijay Patel Screen.

Bring the kids, a blanket and join Peter and Benjamin on their hair-raising adventures - a magical and nostalgic afternoon of fun for all the family.

Leicester Creative Showcase

From 2.30pm

Take a glimpse into the creative media of dance and music in Leicester with content from Pedestrian, 2 Funky Arts, Opal 22 and Aakash Odedra company.

Visit Leicester

visitleicester.info





Buzzing Roots: Creative Constructors (Saturday)

Where adventure meets creativity. At our workshop area, unleash your creativity and construct everything from secret forts to whimsical castles. With bamboo sticks and recycled fabrics, the possibilities are endless. It's not just building; it's about teamwork, problem-solving, and inventive thinking. Perfect for friends and families to design and build together.

Crazy Golf

Relax on the colourful hammocks or get ready to swing into the festival spirit, with a round of crazy golf. Fun for the whole family.



Creature Encounters (Sunday)

12noon, 1.30pm & 3pm
Did you know it's National Dinosaur Day during Riverside? We invite you to discover the last living dinosaur, Odyseia. Explorers need your help as they study a ruined map in an attempt to return the beast to The Land that Time Forgot. You are sure to have a Jurassic lark!

Extreme Mountain Bike Show

Danny Butler, multiple British and European Mountain Bike Trials champion will be onsite with his demonstration team. For any visiting cyclists there will be a free secure bike park.



- What to do
- Where to go
- Where to eat
- Where to stay

**UNCOVER
THE
STORY**

Leicester & Leicestershire



NO GLASS bottles to be taken onto the parks

Dogs MUST be kept on leads

All details were correct at the time of going to print.


 Toilets

 Bars

 Cash Point


 Street Food


 Bike Park

 Information & Missing Child

 First Aid

 Stalls

 Art on the River


 Seating Area

 Waterside Activities

 Heritage Hotspot

 Selfie Spot

 Entrance/Exit

 Train route



#LeicesterRiverside





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FOR LIFE**



Bede Park



There's plenty in the park to keep all the family engaged across the weekend. Enjoy some fun on the fair, walk about with dinosaurs or enjoy story time at the libraries new fully electric Bookbus as well as:

Chilled Ibiza Classics

To celebrate 25 years of Leicester Riverside Festival, the tipi is back with a difference! Introducing a weekend of Chilled Ibiza Anthems, hosted by DJ OPD, with 27 years' experience on the decks he's sure to bring the feel-good vibes. With a licenced bar, and an array of street food, sit back, relax and soak up the atmosphere.

"Who Did That?" by Opal 22

The Ultimate Black History Game. Test your smarts and celebrate Black excellence across science, activism, art, and literature at Opal22's thrilling game. Join us for fun, learning, and community spirit. Donate to play and be part of shaping a brighter future with Opal22. Plus, get a first look at our upcoming events. Don't just learn history - experience it like never before.

Western Boulevard



Stretching between Bede Park and Castle Gardens, Western Boulevard transforms for the weekend into a market bursting with local arts and crafts, tasty street food snacks and stalls.

Art on the River

Strolling down the boulevard will feel like a trip through an art gallery.

Art on the River is back featuring artists and makers displaying and selling unique pieces of work across the weekend.

Have a wander for the chance to purchase some local art and chat with the creators.

Street Food

Let your tastebuds tour the globe this Riverside with street food stalls rustling up a range of international cuisines. Whether you fancy an on-the-go snack or want to delve into something more substantial, the vendors at Riverside this year will have something for you. Stalls will be catering for vegan and vegetarians, with some offering gluten free options with allergy advice from each stall holder possible.

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Castle Gardens



Nestled amongst the flowers in Castle Gardens will be family friendly fun and activities including a fully licenced bar, food and stalls.



Outdoor Theatre (Saturday)

A Bee-riliant Adventure

Join Billy Bumble as he shrinks down to bee-size and learns about the troubles that they face. Featuring spell-binding puppetry and a giant honeycomb set, join us for a whirlwind ride, avoiding grumpy Mr Fred and the gaping jaws of Shredder the dog.

Inspire (Sunday)

Explore how inspiration, play and expression keep us well. Create collaborative artwork, body art, sound and perform live poetry. Make your own body art and inspire cinema, sound play experience and poetry writing, poetry open mic and inspire exhibition.

The Story Tree (Saturday)

The Story Tree is a storytelling club for adults promoting the best in traditional storytelling in the city. We will be telling family friendly stories for adults and older children.

Arts and Crafts corner

Enjoy a fun interactive space with craft workshops and art activities including textile.

Get creative with local arts and education charity, Pedestrian and create a masterpiece to take home.

Dance & Music

During the weekend look out for creative, pop-up dance routines around site with performances from DMU, Curve, Darbar, Nupur Arts and more.

Mixit

Mixit! Arts Academy shares their story of Friends by the Riverside, a short performance they have created and worked on with young people over three days, exploring themes such as nature, insects and the environment. This sharing is interactive, so a perfect chance for young people and even adults to join the fun of Friends by the Riverside.



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The River



Running right through the heart of the festival is the River Soar. For those wanting to get close to the action there is plenty to do.

Fun on the River

You can have a splash about in a kayak with Paddle Plus or take a boat trip with Sibley Boat Mill. Local disability charity Mosaic will be here with Sunbeam II, their fully accessible boat.

For others wanting to stay a little drier, take a stroll down the tow path to check out the trade boats that will be joining us for the weekend.

Keep an eye out for the Sea Cadets demos and Leicestershire Fire and Rescue displays.

Dragon Boat Racing (Sunday)

Dragon Boat racing returns to the waters, taking place opposite the Castle Gardens bridge.

Have you got what it takes to start a team and race against others to claim the honour of being the Dragon Masters. No experience required, just a boat full of enthusiasm and a team of 10 individuals willing to give it their all.

Each team will raise money for PROSTaid Charity who support those living with prostate cancer in Leicestershire, Rutland and Northamptonshire.

To get involved contact rob@prostaid.

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Based on the book by
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Adapted by Brad Pitt Directed by Cara Nolan

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Supported using public funding by
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Curve is an Arts Council Theatre Trust and is a registered charity (no. 250906). We gratefully acknowledge all of the public funding support and endorsement by both the above organisations.



**Leicester Riverside Festival takes place on:
Saturday 1 June from 12noon - 6pm and Sunday 2 June from 12noon - 5pm.**

To visit the festival by bus,
telephone Traveline on
0871 200 2233.

To visit the festival by bike,
visit leicester.gov.uk/cycling
Free secure bike park on site.
We also recommend
choosehowyoumove.co.uk for
advice on planning your
journey.

Parking around the area is
limited, so we recommend
parking in the city centre which
is a short walk from the festival.

For further information contact:
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