

VISIT LEEDS

WHAT'S ON

Summer 2026 Edition

*love*LEEDS*longer*

Thors Tippi City Square

LEEDS

May 2026

Slam Dunk Festival c. @stateofloveandtrustalex

SAT
02

TREVOR NELSON'S SOUL NATION

The Wardrobe

For this May Bank Holiday special, national treasure Trevor Nelson brings his throwback 80s / 90s & 00s soul and RNB party SOUL NATION to iconic Leeds' music venue The Wardrobe.

thewardrobe.co.uk

SAT
02

THE GREAT LEEDS PRINT FAIR

Leeds City Museum

A celebration of printmakers working in a variety of disciplines taking place in the Brodrick Hall at Leeds City Museum. Expect creatives selling prints, zines, books and more using lino printing, risograph, screen printing, letterpress, book binding and many more techniques.

museumsandgalleries.leeds.gov.uk

SAT SUN
02 to 03 MAY

MINT FESTIVAL

Newsam Green Farm

Yorkshire's largest dance festival returns, with a brand-new selection of four breathtaking immersive stages and arenas. This two-day boutique festival combines rustic and natural beauty with high energy performances and heavy bass.

mintfestival.co.uk

SAT SUN
09 to 10 MAY

NORTH LEEDS FOOD FESTIVAL

Roundhay Park

North Leeds Food Festival is a family-friendly celebration of international cuisine and local talent. Taking place over two days in one of Europe's biggest urban parks, expect international street food, chef demos and artisan markets along with live music, bars and children's entertainment. northleedsfoodfestival.co.uk

SAT SUN
09 to 10 MAY

MINDFUL MARKET

Leeds Corn Exchange

Experience a curated mindful shopping experience from the team at Mindful Markets, with a pop-up market of handcrafted, eco-friendly, inclusive, and wellbeing-focused products in the beautiful Leeds Corn Exchange, which is packed with independent shops and food and drink outlets.

mindfulmarketuk.co.uk

SUN
10 MAY

ROB BURROW LEEDS MARATHON

City-wide

Starting and finishing at Headingley Stadium, this marathon offers a challenging yet unforgettable 26.2-mile route through the beautiful countryside and communities of Leeds. A fitting tribute to Leeds Rhinos' sporting legend Rob Burrow. runforall.com



c. North Leeds Food Festival



THU MON
14 MAY to 31 AUG

THOR'S TIPI

Leeds City Square

Of course, no summer is complete without the fun vibes of Thor's Tipi in the very centre of Leeds at City Square. And this year the entertainment is off the charts! Sip on brand-new cocktails, sing and dance your heart out at 'Disco Saturdays', enjoy live acoustic sessions every Thursday or play the giant games in a relaxed festival-style setting.

There'll be frivolity, fun times, disco tunes and sunshine (even if it's raining outside!)

[Find out more](#)

FRI SAT
15 to 16 MAY

HOP CITY

The Old Flax Store

Northern Monk's annual international beer festival is a curated two-day festival of world-class beers from world-renowned breweries, spanning the world. As well as live music, cocktails, natty wine and street food. northernmonk.com

SAT SUN
16 to 17 MAY

THREADS TEXTILE FESTIVAL

Sunny Bank Mills

Sunny Bank Mills' annual Threads Textile Festival is back for its fourth year – celebrating textiles through a series of talks, workshops and a market featuring 50+ textile stalls each day. sunnybankmills.co.uk

TUE SAT
19 to 23 MAY

THE SHAWSHANK REDEMPTION

Leeds Grand Theatre

Based on Stephen King's 1982 novella, this thrilling stage production examines friendship and hope behind the claustrophobic bars of a maximum-security facility. The 1994 feature film was nominated for seven Academy Awards. leedsheritagetheatres.com

SAT SUN
16 to 17 MAY

LEODIS CUP

Kirkstall Abbey

Medieval history comes to life amidst the medieval ruins of Kirkstall Abbey. The Leodis Cup, which opens its gates for the first time this year, is a two day re-enactment and medieval sports tournament, featuring a living history camp, historical entertainment, food stalls, vendors and the main event – a Buhurt Tournament (a modern full-contact fighting sport characteristic of tournaments in the Middle Ages). leodiscup.com

THU TUE
21 to 26 MAY

LEEDS JAZZ FESTIVAL *Various Music Venues*

A city-wide festival celebrating the rich culture of Leeds Jazz, with a jam-packed programme featuring the best of national and international musicians alongside home-grown talent. leedsjazzfestival.com

SAT MON
23 to 25 MAY

GREAT BRITISH FOOD FESTIVAL

Harewood House

Harewood House welcomes a fantastic lineup of traders for this year's Great British Food Festival, alongside a brand-new main stage, showcasing live entertainment and demonstrations throughout the day. Guests can also get hands-on with a programme of masterclasses, from interactive cooking sessions to paint-and-sip experiences and other live entertainment and family fun. greatbritishfoodfestival.com

SUN
24 MAY

SLAM DUNK FESTIVAL

Temple Newsam

The UK's biggest independent rock and alt-music festival Slam Dunk, born out of the music scene in Leeds, returns for its twentieth anniversary. Headliners this year include Sublime, Taking back Sunday and Good Charlotte as a European exclusive.

slamdunkfestival.com

FRI SUN
29 to 31 MAY

GREAT EXHIBITION OF PRIZE ALES

The Tetley

Back for its triumphant fourth year, THE BEER FESTIVAL LIKE NO OTHER returns to Leeds at a new venue – the iconic Tetley building. Expect amazing beer, food, and live music at this unique celebration of brewing history. designmynight.com

SAT
30 MAY

BEYOND THE WOODS FESTIVAL

Hazlewood Castle

Leeds' first forest festival with artists Mella Dee, Archie Hamilton and more playing disco, house and techno. With three stages of music, arts and wellness.

skiddle.com

SAT
30 MAY

COUNTRY CLUB: COUNTRY MUSIC FESTIVAL

O2 Academy Leeds

The UK's biggest touring country music festival heads to O2 Academy Leeds with line dancing, Rodeo Bulls and full-throttle vibes. academymusicgroup.com



The Tetley c. Tom Martin for Visit Leeds

LEEDS

Exhibitions

Audrey Hepburn by Cecil Beaton, 1963 © Cecil Beaton Archive. Conde Nast

MON SUN
20 JAN to 07 JUN

CHARLOTTE VERITY: THE SEASON FOLLOWING

Harewood House

Experience the fleeting nature of the seasons through the work of Charlotte Verity, a British artist known for her meticulously observed paintings of plants and flowers. Often painted over many years, Verity's work captures the quiet rhythms of the natural world.

harewood.org

FRI SUN
10 OCT 2025 to 28 JUN

MUSIC LEEDS US

Leeds City Museum

Marking 60 years of Leeds Conservatoire, this special exhibition celebrates the people, places and magic moments that have shaped the city's musical identity across six vibrant decades.

museumsandgalleries.leeds.gov.uk

FRI SUN
15 MAY to 30 AUG

PHANTASMAGORIA: FOLKLORIC SCULPTURE FOR THE DIGITAL AGE

Henry Moore Institute

This major group exhibition brings together a new generation of artists using digital technologies to tell stories about our past, present, and future, pushing the boundaries of what sculpture can be. It's a space where traditional aspects of folklore meet new technology to find new ways of story-telling and myth-making. henry-moore.org

SAT SAT
22 MAY to 03 OCT

GARTH EVANS: THE ANTI-VIRUS SCULPTURES

Leeds Art Gallery

British sculptor Garth Evans (b. 1934) began the Anti-Virus Sculptures during the first Covid lockdown in his home in Connecticut, USA. Curated by Sam Cornish, this is the first solo exhibition dedicated to these small-scale plaster sculptures.

museumsandgalleries.leeds.gov.uk

SAT SUN
13 JUN to 04 OCT

CECIL BEATON: STAGING ICONS

Harewood House

Step into the glamorous world of Cecil Beaton, the legendary photographer who captured some of the most iconic figures of the 20th century, from Hollywood legends (including Audrey Hepburn, Marilyn Monroe, and Fred Astaire) and stars of the West End to the British royal family. harewood.org

FRI SUN
26 JUN to 01 NOV

GENGHIS KHAN: HOW THE MONGOLS CHANGED THE WORLD

Royal Armouries

Genghis Khan is coming to Leeds. Be the first to see international blockbuster exhibition Genghis Khan: How the Mongols Changed the World at its UK premiere. Discover the story of how the unstoppable force of Genghis Khan overcame exile, murder and betrayal to unite his people and rule over an empire that stretched from Europe to China, through 250 rare and exciting objects. royalarmouries.org

LEEDS

June 2026



Headingley Stadium c. English Cricket Board All rights reserved. Not licensed for reuse.

WED
03 JUN

JOANNE MCNALLY: PINOTPHILE

Leeds Grand Theatre

Joanne McNally's Pinotphile tour is a critically acclaimed, "terrifyingly funny" stand-up show, serving as the follow-up to her record-breaking Prosecco Express tour. It focuses on her life as a single, childless woman in her 40s navigating dating, "situationships," and "frenemies" in a frank and chaotic manner.

leedsheritagetheatres.com

FRI
05 JUN

COULD BE REAL TRIBUTE FESTIVAL

Harewood House

This open-air event will feature some of the UK's top tribute acts, offering an unforgettable line-up that spans some of the biggest bands and artists in music history including ABBA, Arctic Monkeys, Kaiser Chiefs, Ed Sheeran, Elton John, Fleetwood Mac, Oasis & Queen.

harewood.org

FRI SAT
05 to 06 JUN

NICK MOHAMMED IS MR. SWALLOW: SHOW PONY

Leeds Grand Theatre

Star of The Celebrity Traitors, Taskmaster and Ted Lasso, Nick Mohammed returns as his critically acclaimed alter-ego Mr. Swallow in the 'deliriously enjoyable' (5-Star Guardian) Show Pony.

leedsheritagetheatres.com

SAT SUN
06 to 07 JUN

LEEDS TATTOO EXPO

first direct bank arena

The 11th Annual Leeds Tattoo Expo returns, promising its biggest and boldest weekend yet. Across two action-packed days, LITE will bring together some of the world's finest tattoo artists. leedstattooexpo.com

SAT SUN
06 to 14 JUN

LEEDS LIT FEST

Various Venues

Returning for its eighth year, Leeds' award-winning festival of words and thought will take place across a diverse range of the city's spaces, bringing together the city's literary scene, with writers, poets and performers from the UK and beyond. leedslitfest.co.uk

SUN
14 JUN

LEEDS 10K

City-wide

Launched over 15 years ago, the Leeds 10K has become one of the region's most loved running events, famous for its fun, friendly vibes and buzzing atmosphere.

Starting from the iconic Parkinson Building at Leeds University, through the leafy streets of Headingley and coming back to The Headrow to end. runforall.com

WHAT'S ON

There are hundreds more events to discover on the Visit Leeds What's On pages, all searchable by category from music and comedy to arts and wellness. Find out what's happening in Leeds: visitleeds.co.uk | [Search Visit Leeds](#)

JUNE (Wed 17, Thur 18, Sat 20 and Tue 23)

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL T20 CRICKET

Headingley Stadium

Experience world-class women's cricket at Headingley this summer with the ICC Women's International T20 World Cup. The iconic venue in Leeds is hosting five international matches - Australia vs Bangladesh (17 June) India vs The Netherlands (17 June), West Indies vs Scotland (18 June) England vs Scotland (20 June) and Australia vs Pakistan (23 June). [Find out more](#)



c. English Cricket Board

THU SAT
18 JUN to 11 JUL

BRASSED OFF

Leeds Playhouse

Thirty years after the much-loved British film first struck a chord with audiences, Leeds Playhouse brings *Brassed Off* back to the stage. The heartening story of a community standing on the brink - where music becomes a defiant act of hope.

leedsplayhouse.org.uk

SUN
21 JUN

K-POP LIVE LEEDS

Project House

Get ready to unleash your inner idol! K-Pop Live - the most magical K-Pop celebration to hit the UK! Prepare for mind-blowing performances, incredible production, and the ultimate fan experience at Project House in Leeds. projecthouselds.com

SUN
21 JUN

LILY ALLEN

first direct bank arena

Pop sensation Lily Allen has thrilled fans by announcing an exciting new tour date at the first direct bank arena, adding to what is already shaping up to be the biggest live chapter of her career.

firstdirectbankarena.com

FRI SAT
26 JUN to 11 JUL

MILLENNIUM SQUARE SUMMER SERIES

Millennium Square

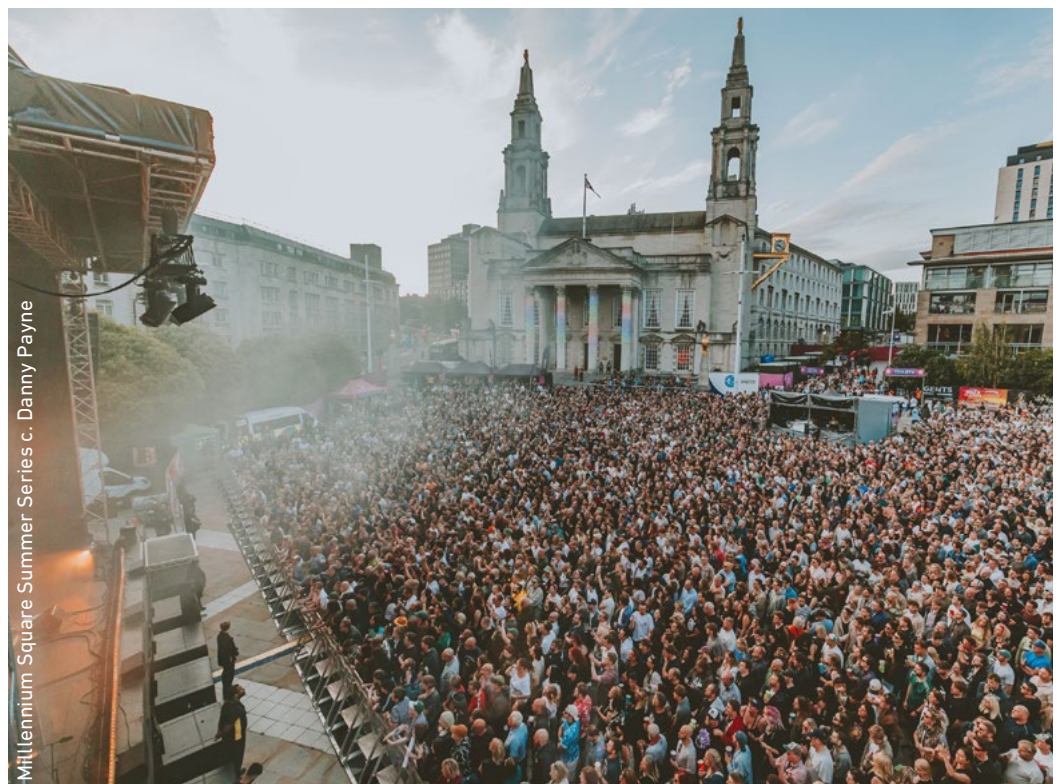
Epic performances and concerts take place in the heart of Leeds every weekend from 26 June to 11 July. The line-up features - Utah Saints, 80s Classical, Dylan Gossett, Alabama Shakes, Tom Odell, Wet Leg, The Human League and The Cribs. millsqleeds.com

SAT
28 JUN

LOVE THE 90S FESTIVAL

Project House

After multiple sell-out shows across the UK, Love The 90s Festival is taking over Project House for a day of pure 90s nostalgia. fatsoma.com



Millennium Square Summer Series c. Danny Payne



LEEDS

July 2026

c. Leeds Pride

FRI SAT
03 to 04 JUL

ROUNDHAY FESTIVAL

Roundhay Park

This year, epic live concerts return to one of the largest parks in Europe. On Friday 3 July see Pitbull with special guests Jason Derulo, Tinie Tempah, Lil Jon and on Saturday 4 July see Lewis Capaldi, with support from Conan Gray and Jacob Alon.

roundhayfestival.com

THU SAT
09 JUL to 01 AUG

OPERA NORTH'S THE SOUND OF MUSIC

Leeds Grand Theatre

This summer, Leeds is alive with the sound of music! Opera North brings this timeless musical, loved across the generations, to life. Experience this 'richly entertaining revival' (The Guardian) for yourself, with the Orchestra and Chorus of Opera North bringing extra oomph to classic hits like *Do-Re-Mi*, *My Favorite Things* and *Climb Ev'ry Mountain*. operanorth.co.uk

SAT SUN
18 to 19 JUL

LEEDS PRIDE: 20TH ANNIVERSARY

City-wide

Leeds Pride is back, and 2026 is set to be the biggest celebration yet, as the city comes together to celebrate 20 incredible years of Leeds Pride. The weekend kicks off with Pre-Parties on Saturday 18th July, followed by the main Leeds Pride event on Sunday 19th July, featuring the iconic Parade, Market Stalls, and Family Area.

leedspride.com

THU SUN
23 to 26 JUL

LEEDS CHAMPIONSHIP DOG SHOW

Harewood House

2026 marks the 44th year Leeds Championship Dog Show has been held at Harewood. Organised by the Leeds City and District Canine Association, it is one of the premier events for dog exhibitors across the UK. harewood.org



Harewood House c. Amanda Graham



JULY (Fri 24 July, Sat 25 July, Sun 26 July, Fri 31 July, Sat 1 Aug)

LIVE AT KIRKSTALL ABBEY: THE STREETS PLUS SPECIAL GUESTS

Kirkstall Abbey

Set against the stunning backdrop of medieval abbey ruins, Live at Kirkstall Abbey is a series of open-air concerts and a comedy festival taking place over two weekends at the end of July.

On Friday 24 July, one of the UK's most important and influential hip hop and garage acts, The Streets will play the critically acclaimed album in full for the first time ever. On Saturday 25 July, Leeds indie heroes The Sunshine Underground return for an exclusive reunion show, performing their classic 2006 album *Raise The Alarm* in full, joined by a stellar cast of their mid-noughties indie compatriots, including White Lies, Hard-Fi, The Futureheads, The Twang, and The Whip. Then on Sunday 26 July, the Comedy Festival, features some of the biggest and best names in comedy, including Jason Manford, Dara O'Briain, Lucy Beaumont, Babatunde Aleshe, and Sara Pascoe.

The following weekend, on Friday 31 July is beloved English indie band The Maccabees, following their huge 2025 reunion, plus special guests and on Saturday 1 August, celebrated hip hop artist, musician, writer, producer and actor Loyle Carner headlines a specially curated event along with Jordan Raikei, Kofi Stone and Bricknasty. futuresoundgroup.com

SAT 25 JUL to SUN 30 AUG

TRIVIAL PURSUIT CITY-TAKEOVER

City-wide

Leeds is set to become a giant board game this summer as TRIVIAL PURSUIT arrives in the city centre to celebrate a landmark moment in its history. The free experience will see participants journey across the city centre, answering questions and collecting wedges, just like the classic trivia game.

trivialpursuitleeds.com

SAT 25 JUL

RUM & REGGAE FESTIVAL

Project House

The ultimate island experience returns next Summer! Bringing you pure reggae sounds plus huge headliners & insane production.

projecthouselds.com

JULY (28 Jul and further dates in August)

THE HUNDRED *Headingley Stadium*

The Hundred cricket matches kick off at Headingley Stadium on 28 July with Leeds Sunrisers Women and Men's teams taking on Manchester Super Giants Women and Men's teams. Further fixtures take place against London Spirit teams (4 Aug) and Welsh Fire teams (9 Aug). thehundred.com

LEEDS

August 2026

Leeds West Indian Carnival c. Mark Ratcliffe

SAT SUN

08 to 09 AUG

VW FESTIVAL

Harewood House

VW Festival is one of the biggest, family-friendly VW shows in the UK. Spread over 3 days, it brings the largest display of VW show cars and club displays from around the country. harewood.org

SAT SUN

15 to 16 AUG

TEMPLE NEWSAM FOOD FESTIVAL

Temple Newsam

A family-friendly celebration of international influence and local talent taking place in the stunning historical grounds of Temple Newsam, with street food, live chef demos, artisan markets, live music and independent bars.

templenewsamfoodfestival

SAT

16 AUG

IRONMAN

City-wide

The IRONMAN Triathlon Series is the world's premier full-distance and half-distance triathlon. This is England's only full distance IRONMAN race ironman.com

WED SUN

19 to 23 AUG

MEN'S INTERNATIONAL FIRST ROTHESAY TEST MATCH

Headingley Stadium

England take on Pakistan at the iconic cricket stadium in Headingley. yorkshireccc.com

FRI SUN

21 to 23 AUG

OUTDOOR CINEMA *Harewood House*

Featuring Dirty Dancing (21 Aug), Mamma Mia! (22 Aug), Star Wars – A New Hope (23 Aug) and family matinees of Encanto Sing-along (22 Aug) and Bing and his friends (23 Aug). adventurecinema.co.uk

THU SUN

27 to 30 AUG

LEEDS FESTIVAL

Bramham Park

The headliners for this year's festival include Charlie XCX, Chase & Status, Florence and the Machine, Raye and Kasabian. leedsfestival.com

SUN

30 AUG

BLACK MUSIC FESTIVAL

Potternewton Park

This year marks the 40th anniversary of the Black Music Festival at Potternewton Park in Chapeltown, Leeds. As a premier free open-air event, it celebrates Black music, including reggae, R&B, and grime, and accompanies the Leeds West Indian Carnival. blackmusicfestival.org

MON

31 AUG

LEEDS WEST INDIAN CARNIVAL

Potternewton Park

Leeds West Indian Carnival is the perfect blend of jaw-dropping costumes, infectious tropical rhythms, mouth-watering food, Caribbean culture, and entertainment for everyone. This annual celebration, Europe's oldest Caribbean carnival, takes place every August Bank Holiday Monday in the Chapeltown and Harehills areas of Leeds. leedscarnival.co.uk

LEEDS

A look ahead to Autumn/Winter

Light Night c. Alex Horsley

SEPTEMBER

CHAPEL ALLERTON ARTS FESTIVAL

chapelallerton.org.uk

SCALARAMA FILM FESTIVAL

scalaramaleeds.co.uk

OPERATION MINCEMEAT

Leeds Grand Theatre

leedsheritagetheatres.com

MEN'S ONE DAY INTERNATIONAL
CRICKET: ENGLAND V SRI LANKA

Headingley Stadium

yorkshireccc.com

OCTOBER

LEEDS OPERA NORTH SEASON

Leeds Grand Theatre

operanorth.co.uk

LIGHT NIGHT LEEDS

City-wide

lightnightleeds.co.uk

THE WORLD OF HANS ZIMMER
– A NEW DIMENSION

first direct bank arena

firstdirectbankarena.com

LEEDS INTERNATIONAL
FESTIVAL OF IDEAS

City-wide

leedsinternationalfestival.com

OUTDOOR CINEMA

Harewood House

harewood.org

NOVEMBER

MRS DOUBTFIRE

Leeds Grand Theatre

leedsheritagetheatres.com

LEEDS INTERNATIONAL
FILM FESTIVAL

Leeds Grand Theatre

leedsfilm.com

LEEDS CHRISTMAS MARKETS

City centre

We're a city that loves to entertain, with a jam-packed event programme all year round. Please note that the information contained in this document isn't an exhaustive list of the events in the annual Leeds calendar. To find out more about all the events taking place in Leeds this year, please visit: visitleeds.co.uk/whats-on

VISITLEEDS



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c. Leeds International Festival of Ideas