

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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://firstdirectbankarena.com)

FRI SAT  
**26 JUN to 11 JUL**

## MILLENNIUM SQUARE SUMMER SERIES

*Millennium Square*

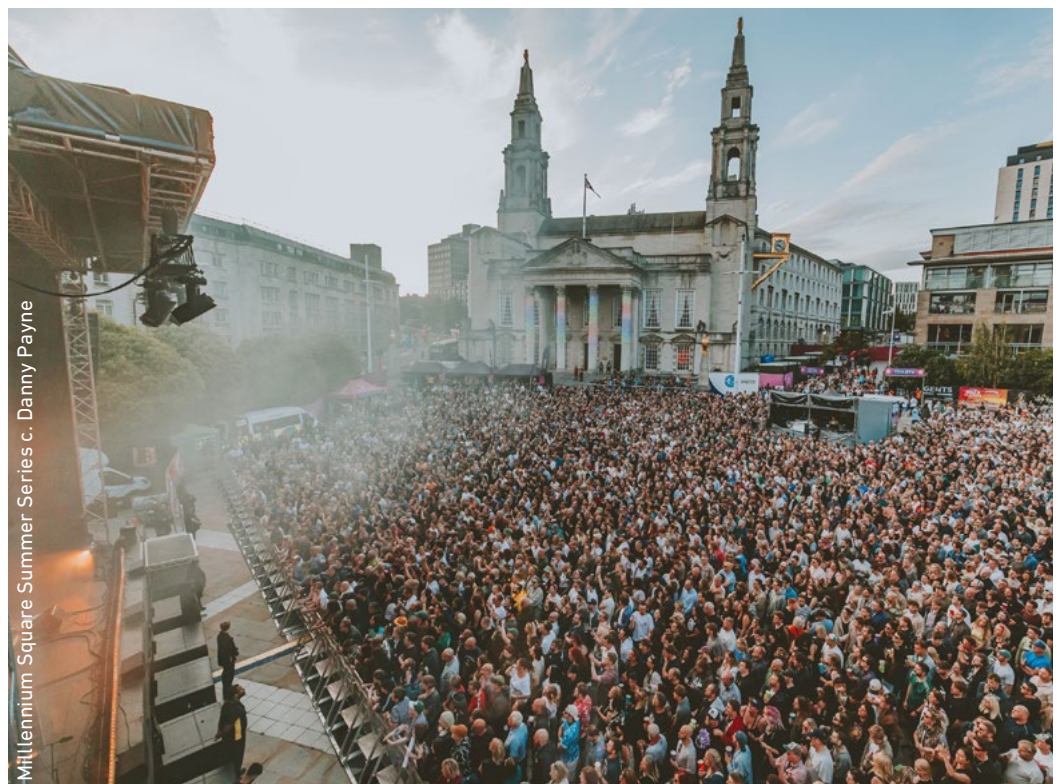
Epic performances and concerts take place in the heart of Leeds every weekend from 26 June to 11 July. The line-up features - Utah Saints, 80s Classical, Dylan Gossett, Alabama Shakes, Tom Odell, Wet Leg, The Human League and The Cribs. [millsqleeds.com](http://millsqleeds.com)

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](http://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 guest Kesha and on Saturday 4 July see Lewis Capaldi, with support from Conan Gray and Jacob Alon.

[roundhayfestival.com](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://leedscarnival.co.uk)

# LEEDS

*A look ahead to Autumn/Winter*

Light Night c. Alex Horsley

## SEPTEMBER

CHAPEL ALLERTON ARTS FESTIVAL

[chapelallerton.org.uk](http://chapelallerton.org.uk)

SCALARAMA FILM FESTIVAL

[scalaramaleeds.co.uk](http://scalaramaleeds.co.uk)

OPERATION MINCEMEAT

*Leeds Grand Theatre*

[leedsheritagetheatres.com](http://leedsheritagetheatres.com)

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

*Headingley Stadium*

[yorkshireccc.com](http://yorkshireccc.com)

## OCTOBER

LEEDS OPERA NORTH SEASON

*Leeds Grand Theatre*

[operanorth.co.uk](http://operanorth.co.uk)

LIGHT NIGHT LEEDS

*City-wide*

[lightnightleeds.co.uk](http://lightnightleeds.co.uk)

THE WORLD OF HANS ZIMMER  
– A NEW DIMENSION

*first direct bank arena*

[firstdirectbankarena.com](http://firstdirectbankarena.com)

LEEDS INTERNATIONAL  
FESTIVAL OF IDEAS

*City-wide*

[leedsinternationalfestival.com](http://leedsinternationalfestival.com)

OUTDOOR CINEMA

*Harewood House*

[harewood.org](http://harewood.org)

## NOVEMBER

MRS DOUBTFIRE

*Leeds Grand Theatre*

[leedsheritagetheatres.com](http://leedsheritagetheatres.com)

LEEDS INTERNATIONAL  
FILM FESTIVAL

*Leeds Grand Theatre*

[leedsfilm.com](http://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](http://visitleeds.co.uk/whats-on)

VISITLEEDS



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c. Leeds International Festival of Ideas