

Edinburgh
International
Book Festival

Your visit to the Book Festival



The Edinburgh International Book Festival
is the world's largest public celebration
of the written word.

There is lots to see and do, read and hear.

Watch a guided tour of the Book Festival site
at bit.ly/visiting-edbookfest-vid

The Book Festival takes place in Charlotte Square Gardens and the west end of George Street in Edinburgh.

You can get to the Book Festival by car, train, bus, tram or by walking.

If you're coming by coach or minibus, please arrange to be dropped off at 5 Charlotte Square. A ramp is available to take you from the pavement up to Charlotte Square Gardens.

When you arrive you will see our Entrance Tent.



In the Entrance Tent is the Box Office and Information Desk.

At the Box Office you can buy or collect tickets for events.

Go to the Information Desk if you need help or have any questions. We have two team members dedicated to helping with accessibility - you can find them at the Information Desk.



You can borrow earphones for our infrared hearing systems, ear defenders and wheelchairs from the Information Desk. Staff can book you a taxi if you need one.

If you get hurt during your visit, go to the Information Desk to get help from a trained First Aider.

You don't need a ticket to enjoy the Book Festival village. You can come in and look around, go to the bookshops, have something to eat or sit in the gardens completely for free. You do need to get a ticket to go to most events though.



You will see lots of our staff around the Festival and in events. If you need anything just ask one of them and they will help you.

You can recognise them by the Book Festival logo on their t-shirts or the lanyards around their necks.





There are walkways going right around Charlotte Square Gardens, so it's easy to get around all areas in a wheelchair.

You can bring a picnic or buy something to eat or drink from one of our cafés. There are seats in the cafés and in the garden.



Fill your water bottles for free at the water taps around the Book Festival.



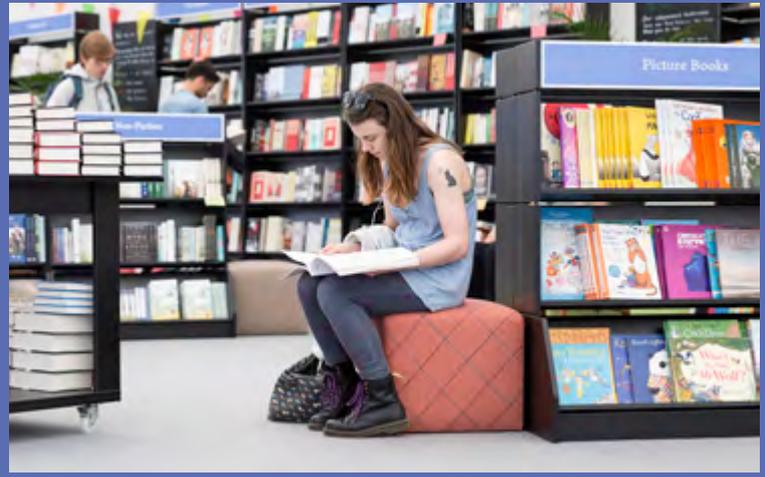
If it's busy there can be a lot of people in the gardens, especially at weekends, with some of them queueing for events.

The Book Festival site is open from 9.30am until late every day of the Festival. You can come and see the site before you go to your event, so you know what to expect.





There are two bookshops at the Festival - one in the Gardens and another on George Street. The Garden Bookshop will look different in 2019 than in previous years.



You can come in to have a look or read a story. Sometimes there will be authors signing books in the Garden Bookshop, with queues of people waiting to meet them.

Our Baillie Gifford Story Box has free, drop-in craft activities for children from 11am until 4.30pm every day. Check the programme to find out what's on then pop in to see us.



You might see book characters around the Book Festival. Say hello, wave, high five or cuddle them, and get your picture taken. Remember to wait your turn if others are in front.

If you are scared or don't want to say hello, you don't have to. Just tell the staff member with them and they'll avoid you.

We have several toilets around the Festival, including accessible loos. You may need to queue for a short time.

We have a fully accessible Changing Places toilet, complete with a hoist and changing table. Please bring your own sling to use the hoist.



The Book Festival also happens on George Street. The street is closed to traffic. Here you can find another venue, a bookshop, a café, toilets including an accessible toilet, and a seating area. There will be staff on the street to help with directions or anything else.

There is a traffic light-controlled crossing linking the Entrance Tent in Charlotte Square Gardens to George Street. Please be very careful as you cross the busy road, and always wait for a green man. A bicycle lane is open on George Street too, so always check before you step off any pavements.



If you're going to an event you will go into one of the big tents. There is usually a queue of people going into every event. Staff will check your ticket and can help you find a seat. The lights will dim as the event starts. You can leave to go to the toilet or elsewhere and staff will let you back in again.

Some venues are really big and have lots of seats. In the smallest venues you may sit on a cushion on the floor.



Some events have music, drawing, storytelling or crafts, as well as an author telling you about their books.



After your event you can go to The Garden Bookshop or one of our Signing Tents to meet the author. Staff can tell you where to go.



You can have your books signed, ask any questions you still have, or simply say hello. You can bring a book you've already bought too.



You're welcome to stay in the Book Festival site as long as you want. Enjoy the atmosphere, read and buy books, eat, drink and relax.



We hope you have fun at the Book Festival!

The Book Festival Site

CHARLOTTE SQUARE GARDENS

1. THE SPIEGELTENT (WITH BAR)
2. THE GARDEN BOOKSHOP (WITH CAFÉ-BAR)
3. BAILLIE GIFFORD STORY BOX
4. BAILLIE GIFFORD IMAGINATION LAB
5. BAILLIE GIFFORD CORNER THEATRE
6. GARDEN THEATRE
7. PARTY PAVILION
8. WRITERS' RETREAT
9. THE NEW YORK TIMES MAIN THEATRE
10. EDINBURGH GIN SIGNING TENT (WITH CAFÉ-BAR)
11. EDINBURGH GIN BAR
12. DRINKS VAN (NADINE)
13. HORSEBOX (HETTIE)

WEST END OF GEORGE STREET

14. SPARK THEATRE
15. BOX OFFICE
16. CAFÉ-BAR AND SEATING
17. GEORGE STREET BOOKSHOP

 BUGGY PARK

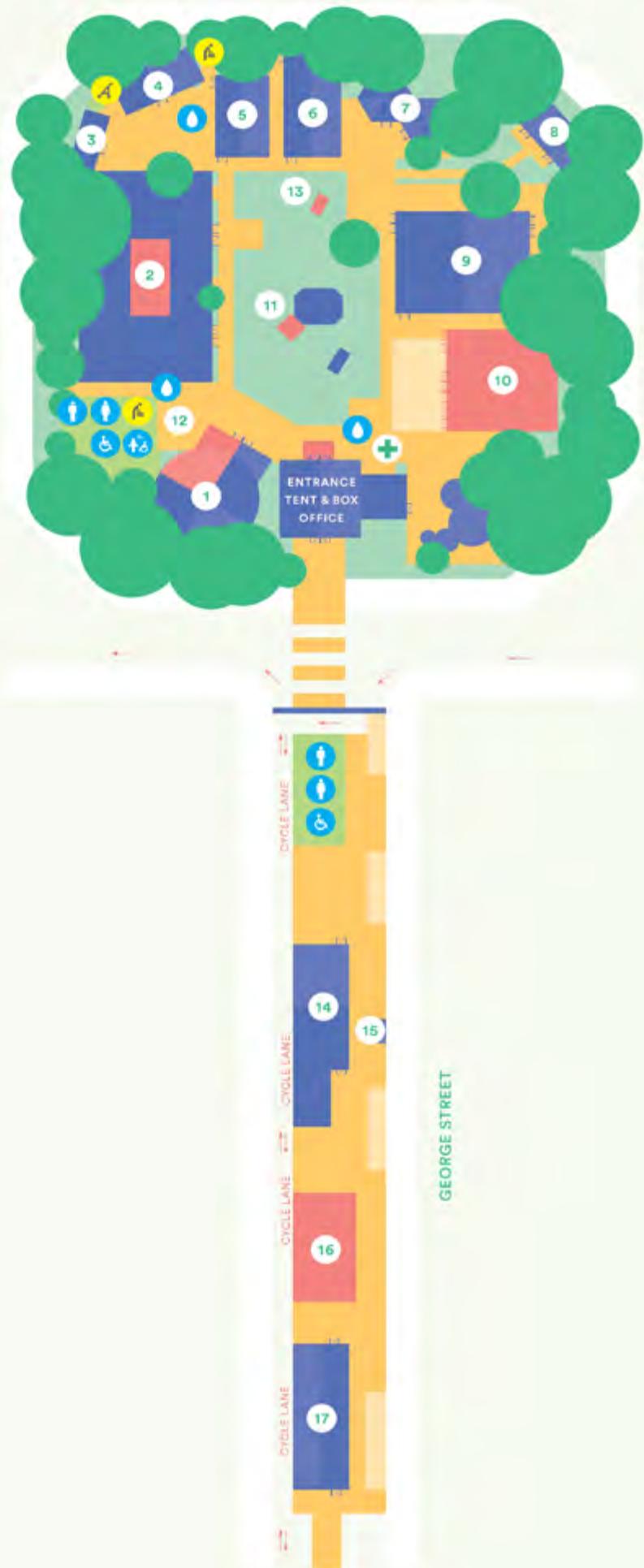
 DRINKING WATER TAPS

 FIRST AID

 TOILETS AND BABY CHANGE

 CHANGING PLACES TOILET

CHARLOTTE SQUARE GARDENS



GEORGE STREET