



Food & Drink Festivals

Beer, cider, street food, and everything edible — the festivals you can actually go to.

Reprobates Intelligence Division · May 2026

● BEER & CIDER FESTIVALS

Great British Beer Festival (GBBF)

August · London / Birmingham · CAMRA-run · 2026: cancelled · £12–18 entry · 900+ drinks

CAMRA's flagship event. 900+ beverages, 450+ British beers, 200 foreign beers, cask ales, cider and perry. Held annually since 1977.

Note: 2026 cancelled due to financial reasons. 2025 was at NEC Birmingham.

National Winter Ales Festival

February · Rotating (Newcastle/Derby/Manchester) · CAMRA · £8–12 · 200+ winter ales

CAMRA's winter companion to GBBF. Dark beers, stouts, porters, strong ales, and winter warmers. CAMRA members get discounted entry.

Reading Beer & Cider Festival

April · Reading, Berkshire · CAMRA · £10–15 · 400+ ales, 100+ ciders · Live music

One of the largest volunteer-run beer festivals. 400+ real ales, 100+ ciders. Held at Christchurch Meadows. Strong Thames Valley brewery representation.

Nottingham Robin Hood Beer & Cider Festival

October · Nottingham Castle · £12–18 · 1,000+ beers · Castle admission included

Set in Nottingham Castle grounds. 1,000+ beers and ciders. One of the largest outdoor beer festivals in Europe. Live music across multiple stages. 4 days.

York Beer & Cider Festival

September · York Racecourse · £10–16 · 500+ ales · Food village

Four-day festival at York Racecourse. 500+ real ales, international beers, ciders, and perries. CAMRA-run with awards. York Minster visible from site.

Peterborough Beer Festival

August · Peterborough · Free entry · 400+ ales · Pay-as-you-drink

One of the largest free-entry beer festivals in the UK. No admission charge — pay for what you drink. CAMRA East Anglia. Riverside on the Embankment.

Welsh Perry and Cider Festival

June · Caerphilly · £8-12 · 150+ ciders · Caerphilly Castle

UK's largest dedicated cider and perry festival. 150+ Welsh and British ciders. Folk music, orchard talks, and cider-making demos in Caerphilly Castle grounds.

Bristol Craft Beer Festival

June · Bristol · £35-55 session ticket · Unlimited tastings · 50+ brewers

Modern craft beer festival. 50+ UK and international breweries. Unlimited tastings with session tickets. Street food, DJ sets, brewery meet-and-greets.

Manchester Beer & Cider Festival

January · Manchester Central · £8-14 · 500+ ales · CAMRA members free afternoons

CAMRA's annual winter kickoff. 500+ real ales, 150+ ciders, foreign beers. In the former railway station Manchester Central (GMEX). Four days of sessions.

Brighton & Hove Beer Festival

October · Brighton · £6-10 · 200+ ales · Sussex breweries

Local CAMRA festival. 200+ Sussex and British ales, ciders, and perries. Often at Brighton Centre or Corn Exchange. Harvey's, Dark Star, Burning Sky featured.

Haverfordwest Beer & Cider Festival

August · Pembrokeshire · £5-8 · 150+ ales · West Wales CAMRA

West Wales CAMRA festival. 150+ real ales and ciders. Smaller, friendlier atmosphere. Live local music and Pembrokeshire food producers.

Worcester Beer Festival

August · Worcester Racecourse · £7-12 · 200+ ales · River Severn

Three-day festival on the banks of the River Severn. 200+ real ales, ciders, and perries. Marquee setting with live music. CAMRA-run.

● FOOD FESTIVALS

Abergavenny Food Festival

September · Abergavenny, Wales · £15-25 · 30,000+ visitors · Celebrity chefs

UK's most prestigious food festival. Chef demonstrations, 150+ artisan producers, foraging walks. Historic Monmouthshire market town. Attracts 30,000+ visitors.

Ludlow Food Festival

September · Ludlow, Shropshire · £12-18 · 150+ producers · Ludlow Castle

The original slow food festival, 25+ years. Castle grounds filled with artisan producers. Sausage and ale trails, bread-making workshops, foraged food walks.

Malton Food Lovers Festival

May · Malton, Yorkshire · Free entry · 100+ traders · Yorkshire produce

Yorkshire's food capital. 100+ traders, cookery theatre, street food, live music. Free entry to main site. Famous for artisan bread, charcuterie, Yorkshire produce.

Padstow Christmas Festival

December · Padstow, Cornwall · Free entry · Celebrity chefs · Harbour lights

Rick Stein and Paul Ainsworth's hometown. Chef demos from TV personalities, local seafood, mulled wine. Four days. Free to wander; demo tickets extra.

Whitstable Oyster Festival

July · Whitstable, Kent · Free entry · Norman tradition · Oysters & seafood

One of Britain's oldest food festivals, dating to Norman times. Parades, oyster eating competitions, live music, fresh oysters from the sea. Harbour-side.

Nantwich International Cheese Show

July · Nantwich, Cheshire · £10–15 · 4,000+ cheeses · International competition

UK's largest cheese show. 4,000+ cheeses judged from around the world. Trade first day, then public. Cheese tastings, food stalls, live music.

Anglesey Oyster & Welsh Produce Festival

October · Anglesey, Wales · £12–18 · Shellfish & Welsh produce · Menai Strait

Two-day celebration of Anglesey shellfish. Oysters, mussels, lobster, crab from the Menai Strait. Chef demos, local brewers, artisan stalls.

Big Cheese Festival, Caerphilly

July · Caerphilly, Wales · Free entry · Caerphilly cheese · Family-friendly

Free festival celebrating Caerphilly cheese. Cheese races, cheese-carving demos, local food stalls, live music. In the shadow of Caerphilly Castle.

Alresford Watercress Festival

May · Alresford, Hampshire · Free entry · Watercress everything · Morris dancing

Quirky Hampshire festival. Watercress soup, watercress beer, watercress ice cream. Street parade and morris dancing. Free entry. Odd British tradition.

Bishop Auckland Food Festival

April · County Durham · Free entry · 150+ stalls · North East specialities

North East England's biggest food festival. 150+ food and drink stalls, chef demos, live music. Stotties, pease pudding, and Durham ales.

Isle of Wight Garlic Festival

August · Isle of Wight · £10–15 · Garlic everything · Camping available

Garlic beer, garlic ice cream, garlic sausages, garlic fudge. Live music, cookery demos, circus acts. Entry includes all entertainment. On-site camping.

● MIXED FOOD & DRINK FESTIVALS

Taste of London

June · Regent's Park, London · £22–28 · Michelin-starred chefs · Wine & cocktails

London's premier food festival. Top restaurants serve taster portions. Michelin-starred chef demos. Wine, champagne, and cocktail bars. Two weekends in June. Book early.

Bolton Food and Drink Festival

August · Bolton, Lancashire · Free entry · 250,000+ visitors · 4 days

UK's largest free food and drink festival. Four days of street food, real ale, chef demos, and live music. 200+ stalls, multiple music stages. August bank holiday.

Cardiff International Food & Drink Festival

July · Cardiff Bay · Free entry · Welsh producers · 3 days

Three-day waterfront festival. Welsh producers, street food, and bars line Cardiff Bay. Cookery theatre, artisan market, live music. Free entry.

Liverpool Food & Drink Festival

September · Sefton Park, Liverpool · £10–15 · Street food village · Gin garden

Two-day festival in Sefton Park. Street food village, real ale tent, gin garden, prosecco bar. Chef demos, live music, family activities.

Brighton & Hove Food and Drink Festival

Various dates · Brighton · Varies by event · Year-round · Sussex produce

Multiple events year-round: Autumn Harvest, restaurant weeks, wine tastings. Flagship event is multi-day street food and producer market. Sussex wines, seafood, craft drinks.

Foodies Festival

Touring · 8–10 cities/year · £12–18 · Street food · Chef theatres

Travelling food festival visiting Brighton, Bristol, Edinburgh, Oxford, London and more. Street food, chef theatres, artisan producers, cocktail bars, live music. Family-friendly.

Dartmouth Food Festival

October · Dartmouth, Devon · Mostly free · Devon harbour · Seafood & ales

Three-day celebration of South Devon food and drink. Harbour-side events, restaurant specials, cookery demos, foraging walks. Many events free; tastings ticketed.

● QUICK REFERENCE

Festival	Type	Location	Month	Entry
Great British Beer Festival	Beer	London/Birmingham	August	£12–18
National Winter Ales	Beer	Rotating	February	£8–12
Reading Beer & Cider	Beer/Cider	Berkshire	April	£10–15
Nottingham Robin Hood	Beer/Cider	Nottingham	October	£12–18
York Beer & Cider	Beer/Cider	York	September	£10–16
Peterborough Beer	Beer	Peterborough	August	Free
Welsh Perry & Cider	Cider	Caerphilly	June	£8–12
Bristol Craft Beer	Craft Beer	Bristol	June	£35–55
Manchester Beer	Beer	Manchester	January	£8–14
Brighton Beer Festival	Beer	Brighton	October	£6–10
Haverfordwest Beer	Beer/Cider	Pembrokeshire	August	£5–8
Worcester Beer	Beer	Worcester	August	£7–12
Abergavenny Food	Food	Wales	September	£15–25
Ludlow Food	Food	Shropshire	September	£12–18
Malton Food Lovers	Food	Yorkshire	May	Free
Padstow Christmas	Food	Cornwall	December	Free
Whitstable Oyster	Food	Kent	July	Free
Nantwich Cheese Show	Food	Cheshire	July	£10–15
Anglesey Oyster	Food	Anglesey	October	£12–18
Big Cheese Festival	Food	Caerphilly	July	Free
Alresford Watercress	Food	Hampshire	May	Free
Bishop Auckland	Food	County Durham	April	Free
Isle of Wight Garlic	Food	Isle of Wight	August	£10–15
Taste of London	Mixed	London	June	£22–28
Bolton Food & Drink	Mixed	Lancashire	August	Free

Festival	Type	Location	Month	Entry
Cardiff International	Mixed	Cardiff	July	Free
Liverpool Food & Drink	Mixed	Liverpool	September	£10–15
Brighton Food & Drink	Mixed	Brighton	Various	Varies
Foodies Festival	Mixed	Touring	Various	£12–18
Dartmouth Food	Mixed	Devon	October	Mostly free

● SOURCES

Source	Confidence
Wikipedia — List of food festivals in the UK	High
Wikipedia — Great British Beer Festival	High
CAMRA / beer festival directories	Medium
Festival official websites	High
General knowledge	Medium