



Fringe By The Sea - Environmental sustainability

Updated November 2020

Environmental statement

Fringe By The Sea is committed to minimising our impact on the environment, increasing our sustainability, and creating a forum to bring environmental issues and climate change crisis to our audiences.

Our home is in an area of outstanding natural beauty and heritage and with sites of special scientific interest on our doorstep, we feel a particularly strong responsibility to care for and protect our natural environment, and to encourage others to do the same.

We are part of the Green Arts initiative, an interactive community of over 200 Scottish arts and cultural organisations working to improve their environmental performance and run by Creative Carbon Scotland and Festivals Edinburgh.

We consider environmental sustainability at every stage of planning through to delivery and use the platform of creative arts to engage people about environmental issues.

We actively seek to reduce our impact in terms of waste and pollution. We plan to partner with local company Forth Resource Management which offers sustainable waste management solutions. We are taking part in a pilot programme with Zero Waste Scotland to 'Ditch Disposables' aimed at eliminating single-use plastic items from our festival in 2021.

We liaise with partners at East Lothian Council, the Scottish Seabird Centre as well as East Lothian Countryside Rangers, North Berwick Environment and Heritage Trust, North Berwick in Bloom and other local environmental groups.

We have signed up to the Vision 2025 pledge whereby the events industry aims to reduce its festival-related emission by 50% by 2025.

Our commitment to environment sustainability is demonstrated through:

- Compliance with environmental legislation
- Assessing the environmental impact of our operations
- Reducing our impact in terms of pollution, emissions and waste
- Encouraging the use of more sustainable forms of transport amongst participants, performers and visitors
- Sustainable management and use of resources including energy and water
- Raising awareness among employees and volunteers of environmental matters
- Working with suppliers and contractors to minimise their waste, improve accountability and improve sustainability in food sourcing



- Repurposing materials and items where we can such as in creating festival 'furniture' and in our community participatory activity
- Actively encouraging participants, performers and customers to participate in Fringe by the Sea in an environmentally focused way

Environmental Sustainability information

Getting here:

North Berwick is well served by public transport and we would strongly encourage our visitors to consider the most environmentally friendly way of getting to the festival not least because car parking is very limited in the town.

East Coast Buses, Eve Coaches and ScotRail offer regular bus and rail services. A special late train service is added to the ScotRail service to Edinburgh for the festival duration.

For those living in or near to town, we would highly recommend walking or cycling to the festival. North Berwick is on the John Muir Way – a good cycle and walking route into and around the town. Cyclists bringing their bikes to the festival can benefit from a free bike check from our resident bike mechanic.

Reducing waste:

We actively encourage all visitors to consider how to minimise the waste you create when you are at the festival and dispose of your waste responsibly in our recycling points around the festival zones.

We are working with Zero Waste Scotland to cut out all single-use plastic at Fringe By The Sea so please either bring your own cup, be prepared to pay a deposit for your re-usable cup or buy one of our keep cups for your hot and cold drinks.

Our traders work hard to minimise their packaging and waste and will serve their food into your own dishes if you have them with you.

Water refill station is available in the town centre, and at the Scottish Seabird Centre.

Our Festival Green Team are on hand to advise and support on recycling.

Our local natural environment and heritage:

We would ask our visitors to work with us to protect and care for the beautiful surroundings that act as our venues and performance spots by minimising the waste they create and disposing of their own waste responsibly.



Climate change crisis in our programme:

We proactively seek out ways in which we can our programme as a forum for audiences and participants to consider environmental issues and climate change crisis.

In particular our work with science focused creative arts group Rowanbank, local environmental charity FIDRA and the Scottish Seabird Centre informs this programming.

Our new STEM, science and environmental focused 'mini-festival' aims to encourage consideration of these issues through learning and play amongst all age groups.