



Stalls FAQs

Meadows Festival Edinburgh

Thank you for applying for a stall at this year's festival! We're a small team of volunteers and it will take longer to get back to any queries (as we all have day jobs and lives!). Please read these FAQs and the stall holder [Terms & Conditions](#), before getting in touch. Thank you!

Q: When is the Meadows Festival 2026:

Saturday 6th & Sunday 7th June 2026, 10am (Sat)/11am (Sun) to 6pm.

Q: How will I know my application is confirmed?

Once you've completed your payment (and your stall abides by the Ts&Cs) your application for the Meadows Festival is confirmed. We don't routinely confirm individual stalls by email unless there's a query. Check your application email receipt if you have any queries regarding your application. We'll send an email with your pitch number and digital information pack at least 2 weeks before the event.

Q: When will I know my pitch?

We'll send an email with your pitch number and digital information pack at least 2 weeks before the event.

Q: Is there a marquee, tables and chairs provided for the stall?

A: The stalls pitch is given as an empty pitch on the grass on the site. It is for each trader to bring the required coverings (gazebos, tents etc) and/or furniture according to their need.

Q: Can we hire furniture, or arrange electrical/water hookup through you?

A: We don't. As we're a small volunteer run charity, running a two day event in a public park, we don't have the resources to arrange that level of logistics.

Q: Can I bring a Luton van?

A: You can, but please let us know beforehand, since we'll need to ensure the pitch you're in is sufficiently high.

Q: Can I bring a HGV or similar?

A: The largest vehicle permitted on site is a Luton van - HGVs are not permitted.

Q: I want to bring a petrol generator, is that ok?

A: All generators on site must be diesel.

Q: Can I allow smoking in my stall?

A: Pursuant to the Health Act 2004, smoking is expressly prohibited within stalls.

Q: Is there a closing date for stall applications?

A: For food stalls, applications will be accepted until XXX. We'll then review the applications and confirm pitch offerings by XXX. This is so that all parties have certainty, especially since many food traders have to confirm diary bookings etc.

Non-food bookings can be accepted until mid-May.

Q: Do I really need insurance?

A: Yes.

Q: The insurance situation seems quite unfair. Is there really no wiggle room?

A: No, we are required as part of the lease conditions and our own insurers to satisfy ourselves that all stallholders do hold their own insurance. This is fairly standard for most reputable events and we have required that stallholders send us a copy of their PLI in advance for many years now. Prior to this we asked stallholders to sign to say they held this insurance, but did not seek proof. We understand the difficulties which one-off traders might face (eg house clearance or car boot style stalls) but have as yet been unable to find any solution.

If we do not assure ourselves that stallholders have correct insurance cover then not only does this risk a claim causing cancellation of future events, but the trustees of the organising committee could be personally liable.

Q: My insurance is due to run out before the Festival. What should I do?

A: Please send your current insurance now, and then send the updated certificate once you have this.

Q: Can I be located next to my friend, as we're both sole traders and share a lift / cover for each other's lunch or loo breaks.

A: This shouldn't be a problem, please can you both make it clear on your applications so we can site you together.

Q: Can I be located in my favourite spot/next to the X tent?

A: We can try to take preferences into account but can't guarantee. Again, please can this be made clear on the application form to give us all the information from the start (if a request comes in later, it is likely that confirmations will have already been sent to other stalls too).

Q: Am I required to accept payment from customers by card/cash/cheque?

A: We don't *require* stallholders to accept particular payment methods. We encourage commercial stalls, such as food stalls, to accept both cash and card where practical, to give

visitors the best choice. If stalls wish to accept one payment method only, (e.g. cash only/card only) we would suggest having clear signage to this effect to avoid confusion.

Q: I would like to sell stuffed squirrels, hire boats, clean windows, deal in venison or game, buy scrap metal, sell pets, sell knives or offer lap dances at my stall. Do I need a license for this?

A: All of the above are examples of byzantine things which you need an additional license from the City of Edinburgh Council to trade in, irrespective of where you do so in the City. All stallholders are responsible for their own licensing arrangements and, if you wished to sell any of the above, you would need the correct license to do so from CEC. All stalls are additionally subject to MFE's acceptance, so it is suggested you should contact us by email to confirm first.

Q: Can I sell vapes, tobacco, imitation weaponry, or counterfeit goods?

A: No, these items are expressly banned.

Q: Can I sell alcohol?

A: We carefully control alcohol sales on site. There are two licensed bars which are run by a selected appointed partner, which apply for an occasional on-sales license. We do allow a couple of stalls pitches for off-sale of selected craft wines/spirits (of a type distinctly not likely to be consumed at the time and on site). Please contact us by email before applying.

Q: Can I run a lottery or tombola?

A: These would require the appropriate licenses and registration to operate. All stallholders are responsible for their own licensing arrangements. All stalls are additionally subject to MFE's acceptance.

Q: My vehicle doesn't comply with the ULEZ, can I avoid the charge?

A: Our entrance point is within the ULEZ zone and any vehicles which drive into the zone will be charged, unless they are ULEZ-compliant. You should seek advice from the City of Edinburgh Council, who administer the scheme, as to whether your vehicle is compliant or whether there are exceptions. There is no general exception in place for the Meadows Festival. The ULEZ has now been in place for a few years and the vast majority of traders now come in a vehicle which does not attract the charge.

Q: I have a street traders license elsewhere in Edinburgh, do I need to apply to trade at the Meadows Festival?

A: The Festival area will be covered by a Market Operators License under the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, applications to trade within the area must be made to the Meadows Festival.

Q: I'm arranging for a friend/taxi/family member/colleague to drop me off, who will then go off site and repeat to pick up at the end of the event. Is this ok?

A: It is, but vehicle movements are only permitted before 9.30am and after 5.30pm, so be sure to bear this in mind.

Q: Can my vehicle remain on site during the Festival?

A: Yes, parked behind your stall.

Q: What if I don't know my vehicle registration number?

A: We understand that people might not know which vehicle they will bring, especially if hiring, so please put "unknown" or "hire vehicle" and then let us know once you know. We are required by CEC to keep records of the person responsible for all vehicles on site.

Q: How can I be sure I don't damage the grass?

A: Ensure that you drive carefully and let the vehicle clutch up slowly. Avoid areas with flooding or rutting (these will likely already have been coned off by our team). Ensure that your vehicle is not leaking engine/transmission oil, or fuel.

Q: Can I spread out onto the grass in front of my pitch?

A: To enable free flow of people, you are required to set your stall up behind the front line and not encroach upon it. This would also include any A boards etc. The sole exception would be food traders may have a rope or barrier to guide queuing.

Q: Can I leave my stall up overnight?

A: No. The lease we take from CEC specifically requires that all stalls be dismantled. In addition, stalls/gazebos are vulnerable to interference overnight as it is a public park. The sole exception to this is the custom-built catering wagons which can be secured and locked up overnight.

Q: What do I do if it rains? Will the festival be cancelled?

A: The festival has only been cancelled one day in the 50 years of operation because of bad weather! We would hope to continue this and definitely encourage all stallholders to ensure that their stalls have suitable protection for goods and shelter for yourself for all weather conditions.

Q: Is there somewhere on site to get water?

A: There is a public water fountain, but there is no high volume tap suitable for filling cartons etc.

Q: Can I make payment for the pitch fee by cheque or by credit card, as I can't make a BACS transfer.

A: Yes, please contact stalls@meadowsfestival.co.uk to arrange.

Q: What should I do if I have a lot of rubbish to dispose of? (cardboard boxes, waste product etc)

A: Please do not put it in the litter bins as they are only for visitors litter. Please take it to the top end of the site (adjacent to the university) where there is a large bulk skip.

Any other questions please check the T&Cs or email stalls@meadowsfestival.co.uk

Thank you!