



www.gumtree.com

The Alternative Local Guide to the Edinburgh Festival

Want to know where you can rent a nice room during the Festival for a mere £10 a night, or where to snap up tickets for sold-out shows at the 11th hour? Or even how to find love during the Festival?

Well, Edinburgh.gumtree.com, Scotland's biggest online community and FREE local noticeboard, is home to a mind-boggling array of insider tips and treats posted free by locals, for locals...and the thousands of visitors, of course,

who plan to make the journey North for the arts and cultural feast this year.

Local homeowners can make hay while the sun shines, renting out their spare rooms, sofas and parking spaces

to visitors. There's funky Festival jobs to be had and tickets to be bought or sold. So whatever your needs, Gumtree is a useful insider's guide to those wanting to enjoy the Festival, the local way!

We've pulled out some teasers of what's on offer this year:

Gumtree's Guide to...Accommodation

Hotels and hostels get booked up way in advance and it can really enhance the festival fun to have a home away from home. And it makes a perfect way for locals to make some extra cash at the same time, renting anything from your whole house to spare rooms and even your couch.

Community members from all over the globe use Gumtree to home swap during the Festival too - it's a free way to experience different cultures as a local.

Margaret Gallacher and her husband own a four-bedroom bungalow in Edinburgh. They had such a great experience renting out a spare room last summer that the lodgers they found are still there.

Gumtree's Guide to...Tickets

Some tickets are like gold dust because everyone wants to see big names like Ricky Gervais, but if you missed out when they went on sale, all is not lost. Gumtree has seen a whopping 843% increase in ads posted by people looking to buy and sell tickets in the last three months.

“Letting out our second room during the festival is more about meeting people and being a part of the community than making money. We're only charging £10 a night, so the room was popular and we received over 50 responses in just one day. I'm really looking forward to having a lodger and being part of the festival community.”

“Two spare tickets to see Foo Fighters with Nine Inch Nails as the support act as part of the world famous Edinburgh Festival. Unfortunately I can no longer go myself. Selling at £40 each which is the face value + booking fee price that I paid for them. Please e-mail me if interested and we can arrange to meet. Cheers for looking.”

Gumtree's Guide to...Finding a Friend or Romance

Even your friends might not want to go and see the same shows as you but that doesn't mean you should miss out. Finding a friend or a date is one of the most popular ways community members use Gumtree.

In fact it's so popular there's even a show about it! Comedian, Terry Saunders, does stand-up about Ethel, a girl obsessed with adverts lonely people post on the internet, trying to find the strangers they fancy.

“...was in Edinburgh a year ago and have lost contact with someone special. She used to work in the Beehive in Grassmarket, but not sure if she is still there etc. Anyways I'm heading back for the festival... would be grateful if u could let me know...”

“Summer is coming and I'd love to meet a like-minded gal to enjoy it with. I'm into art, music, film, books, eating out, cooking, travel and plenty more involving culture and having fun. I always try to go to a few things during the Festival/Fringe, so looking forward to all that involves.”

Gumtree's Guide to...Jobs

With a massive surge in the footfall of visitors to Scotland's capital city, the number of temporary jobs available soars. Finding keen beans quickly and easily is essential and one Gumtree member has done just that for ten different positions.

St George's West is a busy creative space in the centre of Edinburgh boasting a café, bar, conference facilities and church. During the Festival it hosts dance, drama and music shows from around the world so manager Becky Duncan, finds she needs to recruit extra staff during this buzzing period.

“It's the first year I've used Gumtree and it won't be the last. I placed three different adverts and was inundated with over 150 responses. I filled the vacancies in just over a week with really spot on candidates. It's been perfect to be able to meet seasonal demand so quickly and effectively.”

Gumtree's Guide to... Getting There

If you're conscious of your carbon footprint or just want some company travelling up to the Festival, why not rideshare. It's probably cheaper than public transport anyway, and it's a great way to meet interesting people.

“I travel from Leeds to Edinburgh 2/3 Fridays a month and usually back down on the Sunday, via Newcastle, Teesside etc if anyone wants a lift for shared costs and company, get in touch.”

So whatever you're planning on doing at this year's Festival, get onto Gumtree and share the amazing community spirit that goes hand in hand with The Edinburgh Festival.

For more information or case studies please contact the **Gumtree Press Office at Lexis Public Relations** on **020 7908 6589** or email **gumtree@lexispr.com**

Notes to editors:

About Gumtree.com

- Gumtree.com was created in London in March 2000 and now covers 60 cities in the UK, Ireland, Poland, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and Asia
- It is the UK's biggest website for local community classifieds including flat share, flat rentals and jobs

Fast Facts

- Around 5.5 million visitors a month
- 20,000 new ads in a day
- 100,000 ads live at any one time
- Half a million new ads in a month
- Three quarters of a million ads live on the site at any one time

• 150 million page impressions every month

• Gumtree.com users spend 5,360,000 minutes on the website each month



www.gumtree.com

Gumtree is your local community online. Home to all the things you'd expect from your local community; a place to find and advertise rooms, flats and houses, a notice board for selling and buying stuff, somewhere to find job or a date even just to chat with friends.