

WORLD MUSIC  
*Festivals*  
IN WALES



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Llandudno

Caernarfon

Wrexham

Welshpool

Aberystwyth

Fishguard

Carmarthen

Abertawe

Newport

Cardiff



**01****Llandudno Jazz Festival****When:** July**Where:** Llandudno**Genre:** Jazz

Three days of the best UK jazz alongside a fringe event featuring diverse and popular artists and bands playing jazz, trad jazz with some Soul, Funk and Blues.

**www.llandudnojazzfestival.com****02****March Manouche****When:** March**Where:** Menai Bridge**Genre:** Gypsy Jazz

UK Gypsy Jazz Festival which initially focussing on only UK acts, the festival is now growing to welcome acts from all over the world.

**www.marchmanouche.co.uk****03****Wales Harp Festival****When:** April**Where:** Caernarfon**Genre:** Harp

An international harp festival where harpists from all over the world are welcome to Caernarfon to join in the celebrations and make friends through music.

**www.walesharpfestival.co.uk****04****Gŵyl Arall\*****When:** July**Where:** Caernarfon**Genre:** All

A weekend of culture with literary events, music, visual arts, talks and walks.

**www.gwylarall.com****05****Llyn Guitar Festival****When:** September**Where:** Plas Glyn y Weddw**Genre:** Acoustic

This festival offers world class acoustic music and tuition to guitar enthusiasts at all level. Offering masterclasses and concerts with international musicians, the festival is a coastal retreat for guitarists.

**www.llynguitarfestival.org.uk****06****Sesiwn Fawr Dolgellau\*****When:** July**Where:** Dolgellau**Genre:** Folk/Celtic

A festival full of the best Welsh and Celtic music. Artists are programmed from Wales and beyond across a weekend. The whole of Saturday afternoon is held on the Sgwâr (town square) with a 'twmpath dawn' (much like a ceilidh), a procession and more.

**www.sesiwnfawr.cymru****07****Fire in the Mountain****When:** May/June**Where:** Cwmnewidion Isaf, near Aberystwyth**Genre:** Folk/World

A deliberately small and intimate festival on a farm in the foothills of the Cambrian mountains. Fire in the Mountain Festival aims to hold a folk music festival on a farm in return for maintenance and repairs to the farm on which it is held.

**www.fireinthemountain.co.uk****08****Fishguard Folk Festival****When:** May**Where:** Fishguard**Genre:** Folk/Traditional

This small festival brings together a unique mix of local talent and well-known performers to provide four days of songs, tunes and dance.

**www.fishguard-folk-festival.co.uk****09****Aberjazz Festival****When:** August**Where:** Fishguard**Genre:** Jazz/Blues

This five-day festival in west Wales features Jazz and Blues in and around the town of Fishguard.

**www.aberjazz.com****10****Fishguard International Music Festival****When:** July**Where:** Fishguard**Genre:** Jazz/Folk/World/Classical

Ten days of world class music set against a spectacular backdrop in Pembrokeshire.

**www.fishguardmusicfestival.co.uk****11****The Laugharne Weekend****When:** April**Where:** Laugharne**Genre:** All

An annual festival which concentrates on literature, music and comedy, bringing talent from all over the world but always maintaining a connection to writers and musicians from Wales or who have a connection with Wales.

**www.thelaugharneweekend.com****12****Gower Folk Festival****When:** June**Where:** Weobley Castle farm, Gower**Genre:** Folk/Traditional

A three-day folk and traditional music festival with a 14th Century Castle at its heart.

**www.gowerfolkfestival.co.uk****13****Swansea International Jazz Festival****When:** October**Where:** Swansea**Genre:** Jazz

This festival welcomes musicians and bands from the USA and Europe along with many of the best British Jazz ensembles.

Mixing a wide variety of different styles at ticketed performances alongside free fringe events spread across the Maritime Quarter.

**www.jazzwales.com**

**14****Cwlwm Celtaidd****When:** March**Where:** Porthcawl**Genre:** Traditional/Celtic

A small family friendly festival of music, song & dance from the Celtic countries of Ireland, Scotland, Isle of Man, Cornwall, Brittany & Wales.

[www.cwlwmceltaidd.org](http://www.cwlwmceltaidd.org)**15****Between the Trees****When:** August/September**Where:** Merthyr Mawr National Nature Reserve**Genre:** Contemporary folk,

Americana and acoustic roots  
Between the Trees has a unique theme of music, natural science and art, blending new exciting talent with more established performers.

[www.betweenthetrees.co.uk](http://www.betweenthetrees.co.uk)**16****Tafwyl\*****When:** June**Where:** Cardiff**Genre:** All

Cardiff's annual Welsh language arts & culture festival. Over the course of nine days it features a mix of music, literature, drama, comedy, art, sports, food & drink, culminating in a weekend of music and events within Cardiff Castle grounds.

[www.tafwyl.org](http://www.tafwyl.org)**17****Festival of Voice****When:** October**Where:** Cardiff**Genre:** All

Created by Wales Millennium Centre, Festival of Voice Cardiff is an international festival that celebrates the voice in all its forms. It brings artists and audiences together to hear and be heard; commissioning new work and unique collaborations in contemporary, world and classical music, opera, theatre, talks and visual art.

[www.festivalofvoice.cymru](http://www.festivalofvoice.cymru)**18****Sŵn****When:** October**Where:** Cardiff**Genre:** All

An award-winning multi-venue music festival based in Cardiff city centre since 2007. The festival has a strong focus on new music, emerging artists and supporting homegrown acts.

[www.swnfest.com](http://www.swnfest.com)**19****Tredegar House Folk Festival****When:** May**Where:** Newport**Genre:** Folk/Traditional

A small three-day festival with musicians, singers and dancers celebrating the power of music to bring people together. It celebrates Welsh cultural heritage with the traditions and histories of countries from across the world.

[www.tredegarhousefestival.org.uk](http://www.tredegarhousefestival.org.uk)**20****Devauden Festival****When:** May**Where:** Monmouthshire**Genre:** Folk/Acoustic

A two-day festival which describes itself as a small festival with big ideas.

[www.devaudenfestival.com](http://www.devaudenfestival.com)**21****Gŵyl Werin – Hydref****When:** October**Where:** Merthyr Tydfil**Genre:** Folk/Traditional

A new folk and traditional music festival run by Canolfan Soar. Described as a kaleidoscopic feast of Welsh folk.

[www.gwylwerin.cymru](http://www.gwylwerin.cymru)**22****Green Man****When:** August**Where:** Glan Usk Estate, Brecon Beacons**Genre:** All

Green Man programmes over 100 music artists each year from emerging artists to those with international acclaim in a range of genres to accommodate the variety of stages on the site. The festival supports emerging artists and offers training for people to engage with science and inspire positive change.

[www.greenman.net](http://www.greenman.net)**23****Llangollen Fringe****When:** July**Where:** Llangollen**Genre:** All

Llangollen Fringe Festival takes place two weeks after the International Musical Eisteddfod. It programmes an eclectic mix of musicians from across the world to perform alongside a programme of family workshops and comedy events.

[www.llangollenfringe.co.uk](http://www.llangollenfringe.co.uk)**24****Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod****When:** July**Where:** Llangollen**Genre:** All

Since 1947 Llangollen has staged one of the world's most inspirational cultural festivals. Each year around 4,000 performers and as many as 50,000 visitors converge to sing and dance in a unique combination of competition, performance, and international peace and friendship.

[www.international-eisteddfod.co.uk](http://www.international-eisteddfod.co.uk)

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### FOCUS Wales

**When:** May

**Where:** Wrexham

**Genre:** All

An international multi-venue showcase festival which places the spotlight firmly on emerging talent from Wales, alongside a selection of the best new acts from across the world.

[www.focuswales.com](http://www.focuswales.com)

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### The Good Life Experience

**When:** September

**Where:** Flintshire

**Genre:** All

Founded by Cerys Matthews, this festival places equal emphasis on craft, outdoor activity, food, music and ideas aiming to connect visitors with the things that really matter, not just for one long, idyllic weekend in Wales, but for ever.

[www.thegoodlifeexperience.co.uk](http://www.thegoodlifeexperience.co.uk)

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### Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Cymu\*

**When:** August

**Where:** Peripatetic (2020 Tregaron)

**Genre:** All

The National Eisteddfod is a celebration of Welsh language and culture. The festival has no fixed location, but alternates between sites in north and south Wales, attracting around 150,000 visitors, over 6,000 competitors and can be traced back to the year 1176. The Eisteddfod is the natural showcase for music, dance, visual arts, literature, original performances and much more.

[www.eisteddfod.wales](http://www.eisteddfod.wales)

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### Eisteddfod Genedlaethol yr Urdd\*

**When:** May

**Where:** Peripatetic (2020 Denbigh)

**Genre:** All

One of Europe's largest youth touring festivals (90,000 visitors), the Urdd National Eisteddfod is a competitive festival with over 15,000 children and young people under the age of 25, competing and performing during the Eisteddfod week in various competitions and concerts with a focus on music, dance and the spoken word.

[www.urdd.cymru](http://www.urdd.cymru)

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\* A festival which is held predominantly in the Welsh language

