

Bournemouth Arts by the Sea Festival Venue Green Rider

The Arts by the Sea Festival is committed to working towards safeguarding our natural environment. In a five-year Environmental Action Plan, the Festival aims to become more ethical, sustainable and reduce our environmental impact, raising awareness of environmental concerns with our venues, artists and audience. Touring has a substantial impact on the environment and we'd like to keep this to a minimum. We have implemented a number of initiatives for our own activities but also need the support of our venues, Promoters and other Partners to make the Festival as environmentally sustainable as possible; your help will be highly valued.

What can you do?

Energy

- Increase energy efficiency by establishing an energy performance monitoring and buildings energy plan.
- At the end of their life, replace old appliances with the most energy efficient version.
- Change your energy supplier and reduce carbon emissions by buying green energy.
- Encourage your staff to 'think green' and turn off computers, lights and heating when not in use.

Waste

- Provide clearly labelled recycling facilities backstage, in dressing rooms and public areas for all paper, cans, plastic and glass.
- Minimise waste within the office environment by setting double-sided printing as a default and only printing when necessary.
- Recycle as much waste as possible from your bar and restaurant areas, particularly glass and cardboard / paper.

Water and catering

- Establish a water policy which might cover things like reducing water usage by using low volume flush toilets.
- Minimise plastic waste from sales of bottled water by offering a 'refill your bottle' option or glasses of tap water. Offer drinking water in jugs with glasses in dressing rooms.
- Provide organic, seasonal, locally sourced food and drink with minimal disposable packaging. Give preference to products with environmental credentials.
- Re-use washable service-ware for catering. If you have to use disposable plates, cups and cutlery make sure they are biodegradable. Don't use Styrofoam or provide plastic straws.
- Don't use single-serving sachets of salt/ pepper/ sugar/ condiments, provide them in bottled or shakers.

Logistics and production

- Turn off all unnecessary lighting and stage equipment when not in use.
- Provide a list of your in-house production equipment available for use by artists so they don't bring unnecessary equipment on the road.
- Use environmentally friendly and non-toxic cleaning products.
- Avoid using aerosols and polystyrene in production.
- Consider using recycled paper and environmentally friendly inks in all your marketing materials. Avoid using PVC in banners or ask for recycled versions where possible.
- Allow customers to show an e-ticket on their smart-phone to save on paper waste from printed tickets.

Travel

- Make information about public transport, cycling and car-share options available to audience members and promote these methods where possible.
- Provide secure cycle parking, information about the nearest cycle parking and facilities within your venue to store folding bikes and cycle equipment such as helmets. Share this information with your customers.

Communication

- Shout about your successes and tell people about the improvements you're trying to make. Publicise your own green credentials on your website and let your customers know.
- If you already have an Environmental Policy and Action Plan or can provide details of your green credentials and plans for the future, please send them to us so we can shout about them too.

Arts by the Sea Festival green objectives 2017

In 2017 we are concentrating on two core projects.

1. **Reducing plastic waste** from water bottles by encouraging our audience to refill rather than buy new. We aim to map all the drinking water in the town and include bars, restaurants and other venues who want to offer this service too. We would love your support with this objective, please let us know if you would like to sign up as a 'Refill your bottle' partner and we will share your involvement.
2. **Reducing carbon emissions by increasing sustainable travel.** We aim to encourage travel by foot, bike and public transport as much as possible and will be mapping all the cycle parking in the town. Please let us know whether you have cycle parking near your venue, how many units and whether you can store folding bikes and cycle equipment (helmets) in your venue for your audience. We will share this information with our festival-goers.