

Know Your Rights at Festivals (UK)

Clear information to help you stay safe and informed



What this guide is for

- This guide explains your basic rights at UK festivals, especially around searches, welfare, and medical help.
- It is about safety and clarity, not avoiding responsibility.

Searching and entry

- Festivals are private events and can set entry conditions
- You may be searched as a condition of entry
- You can refuse a search, but entry may be refused

Security staff

- Security staff are not police
- They cannot arrest you
- They can remove you from the site if rules are broken

Police on site

- Police powers are the same as anywhere else
- Police can search you if they have legal grounds
- You can ask why you are being searched

Welfare and medical teams

- Welfare and medics are there to help, not punish
- Medical staff are focused on health and safety
- Asking for help will not automatically get you in trouble

Medical confidentiality

- Medical conversations are confidential
- Information is shared only to keep people safe

If someone is unwell

- You can always ask for medical help
- You do not need to know what was taken
- Giving honest information helps medical teams act quickly

If you are stopped by police

- Stay calm and polite
- You can ask what is happening
- You do not have to answer questions beyond providing your name and address if required

Getting home safely

- Plan your journey home in advance
- Use official transport where possible
- Do not travel alone if you feel unwell

Key message

- Knowing your rights helps you make safer choices and get help without fear.