



Festival FAQ's

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

1. When and where is it?

Our Power of Plants festival will take place from Friday 13 July to Sunday 16 July 2023 at Hawkwood College, Stroud, GL6 7QW, What Three Words: [///octopus.worry.dispenser](#) and Lat/Long: 51.757091, -2.215375.

2. What is the site like?

Hawkwood College is a stunning, Grade II listed 19th Century country house, surrounded by 42 acres of sustainably managed woodland, farmland and gardens. Set in the heart of the Cotswolds (an area of Outstanding Natural Beauty), the house and grounds feature breathtaking views towards the River Severn and Wales.

There will be sessions both indoors and outdoors, a children's entertainment area and various food, drink and market stalls spread across the site.

Some areas of the site may be uneven and suitable footwear should be worn. If we have sustained wet weather during the weekend or in the lead-up, the site may become muddy.

3. Are dogs allowed on site?

Unfortunately, no dogs or pets are permitted on site at Hawkwood College.

4. What time can I arrive?

You will be able to arrive on site from 5pm on Thursday 13 July 2023. Please contact the office if you need to arrive earlier so that we can discuss this with you.

5. What time will the festival finish?

The sessions will finish around 7pm on Friday and Saturday, although there will be food, drink, music and dancing both evenings. On Sunday the event will finish by approximately 1.30pm to allow travel time home. All attendees must be off site by 3pm.

6. Can vehicles, camper vans and motorhomes be left overnight?

Yes, all vehicles should be parked in the designated area on site, ideally for the duration of the festival. If you are staying off-site please try to minimise any exits/entries each day. This will help to minimise traffic, pollution and potential damage. Please note that all vehicles are left at the owners' risk.

7. Will there be 4G and/or WiFi on site?

4G is available on site. We will aim to have a secure, chargeable locker on site which will be free of charge. Attendees may find it easier to bring power banks for their devices.

TRAVEL

1. By car/taxi

Hawkwood College can be easily reached by car. If you are driving from the M5, simply take Junction 13 and then the A419 to Stroud (approximately 15 minutes).

From the M4, take either the A419 (J15) or A46 (J18). Follow the signs for Stroud town centre then towards Gloucester on the A46.

Please note that there is 18ft access at the site entrance and exit. Free parking is available on site.

2. By train

Stroud is very well connected by rail. There are train connections from Stroud to London Paddington or Bristol within 90 minutes. There are connecting trains from Swindon, Reading, Cheltenham and Gloucester.

3. By bus

Stroud can be reached by bus and there are regular services to and from Gloucester and surrounding areas. Stagecoach operate various bus routes and

Merrywalks appears to be the closest stop to the festival site (approximately 30 minutes on foot). We would recommend that you check up to date timetables via the Stagecoach website. We are also looking into the possibility of a liftshare scheme from Stroud's town centre to and from the festival site.

4. By air

Stroud is within an hour's drive from two international airports, Bristol and Birmingham.

ACCOMMODATION

1. Camping on site

If you would like to camp on site, simply select the relevant ticket at the checkout. Our camping area can host tents and campervans and there will be toilets and showers available on site. Pitches will not be allocated but a member of the festival team will be on hand to help you find a spot if needed. Please note there are grass pitches only, and no electric hook-ups.

Pitches will not be allocated, you will select where to pitch on arrival. If you are unsure of where to pitch please speak to a member of crew.

Campervans may be pitched separately to tents dependant on weather and volume of camping bookings. Unfortunately we are unable to guarantee pitches together if camping with friends.

If you are in a tent you will be able to park close to your pitch to unload. Please then move your vehicle back to the car park before setting up.

2. Accommodation in the main house

If you have booked a bedroom in the main house, please come and see one of the team in the main Reception when you arrive who will provide you with your key. All rooms must be vacated by 10am on Sunday but secure luggage storage will be available for the rest of the day as needed.

3. Glamping village

If you have booked a glamping tent, please come and see one of the team in the main Reception when you arrive who will check you in. All tents must be vacated by 10am on Sunday but secure luggage storage will be available for the rest of the day as needed.

4. Off site accommodation

There are various Airbnb's in and around the Stroud area, and there is a range of hotels and B&B's 5 minutes away by car. The nearest YHA is in Cirencester which is approximately 10 miles from the festival site.

If you are in a caravan or motorhome, there are various sites with full facilities in and around the Stroud area.

TICKETS

1. Are children allowed at the festival?

We welcome children of all ages. The venue will be child friendly and there will be various activities over the course of the weekend. We have dedicated volunteers running these activities, but if you choose to leave your children at an activity please make sure they are happy without your supervision.

If you lose sight of your child, please contact a site marshall immediately so that they can help you. Alternatively, go to the Institute marquee. If you do bring young children, please ensure that on entry, they receive a wristband and write your contact number on it so that if you are separated, you can be reunited quickly.

2. I am an Institute Member. Do I still need to pre-book a ticket?

Yes please. All tickets should be purchased in advance of the event so that we have an accurate list of the names and number of attendees. Please ensure you select the correct number of tickets including free tickets for under 14's.

3. Which ticket should I purchase?

Please select either a full member, student, other practitioner or public ticket via the events page on our website.

4. Can I purchase a ticket on the day of the event?

Day tickets will be available until midnight the day before you plan to attend. We cannot guarantee that tickets will be available on the gate and so we would therefore ask that you kindly purchase tickets in advance.

5. How do I get my ticket?

You will receive a PDF QR code ticket over e-mail closer to the event date. When you arrive on site, you will need to check in at the main gate and collect a wristband. Wristbands are not transferable between people and are void if they are removed or tampered with.

6. What if I am disabled?

We want to ensure that Power of Plants is accessible for everyone. Some parts of the site are easier to access compared to others. If you are disabled, please get in touch with us via info@nimh.org.uk before the event so that we can discuss options with you.

7. What is your cancellation policy in relation to room bookings?

For any rooms booked in the main house on site, we would kindly ask that you let us know as soon as you can if you need to cancel your booking. We will aim to re-let your room and issue a full refund. You should look to see if you are covered under credit card/travel insurance policies.

8. What is your cancellation policy in relation to tickets?

Should the event be cancelled by the organisers for any reason, a full refund will be offered to all attendees. If an attendee is unable to come to the festival, a refund will be offered up until 14 days before the event starts. Within 14 days, no tickets will be refunded unless the event is cancelled by the event organiser.

9. Are there any volunteering options available?

We have made arrangements for volunteers to help during the festival weekend. If you are particularly interested in volunteering, please contact the office in the usual way. Please note that we are unable to offer remuneration for volunteers.

CATERING

1. Is food included in the ticket price?

Festival tickets cover entry and content across the weekend. Food and drink is not included as part of your ticket.

2. What food and drink is available?

You can find details of our food and drink providers together with a example menu on our dedicated festival webpage - <https://nimh.org.uk/pop-festival/>. The Potting Shed cafe and the Pestle and Mortar pub will both be on site offering alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks and packaged snacks at a very reasonable cost.

3. What about any dietary requirements?

Our caterers will be able to cater for most (if not all) dietary requirements. We have worked hard to ensure that there is something for everyone and our caterers will process food and drink orders speedily and so there is no need to pre-order!

4. Will the food and drink stalls on site accept card payments?

Yes, all food and drink stallholders will accept card (either contactless or chip and pin). Card payments will be encouraged across the site and we can make no guarantee that all traders will accept cash.

5. Can I bring my own food and drinks, including alcohol?

Attendees can bring their own food and alcoholic drinks should they wish to do so. Please note that there will be no food cold storage or preparation facilities available (including in the main house).

We will have urns of hot water between the hours of 7am and 10pm for festival attendees to use free of charge.

6. Will there be somewhere to wash my utensils?

There is cold water available within the camping field and if you need to wash any cooking/eating utensils, please bring a kettle or pan to heat water if required.

7. What do I do if I forget a water bottle?

For a small fee (£1), you will be able to purchase a sustainable water bottle from the main Reception. These can be refilled on site for free at one of the tested drinking points.

8. What about camping stoves and fire pits?

Camping stoves and small fire pits (below knee height) are also permitted although these should remain attended at all times.

9. Refuse, recycling and staying green!

There will be various waste collection points on site and we are working hard to ensure that so far as is possible, waste is sustainable and recyclable. We are using plant-based, compostable serving ware and glasses throughout.

We ask that you please keep the site tidy across the weekend and leave the site as you find it.

PERSONAL SAFETY

1. Are you fully insured?

We carry £1 million worth of Public Liability Insurance cover for the festival.

2. What to do in an emergency

There will be festival crew wearing orange lanyards on site throughout the weekend. If you feel unwell or need help, locate a member of crew who will be able to assist. There will also be a herbal first aid trailer on site.

In the event of a serious or life-threatening situation, please contact a marshall immediately and dial 999.

3. Lost property

Attendees are responsible for their belongings (including car keys, cash, credit cards, mobile phones, wallets, purses and other valuables) at all times. However, our on-site marshalls will do their best to assist if a valuable item goes missing.

4. Do you permit fireworks?

Fireworks, flares, Chinese lanterns and sparklers are strictly prohibited.

5. What hygiene measures are in place?

There will be hand sanitisers and/or sinks in the toilet and washroom areas on site. The festival team will ensure that toilets and washrooms are checked regularly throughout the weekend.

FINAL POINTS

 If you have any other questions, please feel free to contact the office in the usual way via info@nimh.org.uk or 01392 642973 and we will do our best to help.

 Please do share your festival experience on social media! Our handle is **@medherbalists** and please use the hashtags #powerofplants, #powerofplantsfestival and #pop2023.

We very much hope that you enjoy the festival! 

Drugs at the festival

The festival team does not condone the use of drugs. Drug enforcement laws are as applicable on the festival site as anywhere else in the country, and it is therefore illegal to buy, sell or possess drugs. If you bring drugs with you, you risk having them confiscated and possible removal from the festival site. Experimenting with drugs can lead to adverse reactions. If you do take drugs and you become ill, depressed or frightened please ask a marshall to help and support you. Always be honest with medical teams about what you have consumed so they know how best to help you.