



Access Guide

Introduction

IF: Milton Keynes International Festival welcomes everyone and seeks to improve access at each new Festival edition. We do this through developing new creative work with D/deaf and disabled artists and working with interpreters to make our artworks and performances accessible. The programming and production team consider access for our artists, performers, audiences, participants, volunteers and staff at every stage throughout the 10 days of the Festival and during the two years of the Festival's development. We also work with local partners in Milton Keynes to improve access facilities and develop connections with D/deaf and disabled communities.

If you are visiting the Festival you will be greeted by our friendly team of staff and volunteers who include D/deaf and Disabled people.

About the Festival

The Festival takes place every 2 years. It last for 10 days and this year starts on Friday 18th July and finishes on Sunday 27th July.

Please note that **Michael Pendry: Les Colombes**, a new Festival art installation in Middleton Hall, centre:mk, begins earlier than the main festival. Michael will begin installing hundreds of white origami doves from the 3 July, some of which will be made by people from Milton Keynes in workshops including in centre:mk.

The Festival's multi-art form programme is packed with free family events, new commissions and premieres, community projects large-scale outdoor and family events including dance, theatre, concerts, talks and visual art installations.

Working in partnership with local D/deaf and Disabled organisations

Camphill Communities Over the last 3 editions of the Festival residents and staff have helped make the festival more accessible for Learning Disabled people as well experiencing the excitement of the festival on guided tours and taking part in our community participation projects.

Festival Deaf Ambassador George Chapman is 2025 ambassador. George regularly takes part in drama in the city and has been helping the Festival team to teach Festival volunteers basic some basic signs in British Sign Language (BSL)

MK Disability Awareness Day on Monday 14th July <https://mkdad.wordpress.com> IF will be at the event encouraging people to come to the Festival. The Festival will also have a dove-making workshop activity at MK Rose and in the centre MK, part of Michael Pendry Les Colombes

Access information

IF: 2025 website

What's On Page : <https://ifmiltonkeynes.org/whats-on>

Access Information for each show is available on website event pages.

View an online programme for the festival here: [insert iSSU Link]

Or collect in person from The Stables, festival venues, Libraries and Getsmart outlets

Access Page

Find out about access at the Festival on our dedicated access page.

<https://ifmiltonkeynes.org/your-visit/access-1>

There you can Watch, Listen and Download IF: 2025 Access Guides

1. IF: 2025 Guide to Access at IF: 2025
2. IF: 2025 Audio Described Guide (recording available on soundcloud)
3. IF: 2025 Large Print Guide
4. IF: 2025 BSL Guide (video also available on YouTube)
5. IF: 2025 Easy Read Guide, co-produced with Camphill Communities

Free Guided Tours

IF runs a Deaf led BSL Tour and a Vocaleyes Audio Described Tour of Festival art installations in Central Milton Keynes. Details of how to book your place can be found online and in the BSL and Audio Described Guide available on our access pages.

Accessible Shows

Selected shows with BSL, Captioning and Audio Description are listed on event pages. Please check out our BSL and Audio Described Access Guides or website event pages. Contact our Box Office to book tickets and discuss access requirements.

Festival Social media:

Hashtag: #IFMKfest

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/IFMKfest/>

Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/ifmkfest/>

X <https://x.com/IFMKfest>

You Tube <https://www.youtube.com/ifmiltonkeynes>

Symbols Guide:

Each event description on the Festival website uses symbols to help you understand quickly what access measures are in place and simple descriptions of what you can expect from an event.

Access Symbols



Audio Described



Relaxed Performance



BSL Interpreted



Hearing Loop Available



Drop Off/Pick Up Point



Wheelchair Accessible



Assistance Dogs Welcome



Blue Badge Parking




Captioned Performance




Wheelchair Viewing Area

What to Expect

 Family Friendly

 Loud Event


 Join In!

 Standing Event

 Make Some Noise

 Digital Content

 Seated Event

 Flashing Lights

 Outdoor Event

 No Speech

Booking Tickets

Some events are free, and you can just turn up. Some are free, but you need to book tickets. And there are others you have to buy tickets for.

Our Box Office staff are happy to help with all your enquiries about buying tickets, coming to the events and access requirements.

You can buy tickets on our website: ifmiltonkeynes.org

Email: access@stables.org

Tel: 01908 280800

Booking for wheelchair, companion and personal assistant seats

Please contact the Box Office by email access@thestables.org or call 01908 280800.

Access at our Festival sites

The Festival takes place in Central Milton Keynes, including centre:mk shopping centre and across Milton Keynes, in parks, indoor and outdoor public space.

Festival Central in Campbell Park is the heart of the festival, where you can see shows, buy food and drink and soak up the festival atmosphere. The Stables Speigeltent and The Stables Sessions: Acoustic Stage at Festival Central host a programme of music and comedy and there are a wide range of shows which are family friendly in different areas of the park.

Accessible facilities

- Accessible toilets are available at all festival sites.
- Changing Places toilets are available in centre:mk, [MK Gallery](#) and Unity Place
- Assistance dogs are welcome. If you have questions about whether an event is suitable for you dog please get in touch. access@thestables.org or call 01908 280800
- Large print menus are available from food vendors
- Lower serving positions are available in our Festival bars.
- Limited Blue badge parking is available at Festival Central in Campbell Park, Unity Place, The Open University.

- Other Accessible parking is also available in centre:mk car parks and throughout Central Milton Keynes. Download a map here: <https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2024-04/Milton-Keynes-Parking-Map%20%281%29.pdf>
- Campbell Park has a network of pathways accessible for wheelchairs.

If you are visiting the shopping centre for Festival events, please see access information on centre:mk website <https://www.centremk.com/visit/amenities/>

You can also find out about the latest developments to improve accessibility in Central Milton Keynes <https://www.mymiltonkeynes.co.uk/accessibility-and-inclusion>

Traveling to the Festival

The festival website has information about local transport, road and cycle networks.

Getting around in Milton Keynes <https://ifmiltonkeynes.org/your-visit/getting-around-mk>

Or, If you are visiting Milton Keynes : <https://ifmiltonkeynes.org/your-visit/visiting-mk>

We look forward to welcoming you to the Festival.