



Bristol Harbour Festival 2026 **Trader Application Form Notes**

Proud Events is excited to announce that Bristol Harbour Festival will take place over the weekend of Friday 17th - Sunday 19th July across the Bristol Harbourside. The festival has been running for over 50 years and remains one of Bristol's largest **FREE** events. This year we will continue to grow and develop areas from last year's event and take on board learnings to create the best Bristol Harbour Festival yet. For more information on the festival please visit our website: www.bristolharbourfestival.co.uk.

These notes are designed to help you with your application.

Sustainability Policy

Bristol Harbour Festival and Bristol City Council are committed to reducing the festival's direct and indirect carbon footprint. All traders are asked to comply with the following:

- No single-use plastic is allowed at food stalls. This includes sauce sachets, coffee cup lids, plastic cups or pots & plastic food containers.
- No bioplastic is allowed on site. This includes cutlery, clear film windows on food containers, sauce pots, dessert pots. Some products look like plastic but are 'compostable'. These are made from PLA or CPLA, this is not permitted as they are often mistaken for customers as plastic & get put in the recycling that contaminates the resulting stream.
- All takeaway serveware, including food containers and cutlery, must be certified compostable paper, card, or wood to BS EN 13432 standard. If you are unsure about what packaging is acceptable please do not hesitate to contact us, the rules onsite are strict & non-compliance may result in you not being invited to trade at the festival again. A copy of the full sustainability policy will be sent with your offer email if you are selected to go through to the next stage.

Bristol Eating Better Award (BEBA)

The Bristol Eating Better Award supports businesses, school caterers and early years caterers and providers that offer healthier food options and promote food and environmental sustainability.

Bristol Harbour Festival is working with Bristol City Council to promote the BEBA scheme and commits to increase the number of BEBA certified traders year on year working towards a commitment of 100% of caterers having a Bronze Level award by 2030. In 2024 Bristol



Harbour Festival increased the number of BEBA accredited traders onsite by over 200%.



Caterers who are certified, or commit to being certified, will be a consideration when selecting caterers to trade at Bristol Harbour Festival.

The Bristol Eating Better Award team are happy to work with you to achieve the award and can be contacted at bristoleatingbetter@bristol.gov.uk.

More information on the BEBA scheme can be found at <https://www.bristol.gov.uk/bristol-eating-better-award/awards/business-award>.

What We Look For

- Good Quality Food/Produce - We endeavour to offer ethically, organically and locally sourced, high quality & sustainable options to our valued customers.
- Caterers who are certified, or commit to being certified, with the BEBA scheme.
- Accurate Pitch Size & Stall Layout - This helps us to understand where you could fit into the festival site. Pitch sizes must include your total footprint; the stall, any stock vehicles, prep kitchen & any additional BOH space you require. Please provide us with a drawing of your proposed layout, please show the dimensions of the signage & tow bars etc separately on your diagrams as we are able to place these in the gaps between the traders.

Are There Restrictions?

When you apply, please provide a full menu/list of the products you wish to sell; all products that you sell onsite must be pre-approved. This allows us to ensure that we offer a balance of products in each trading location.

Due to agreed festival sponsorship deals, there may be limitations to which soft drinks you are able to sell; successful applications will be advised on which manufacturers are permitted a few weeks prior to trading.

Please see full list of restricted items:

- No items relating to official merchandise or acts appearing there are to be sold.
- No illegal drugs or psychoactive substances including laughing gas/NOS.
- No chinese lanterns, fireworks / flares.
- Klaxons / air horns / megaphones (or other similar items capable of making loud noise).
- Drones.
- No smoke canisters.



- No drinks or water to be sold in plastic bottles.
- No glass to be served to customers. Anything within glass vessels must be decanted into reusable containers, or binned; there will be no exceptions!
- No items which may be reasonably considered for use as a weapon.
- No glitter, unless it is biodegradable.
- No tattoo or body piercing.
- No portable laser equipment, including laser pens.

Things To Consider

As a family friendly festival, we look for traders that have offerings that will appeal to the whole family. We ask that all food traders provide a children's offering. The Great British Summer is not always sunny & blue skies, so you & your setup will need to be prepared for potentially facing all weather conditions. Your structure & all signage should be sturdy, safe & secured in the event of any strong winds & heavy rain.

Own generators are not permitted & all power used onsite must be drawn directly from the festival power supply. The amount of power that you require for your stall needs to be pre-requested, all electrical equipment must be PAT tested & within your power specification.

2026 Pitch Fees

Full details of pitch fees can be found in the application form.

Optional Extras

Optional extras include electricity, charged at £200 + VAT for 16 amp supply, £250 + VAT for 32 amp supply or £500 + VAT for a 32 amp 3 phase supply. Please confirm your requirements before the festival as any changes on site will incur a surcharge of £100 + VAT.

- 16amp Single Phase power supply £200+VAT
- 32amp Single Phase power supply £250+VAT
- 32amp 3 phase £500+VAT

Waste Bonds

All festival traders will be charged a refundable waste bond of £100 per non-food trader and £200 per food trader to ensure pitches are left clean and tidy and traders adhere to the conditions of trading and the festival's Sustainability Policy.



Deadlines for Traders

Please return your completed application forms by 12pm on Friday 26th February 2026.
Deposit Invoices will then be issued.

Successful applicants will be notified shortly after the expression of interest closes.

50% non refundable deposits to be paid on confirmation.

50% balance payments to be made no later than 26th March 2026.

Once your application has been accepted we will send you an invoice by return.

Please note that if your payments are late your place may be released to other traders and your deposit will not be returned. All deposits are non-refundable.

We will NOT accept cash or card payments. Please pay via BACS.

If you have any questions, please email harbourfestival@proudevents.co.uk.

Documentation Requirements

All traders must be fully compliant with the most current legislations in respect to Trading Standards, Health & Safety & Environmental Health of Bristol City Council. Where applicable, in date copies of the following documentation must be submitted with 28 days notice before you are permitted to trade onsite:

- Public Liability Insurance Certificate
- Employers Liability Insurance Certificate
- Method Statements & Risk Assessments (including fire risk assessment)
- PAT Test Certificate
- Food Safety Plan (if applicable)
- Registration with Local Authority (if applicable)
- Gas Safety Certificate (if applicable)
- Food Hygiene Training Certificate (if applicable)

The following documentation must be displayed on your stall:

- Fully completed allergen matrix (if serving food)



Food traders will be inspected onsite by the FAB trader team &/or by the Council, please ensure you have copies of all the relevant documentation, food safety records & your stall is cleaned & maintained to a high standard. Anyone that is not deemed compliant with the food safety legislations will not be permitted to trade until any issues have been rectified & a follow up inspection has been carried out.

Can I Bring My Children?

Children are not permitted on site during the build & break due to safety regulations.

Unfortunately, under 18's are not permitted to work at the event.

Can I Bring My Pets?

No pet animals are allowed on the festival site apart from assistance dogs.

Access Guidelines for Traders

Bristol Harbour Festival holds Gold status from Attitude is Everything.

Please consider the accessibility of your stall, these are some things to consider:

- If your unit does not have step-free access & a lowered counter, staff should be briefed on how to provide an accessible service.
- Staff should make adjustments to allow people to have their orders taken, this may involve servers coming to the front of the counter.
- Adjustments to allow people to view menus, this includes low level & large print menus.

Brand Partnership Opportunities?

If your brand is of a certain size you will not be allowed to trade with us under a trader pitch and will fall under the Brand Partnership category.

If you would like to bring your brand to Bristol Harbour Festival please contact miles@proudevents.co.uk