

boing!
2025

Kent's Family
Arts Festival

Gulbenkian
Arts Centre



A weekend of brilliant
performance and
creativity for all ages

Gulbenkian Arts Centre,
Canterbury
Sat 23 & Sun 24
Aug 2025

boingfestival.com

Welcome

Boing is back!

Join us for a weekend packed with performance, entertainment and creativity this August Bank Holiday weekend.

From *Early Weaves* and *First Light* for our smallest audience members, to *Trash!* and *Queen of the Serpents* in our larger venues, bOing! has something for everyone to enjoy.

We keep bOing! free to enter, with plenty of free performances activities for everyone to enjoy, and our ticketed shows have a maximum ticket price of only £6 per person.

So don't miss the family highlight of Kent summer – a weekend for everyone – we'll see you at bOing! 2025.

David Sefton

Director, Institute of Cultural and Creative Industries (ICCI)



bOing! is a Relaxed Festival

We believe that bOing! is for everyone and each year we work to ensure that all audiences can enjoy the special bOing! atmosphere.

bOing! 2025 is a relaxed festival, meaning all performances have a relaxed approach to noise and movement in the space – plus chill-out spaces and noise-cancelling headphones are available for adults and children.

Accessible bOing!

All our venues are wheelchair accessible including the **Luminarium** (p.9)

For neurodiverse audiences

Drift (p.13) - ages 5+
Playground SEND Sessions (p.17) - ages 0-18 months

Relaxed Screenings

Sat, 11am - **Smurfs** (p.34)
Sun, 11am - **Lilo and Stitch** (p.35)



Image: @Aziz El Hamoudi

A fun, musical family show with high-voltage percussion, comic performances and more hi-vis jackets than bin day.

Four creative workers give new life to all kinds of waste using percussion, movement and slapstick. Butane bottles, umbrellas, balls, tool boxes, horns, bin bags... These guys turn everything into colourful musical sketches full of wit and humor. This is trash turned into treasure.

Yllana

Trash!

DATES: Sat 23 &
Sun 24 Aug

TIMES: 10.45am & 3pm

LOCATION: Gulbenkian
Theatre

TICKETS: £6

AGES: All



A ssspellbinding new family musical!

Eglė has always felt like she doesn't quite fit in, stuck between daydreams of wild adventures and a family that just wants her to be normal. But everything changes the day she meets a mysterious talking snake in the forest.

Based on a classic Lithuanian fairytale, *Queen of the Serpents* is an enchanting new musical packed with original songs, playful humour, and a heart as bold as its heroine.

Written and Directed by Liv Morris of Cabaret sensations Bourgeois & Maurice, making her first children's show.

*Produced by 1DegreeEast
Supported by Arts Council England*

1DegreeEast

Queen of the Serpents

DATES: Sat 23 &
Sun 24 Aug

TIMES: 11.30am & 1.30pm

LOCATION: Colyer-
Fergusson Hall

TICKETS: £6

AGES: 7+



Myriad is a vibrant, sensory, and immersive sculpture filled with light for visitors to explore. Covering an impressive 900 square metres, the Luminarium offers an intricate labyrinth of tunnels and domes filled with radiant colours.

Please note:

- Book your entry time in advance to reduce queues. Tickets are available on the day, if the pre-booked ticket have sold out.
- Time in the Luminarium is limited to 20 minutes at busy periods, but longer if there is no queue. Due to the special setting of this event, audience members who wish to enter the structure will be asked to remove their shoes.
- Children under the age of 16 need to be accompanied by an adult (1 adult to 4 children). Babies (0-18months) are free to enter the Luminarium with an adult and do not require a baby ticket.
- Myriad is accessible to wheelchair users and anyone with mobility issues.

Architects of Air

Myriad Luminarium

DATES: Sat 23 &
Sun 24 Aug

TIMES: Timeslots from
10am

LOCATION: Cathedral
Meadow

TICKETS: £5

AGES: All Ages



Featuring live music and puppetry, Puffling Percy is an uplifting tale about overcoming fear and finding true friendship.

Percy is a young puffin who is too afraid to fly. He'd rather keep to his burrow, thank you very much. When his parents migrate south for the winter, Percy finds he is all alone and in grave danger!

Along comes a fearless field-mouse called Shrimp and the two of them set off on an unexpected adventure: can they survive the perils on the journey ahead, and will Percy ever find his way back to his flock...?

Featuring music by Mrs H from The Singalong Band!

A co-production with Norwich Puppet Theatre and fully funded by the Arts Council.

Puffling Productions

Puffling Percy

DATES: Sat 23 &
Sun 24 Aug

TIMES: 10.15am & 1.30pm

LOCATION: Grimmond
Building

TICKETS: £6

AGES: 4+



Follow Player 1 and Player 2 through our new Sensory Theatre show, as our audience are drawn inside an old arcade game.

With 8-bit music, and video-game inspired lighting, we are inviting learning disabled audiences aged 5+ to explore with their senses on every level.

This interactive experience will put our audience on the controls, steering our Players through the journey of the game.

Drift is a multi-sensory production designed in collaboration with learning disabled young people from Leeds East SILC, John Jamieson School.

Interplay National
Sensory Theatre

Drift

DATES: Sat 23 &
Sun 24 Aug

TIMES: 11.45am & 3.15pm

LOCATION: Grimmond
Building

TICKETS: £6

AGES: 5+
(learning disabled)



Early Weaves is a wonderful, non-verbal introduction to dance theatre for early years children. A heart-warming tale of friendship, curiosity and play.

Watch Willow and Weave as they use the versatile willow to inspire each other and dive deep into their sense of imagination. They explore sound and movement, creating magic and laughter, and invite the audience in to play.

The performance is followed by a 15-minutes stay-and-play where the audience can get involved and join in the fun. Touch Tours – there will be Touch Tours of the set and props at 10.30am & 1.30pm both days.

Ascension Dance
Company

Early Weaves

DATES: Sat 23 &
Sun 24 Aug

TIMES: 10.45am & 1.45pm

LOCATION: Jarman
building

TICKETS: £6

AGES: 1-4

In our Baby Zone



Co-created by
Daniel Naddafy and
Marty Langthorne

First Light

DATES: Sat 23 &
Sun 24 Aug

TIMES: 10am to 4pm
(Timeslots)

LOCATION: Jarman
building

TICKETS: £8
(up to 4 people)

AGES: 0-18 months

Bathe in sound and light with your baby as you explore the wonders of how their senses develop. Sit, lie down or stand while sharing this immersive, intimate experience.

Inspired by baby lab research into the expanding vision of children from birth until 18 months, real-life soundscapes harmonise and echo a newborn's hearing as lights twinkle and colour slowly fills the performance pod.

Each 15-minute performance admits a group of up to 4 (including the baby) per ticket. Please arrive 10 minutes early, as latecomers won't be admitted.

*Co-commissioned by the Barbican
London and developed with support from
Attenborough Centre for the Creative Arts
and Half Moon Theatre.*



Baby Playground

DATES: Sat 23 & Sun 24 Aug

TIMES: 10.30am & 12pm

LOCATION: Jarman Building

TICKETS: Free (but please book
tickets)

AGES: 0-18 months

Free sensory and non-verbal creative activities for babies 0-18 months and their parents and carers to enjoy. Delivered by a brilliant team of skilled artists and musicians, Baby Playground creates a magical experience for you to explore with your baby.

Please note – this event is free to join, but you will need to book your space in advance.



Playground SEND Sessions

DATES: Sat 23 & Sun 24 Aug

TIMES: 1.30pm & 3pm

LOCATION: Jarman Building

TICKETS: Free (but please book
tickets)

AGES: 0-18 months

Free creative and multi-sensory activities especially designed for children, parents/carers, teachers and support staff in Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND) settings supported by experienced SEND artists from a range of disciplines, including music, visual arts, drama and dance. Each session lasts 45 minutes



Autin Dance
Theatre

Parade - The Giant Wheel

DATES: Sat 23 &
Sun 24 Aug

TIMES: 10.15am, 2pm

LOCATION: Gulbenkian
Lawn

TICKETS: Free

Parade is a moving performance inspired by the beauty, power and impact of people from different walks of life coming together, featuring a 12-foot tall Giant Wheel powered by 5 dance artists and accompanied by music and local community groups.

Autin Dance Theatre uses its unique blend of contemporary storytelling, striking physicality and innovative large designs to transport audiences and community groups along a carefully choreographed procession.



Anchored In Air is a groundbreaking aerial theatre show brought to you by Head Over Wheels, a disabled & non-disabled aerial company, pushing the boundaries of Circus.

This debut show is a mesmerizing fusion of circus, dance, text and live music, taking audiences on a thrilling journey into the world of flying wheelchairs, integrated audio description, gravity-defying acrobatics, and the captivating challenge of navigating a colossal tower.

Please note we will be offering touch tours for the set and props at 12pm and 4pm on both days!

Head Over Wheels

Anchored in Air

DATES: Sat 23 &
Sun 24 Aug

TIMES: 12.15pm & 4.15pm

LOCATION: Gulbenkian
Lawn

TICKETS: Free



Moving Memory
Dance Theatre

Golden Slumbers

DATES: Sat 23 &
Sun 24 Aug

TIMES: 11.30am, 1.15pm
& 3.30pm

LOCATION: Roaming

TICKETS: Free

Building on the Welsh concept of Cwtch – a loving hold – Golden Slumbers is a highly visual and physical outdoor show exploring the endless cycle of labour experienced by women through their lives, and celebrating everyone's right to a little rest and recuperation.



Ever dreamed of a magic flying carpet ride while a pianist accompanies your flight with marvellous music? Close your eyes and let the world go by?

In the fantastic world of Grandet Douglas this dream becomes reality. Be surprised by a special mobile structure and a piano which is so light that it defies gravity. Sitting on a comfortable flying carpet, the miracle unfolds before your eyes....

Cie Grandet
Douglas

Le Manège du Contrevent

DATES: Sat 23 &
Sun 24 Aug

TIMES: 10am & 1pm

LOCATION: bOing!
Hilltop

TICKETS: Free

Music at bOing!



City Sound Project Presents

DATES: Sat 23 &
Sun 24 Aug

TIMES: 11am – 3pm

LOCATION: bOing!
Hilltop

TICKETS: Free

A brilliant selection of artists brought to the bOing! Stage by local producers, City Sound Project.

Line up details online nearer the time.



Returning to bOing! for a second year, come and join Mrs H and her band as they whisk you away on a musical journey with their infectious songs. Part theatre, part comedy, with a huge sprinkling of mischief, bring your voices, silly dances, and don't hold back from joining in the family fun!.

Mrs H and the Singalong Band

DATES: Sat 23 &
Sun 24 Aug

TIMES: 3.30pm – 4.30pm

LOCATION: bOing!
Hilltop

TICKETS: Free



Zest Theatre

Sound Board

DATES: Sat 23 & Sun 24 Aug

TIMES: 11am & 2pm

LOCATION: Jarman Plaza

TICKETS: Free

A show shaped by you in real-time.

Part chat show, part game, part live performance.

Pop on a pair of headphones, listen in, and see where it takes you. No scripts. No barriers. No filters. Just real voices, big ideas, and the energy of right now.



School of Noise

A-Z of Sound

DATES: Sun 24 Aug

TIMES: 10am, 12pm & 2pm

LOCATION: Grimond Building

AGES: 5+

TICKETS: £4

Join the School of Noise on a whistle-stop A-Z tour all about sound. Each letter of the alphabet will reveal facts about unusual instruments, animals, acoustic architecture, scientific discoveries and more.



Gulbenkian Youth Theatre

Roving performances

DATES: Sat 23 & Sun 24 Aug

TIMES: Pop up

LOCATION: Could be anywhere

TICKETS: Free

Always a highlight of the festival, keep your eyes peeled for crazy characters and imaginative roaming performances popping up across the bOing! site.



Silent Disco

DATES: Sat 23 & Sun 24 Aug

TIMES: 10am – 4pm

LOCATION: Gulbenkian Lawn
'The Shed'

TICKETS: Free

Everyone is invited to the bOing! silent disco... just let yourself go! The disco will run at various times throughout the festival - check the chalkboard for details.

FutureProof Zone



DATES: Sat 23 &
Sun 24 Aug

TIMES: 10am - 5pm
(Drop in)

LOCATION: Marlowe
Building

AGES: All

Located in The Marlowe Building, the Future Proof Zone is dedicated to our planet and what we can do to look after it. Drop in and join us for a mixture of stalls, free fun games, activities and workshops.



Kent Community Oasis
Garden

Terrarium 'Jungle in a Jar' Workshops

DATES: Sat 23 & Sun 24 Aug

TIMES: 10am & 1.30pm

AGES: 4-12 years

TICKETS: £4

Build your own mini windowsill rainforest and watch it grow! This workshop will give you all you need to start your own terrarium which you can take home.



The Wonder Lab

Junior Forensics

DATES: Sat 23 Aug

TIMES: 11am, 12.30pm, 2pm
& 3.30pm

AGES: 5+

TICKETS: £4

Perfect for families, this fun and educational event simulates real-life forensic scenarios — sparking curiosity, problem-solving, and teamwork through hands-on learning.



Docking Station

VR Drawing Workshops

DATES: Sat 23 & Sun 24 Aug

TIMES: 10.30am, 11.45am, 2pm & 3.15pm

LOCATION: Marlowe Building

TICKETS: £4

AGES: 8+

Get ready for an adventure like no other! Each workshop has a maximum of 6 participants and is for Children aged 8 and up. (Parents, you can drop off your little artists, and they'll be supervised by our awesome staff!)

Join our super cool artist as you explore the wonderful world of Virtual Reality drawing! With VR headsets on, you'll step into a magical space where the entire room becomes your canvas. Imagine drawing with light, stars, and fire! You can even walk through your creations and admire your amazing collaborative masterpieces in 3D! Get your imagination ready because the possibilities are endless!



Immersive Dance Parade

DATES: Sat 23 & Sun 24 Aug

TIMES: Drop in

LOCATION: Marlowe Building

TICKETS: Free

AGES: All Ages

Join us for an unforgettable dance experience led by the amazing Lexi Maize, a professional street dance choreographer! This super-fun workshop invites children, young folks, and families to dance like nobody's watching. Get ready to bust out your moves in front of a green screen, where the magic happens.



Meet Alfie - Your New Best Buddy!

DATES: Sat 23 & Sun 24 Aug

TIMES: Drop in

LOCATION: Marlowe Building

TICKETS: Free

AGES: All Ages

Swing by and hang out with Alfie, our real-time motion capture avatar! Want to play games or ask questions? Alfie is here to chat and respond, making your experience interactive and fun! Come & see what surprises await!

Workshops



Animate Arts

Cardboard Treasure Chests

DATES: Sat 23 & Sun 24 Aug

TIMES: 10.45am, 1.15pm & 3.30pm

LOCATION: Colyer-Fergusson Building

TICKETS: £4

AGES: 6+

Join the wonderful artists from Animate Arts for more cardboard capers at bOing! Festival.

This year, we will be transforming cardboard boxes into portable treasure chests – perfect for collecting pieces of gold on your adventures!

Once you have your trusty treasure chest made, you'll be invited on an exclusive Animate Arts treasure hunt! Hunt for the clues, crack the code and be rewarded with treasure!



Clayground Collective & Canterbury College Ceramics

Clayground: Freewheeling

DATES: Sat 23 & Sun 24 Aug

TIMES: Drop in

LOCATION: bOing! Hilltop

TICKETS: Free

AGES: All ages

Canterbury Festival is delighted to present Open Clay.

Join us for a playful reimagining of the historic architecture of Canterbury. No experience is required, just drop-by and get involved with this enjoyable, absorbing activity.

Supported by POTCLAYS Limited.



Playground

Make Some Noise!

DATES: Sat 23 & Sun 24 Aug

TIMES: 11am, 1pm and 3pm

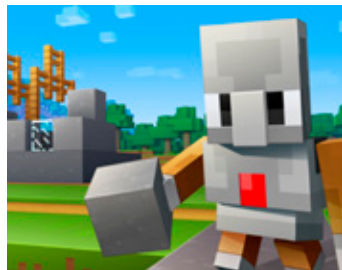
LOCATION: Jarman Plaza

TICKETS: Free

AGES: All ages

Join the Playground musicians outdoors in a celebration of music making and singing.

Workshops



Code Kids

Minecraft Coding Workshop

DATES: Sat 23 & Sun 24 Aug

TIMES: 10.30am & 2pm

LOCATION: Grimond Building

TICKETS: £4

AGES: 7+

Don't just let your children play Minecraft, get them coding with it! No prior coding experience necessary. Minecraft play experience is highly desired but not essential.



Code Kids

Lego Robotics Workshop

DATES: Sat 23 & Sun 24 Aug

TIMES: 12pm

LOCATION: Grimond Building

TICKETS: £4

AGES: 5+

Great way of introducing concepts such as engineering and coding to kids. Learn coding in a fun way! Lego helps to bring out your child's creative side as well as they design and build a Lego robot.



Centre for Health Services Studies

Arts Market and Decoupage Workshop

DATES: Sat 23 & Sun 24 Aug

TIMES: Drop in

LOCATION: Grimond Building

TICKETS: Free

AGES: All ages

Join our drop-in decoupage arts activity run by Molly, suitable for all abilities and ages, where you can come and decorate your own shell trinket dish, bookmark or hanging decoration to take home for £2.50. We will supply a lovely range of paper, paint and choice of items to decorate.



Kent Sports

Get Active!

DATES: Sat 23 Aug

(not Sun)

TIMES: 10am – 4pm

LOCATION: Cathedral Meadow

TICKETS: Free

AGES: All Ages

Drop in activities, including mini golf, drums, kids yoga and Zumbatomic/street dance fun.

Films at bOing!

All films will be screened in Gulbenkian Cinema.

Relaxed Screening Smurfs

DATE: Sat 23 Aug

TIME: 11am

LOCATION: Gulbenkian
Cinema

TICKETS: £5

Relaxed screenings are open to all, especially those with autism and learning disabilities where films are screened in a relaxed environment with the lights and sound being kept to a low level, no trailers or advertisements – just the film. Films are captioned with audio description available.



More family fun with our blue friends.

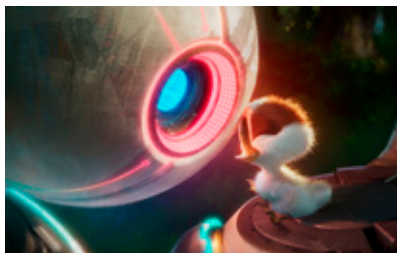
The Wild Robot

DATE: Sat 23 Aug

TIME: 3pm

LOCATION: Gulbenkian Cinema

TICKETS: £5 (2 tickets)



A futuristic robot that washes ashore on a deserted island.

Relaxed Screening Lilo and Stitch

DATE: Sat 24 Aug

TIME: 11am

LOCATION: Gulbenkian
Cinema

TICKETS: £5

Relaxed screenings are open to all, especially those with autism and learning disabilities where films are screened in a relaxed environment with the lights and sound being kept to a low level, no trailers or advertisements – just the film. Films are captioned with audio description available.



A live-action reimagining of Disney's 2002 animated classic.

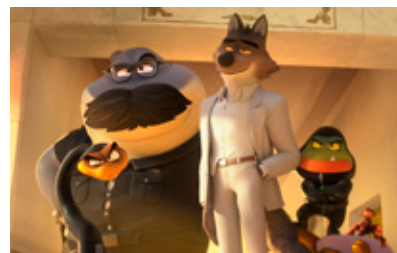
The Bad Guys 2

DATE: Sat 24 Aug

TIME: 3pm

LOCATION: Gulbenkian
Cinema

TICKETS: £5











A crackerjack criminal crew attempt their most challenging con yet - becoming model citizens.

TICKETED PERFORMANCES		LOCATION	AGE	10am	11am	12 noon	1pm	2pm	3pm	4pm	5pm
	Trash! p.4	Gulbenkian Theatre	All		10.45				3		
	Queen of the Serpents p.6	CF Hall	7+		11.30		1.30				
	Myriad Luminarium p.8	Cathedral Meadow	All	10 - 5 (Time slots)							
	Puffling Percy p.10	Grimond Building	4+	10.15			1.30				
	Drift p.12	Grimond Building	5+ (Learning Disabled)		11.45				3.15		
	Early Weaves p.14	Jarman Building	1-4	TT* 10.45			TT* 1.45				
	First Light p.16	Jarman Building	0-18m	Every 20 minutes (First start 10am, last start 3:40pm)							
TICKETED WORKSHOPS	Playground (Baby and SEND) p.17	Jarman Building	0-18m	10.30		12	1.30 (SEND)		3 (SEND)		
	A-Z of Sound (Sun only) p.24	Grimond Building	5+	10		12		2			
				10am	11am	12 noon	1pm	2pm	3pm	4pm	5pm
	Terrarium Workshop p.27	Marlowe Building	4-12	10			1.30				
	Junior Forensic Science (Sat only) p.27	Marlowe Building	5+		11		12.30	2		3.30	
	VR Drawing Workshop p.28	Marlowe Building	5+	10.30		11.45		2		3.15	
	Animate Arts p.30	Gulbenkian Arts Centre	3+								
	Minecraft Coding p.32	Grimond Building	7+								
FREE ACTIVITIES	Lego Robotics Workshop p.32	Grimond Building	5+								
				10am	11am	12 noon	1pm	2pm	3pm	4pm	5pm
	Parade - The Giant Wheel p.18	Gulbenkian Lawn	All	10.15				2			
	Anchored in Air p.19	Gulbenkian Lawn	All			TT* 12.15				TT* 4.15	
	Golden Slumbers p.20	Gulbenkian Lawn	All		11.30		1.15			3.30	
	Le Manège du Contrevent p.21	bOing! Hilltop	All	10 - 12			1 - 3				
	Silent Disco p.25	Gulbenkian Lawn	All	10 - 4 (Drop ins)							
	Sound Board p.25	Jarman Plaza	All		11			2			
	City Sound Project Presents p.22	Music Stage	All		11 - 3						
	Mrs H and the SingaLong Band p.23	Music Stage	All							3.30	
	Gulbenkian Youth Theatre p.25	Pop up	All	10 - 5 (Drop ins)							
	Futureproof Zone p.26	Marlowe Building	All	10 - 5 (Drop ins)							
	Immersive Dance p.29	Marlowe Building	All	10 - 3 (Drop ins)							
	Meet Alfie p.29	Marlowe Building	All	10 - 3 (Drop ins)							
	Clayground p.31	bOing! Hilltop	All	10 - 5 (Drop ins)							
	Drumming Workshop p.31	Jarman Plaza	All		11		1		3		
	Arts Market and Decoupage Workshop p.33	Grimond Building	All	10 - 5 (Drop ins)							
FILMS	Kent Sports (Sat only) p.32	Cathedral Meadow	All	10 - 4 (Sat only)							
				10am	11am	12 noon	1pm	2pm	3pm	4pm	5pm
	Relaxed Screening: Smurfs (Sat) p.34	Gulbenkian Cinema	(U)		11						
	The Wild Robot (Sat) p.34	Gulbenkian Cinema	(U)						3pm		
	Relaxed Screening: Lilo and Stitch (Sun) p.35	Gulbenkian Cinema	(U)		11						
	The Bad Guys 2 (Sun) p.35	Gulbenkian Cinema	(PG)						3pm		

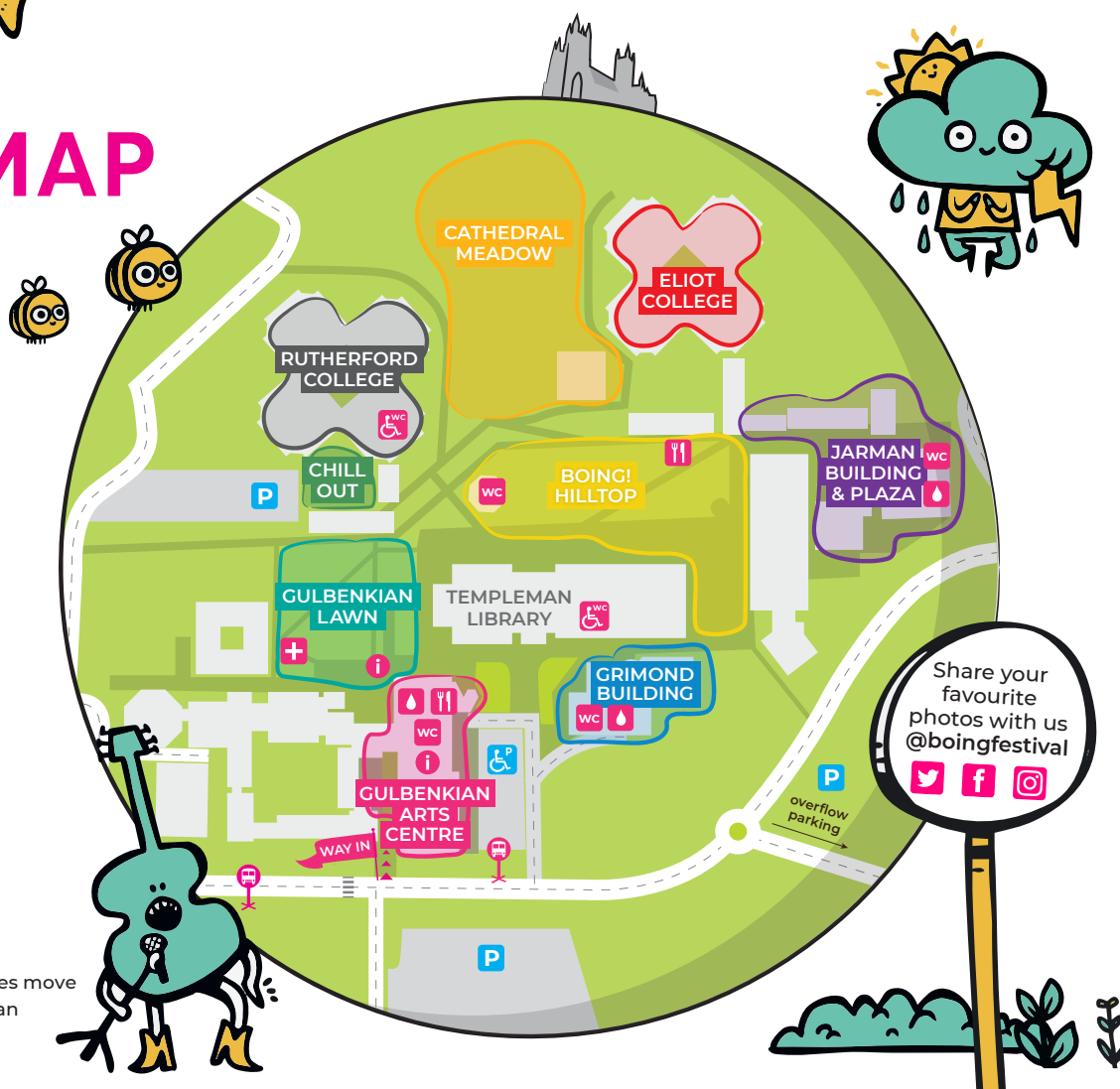
bOing! MAP

KEY

-  Information Point
-  Drinking water points
-  Food
-  First Aid
-  Toilet facilities
-  Accessible toilet facilities are located in Gulbenkian Arts Centre, Colyer-Fergusson, Jarman and Grimond. Accessible hoist toilet facilities are available in Rutherford and Templeman Library.

-  Car parks
-  Accessible car park

 **Rain does not stop bOing!**
If it is wet, outdoor performances move to Eliot, Grimond and Gulbenkian



Plan Your Day

We've put together some suggestions below for different ages – but they are just a guide/starting point.

In addition we have loads of energetic and magical outdoor performances which everyone can enjoy!

Babies and toddlers

Early Weaves (p15)
First Light (p16)
Playground (p17)
Luminarium (p11)

Ages 4-7

Trash (P5)
Puffling Percy (p11)
Drift (Learning Disabled) (p13)
Mrs H and the Singalong Band (p23)
Workshops & Sports (from page 26)

Ages 7+

Trash (p5)
The Queen of Serpents (p7)
The bOing! Music Stage (p22)
Soundboard (p24)

Accessible bOing!

Drift (Learning Disabled) (p13)
Playground SEND Sessions (p17)
Relaxed screenings (p34)

All our venues and outdoor 'stages' are wheelchair accessible, and always ask if you have any specific access requirements that we can help with.

CHRISTMAS 2025

Dear Santa

By Rod Campbell

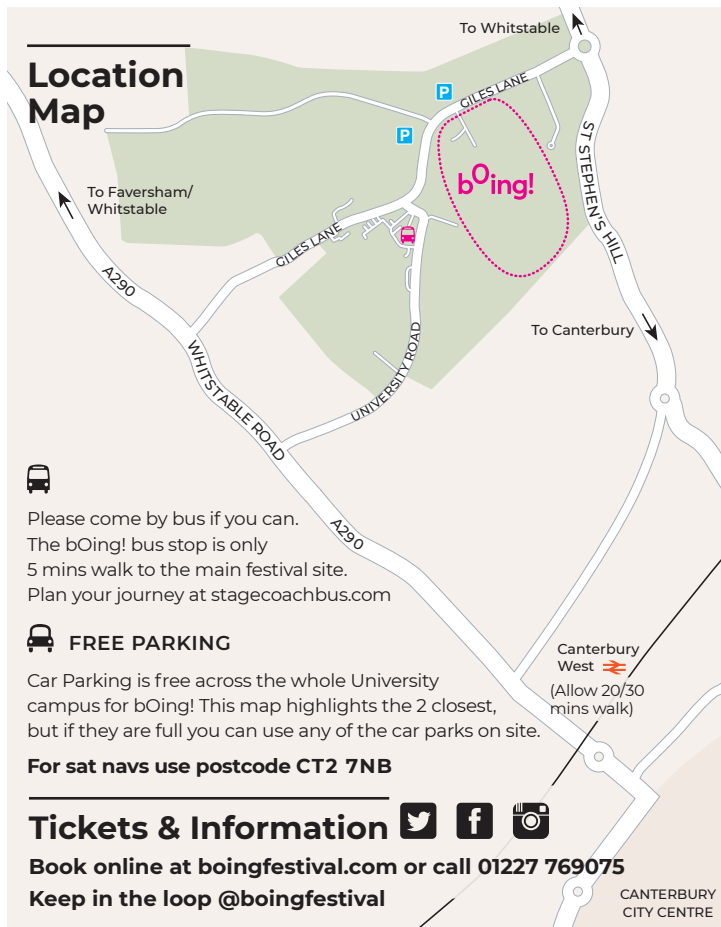
Sat 6 – Sat 13 Dec, times vary

Gulbenkian Theatre

For ages 2+



Location Map



Please come by bus if you can.
The bOing! bus stop is only
5 mins walk to the main festival site.
Plan your journey at stagecoachbus.com



FREE PARKING

Car Parking is free across the whole University
campus for bOing! This map highlights the 2 closest,
but if they are full you can use any of the car parks on site.

For sat navs use postcode **CT2 7NB**

Tickets & Information



Book online at boingfestival.com or call 01227 769075

Keep in the loop @boingfestival



www.carbonbalancedpaper.com
CBP01915

**CARBON
BALANCED
PAPER**

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