

The logo for Grassington Festival 2018 features four overlapping circles in orange, green, pink, and teal. To the right of the circles, the word "Grassington" is written in orange, "Festival" in teal, and "2018" in pink. Below "2018" is the text "15 - 30 June" in teal.

Grassington Festival 2018

15 - 30 June

This year, marking the 38th anniversary of the Grassington Festival, we will be welcoming a fabulous array of arts and entertainment, including world-class acts, to our beautiful corner of the world. With Grassington as the central hub, events will extend to Kirkby Malham, Kettlewell, Bolton Abbey, Skipton, and even Stump Cross Caverns, making this truly an event for the whole Dale. With family entertainment, workshops, film, comedy, music and much more, there really is something for everyone.

The central theme this year is “A Sense of Belonging”, emphasising the importance of place and community. A collaboration with Voices of Craven aims to form choirs, bringing members of the local community together in song for a celebratory concert at the beautiful St Michael the Archangel Church in Kirkby Malham. All are welcome to join; massed rehearsals will be held in The Coniston Hotel’s Bannister Suite from 7-9pm on Thursday 19th April, 17th May and 21st June.

The festival will kick off early this year, with the first live show on May 31st. This will be a performance of Dr Dolittle, from long-standing festival favourites Illyria, held outdoors in the beautiful grounds of Bolton Abbey’s Cavendish Pavilion. A great way to keep the kids entertained during the half term break!

The festival fortnight itself runs from 15th-30th June with a jam-packed programme. From Grassington-born BBC Political Correspondent Chris Mason in conversation to *Chocolat* author Joanne Harris’s new musical storytelling project, from guided walks to cheese-making workshops, and from foot stomping new folk group Noble Jacks to Skipton Camerata’s fabulous Gala Concert, it is nothing short of eclectic!

Other highlights this year include An Evening with Sir Michael Parkinson, British stand-up star Jason Manford, Yorkshire favourites Smokie, and the star-studded super group British Electric Foundation, a collection made up of top-notch musicians from Heaven 17, The Human League, The Sex Pistols, Joy Division, New Order and The Farm. This year’s grand finale is the first ever “Festival In The Field Day”, which will see a great day of music and fun for all the family, topped off by Scottish indie-rockers The Fratellis.

Tickets are now available online and from the box office in Grassington Hub. Full details can be found in the guide, and on www.grassington-festival.org.uk