



# FEST 2024 CONFERENCE

## GLASGOW

June 25<sup>th</sup> to June 27<sup>th</sup> 2024

### About the 2024 conference

FEST is delighted to invite the international storytelling community to Glasgow, to share expertise and knowledge, to empower the world of storytelling and enhance the visibility and recognition of storytelling as a performing art and artistic tool for change. This year's conference attendees will be welcomed by leading storytelling organisations and representatives from the UK's four nations: Village Storytelling Centre (Scotland), Adverse Camber (England), The Armstrong Storytelling Trust (Northern Ireland) and the storytelling community of Wales.

Glasgow is a vibrant and compact city. It has a range of cultural attractions including many museums and art galleries offering free entry, such as the stunning Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum and the award-winning Riverside Museum.

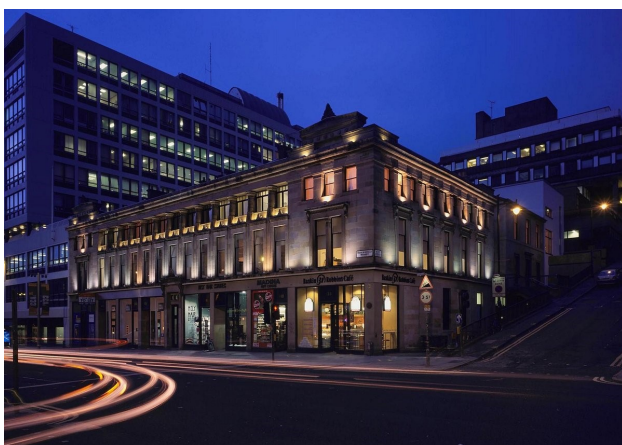
Visitors can explore the works of artist and architect Charles Rennie Mackintosh, walk the city centre Art Mural Trail or take a stroll through one of the many parks and green spaces.

The food and drink scene offers something for everyone, from traditional whisky pubs to fine dining, in a variety of lively neighbourhoods including Finnieston (SEC), the City Centre, the West End and Merchant City.

You can look forward to a warm welcome in a city voted 'world's friendliest city' by Rough Guides. It truly is a city of natural storytellers.

### The conference venue

The conference will take place in the [CCA: Centre for Contemporary Arts](#). The CCA is Glasgow's hub for the arts and hosts a year-round programme of exhibitions, events, films, music, literature, workshops, festivals and performances.



# CONFERENCE

SWITZERLAND  
ITALY  
SLOVENIA  
BELGIUM  
NORWAY

## The Programme

This year's FEST Conference will include a diverse programme of keynote speeches, workshops, lectures, informal group discussions and social events.

Tuesday June 25	opening reception and dinner
Wednesday June 26	full day conference
Thursday June 27	full day conference + gala dinner

The final programme will be shared closer to the conference dates but here are some things to look forward to:

A welcome reception with music and storytelling at [Glasgow City Chambers](#), one of Glasgow's most prestigious buildings located in the iconic George Square. George Square is the site of many musical events, political gatherings, protests and has even featured in several Hollywood films in recent years.

A gala dinner, with ceilidh and performance at the [Burrell](#), 2023's UK Museum of the Year. The Village Storytelling Centre is a proud partner of this beautiful museum which is located in Glasgow's largest greenspace, Pollok Country Park.

## Accommodations

This year the FEST conference has organised two very different types of accommodation. Please note that FEST will not arrange this accommodation for you.

### Hotel accommodation

Our Glasgow hosts have secured a large room discount at the 4-star [Maldron Hotel](#) in Glasgow City Centre. The hotel is 9 minutes walk from our conference venue, and very close to shopping, museums, the bus station and train stations.

#### ⇒ BOOKING INFORMATION

Email the Maldron directly on [res.glasgow@maldronhotels.com](mailto:res.glasgow@maldronhotels.com) and quote **FEST** to access the discount. Rooms have been reserved for conference delegates on Monday 24<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 27<sup>th</sup>. Please note that the discount can only be applied on the above dates, and you must **book by Friday April 24<sup>th</sup>** to secure your room/s.

#### ⇒ PRICES

£90 Single Occupancy, per night, breakfast included.  
£100 Double/Twin Occupancy, per night, breakfast included.

### Student housing accommodation

For attendees looking for a budget friendly option, [Blythswood House](#) (Glasgow School of Artis) is a 4 minutes walk from the main conference venue. It is made up of a number of self-catering flats, with individual en suite rooms. Each flat has a communal kitchen and lounge area where you will be provided basic kitchen equipment to meet your needs during your stay.

#### ⇒ BOOKING INFORMATION

The Village Storytelling Centre will process payments. In order to secure this accommodation they must have all **payments by Wednesday 20th March**, therefore we urge anyone who wishes to book this accommodation to do so asap. Please complete this [form](#) and we will contact you within 7 days or less with an invoice.

#### ⇒ PRICES

Each room is £49 per person, per night, breakfast NOT included.





## Transportation

Glasgow is in west central Scotland. It's Scotland's largest city and is easily accessible from the rest of the UK and overseas by train, sea, road and air. You can access all of the travel information as well as some other useful advice [here](#).

### By air

**Glasgow Airport (GLA)** is the closest airport to the city centre. Catch the express bus service from outside the terminal and arrive in Glasgow in around 15 minutes. Visit [glasgowairport.com](http://glasgowairport.com) for more information.

**Glasgow Prestwick Airport (PIK)** is 32 miles (51km) from Glasgow. It is very accessible with train and bus services to the city centre. Find out more at [glasgowprestwick.com](http://glasgowprestwick.com).

**Edinburgh Airport (EDI)** is 39 miles (63km) from Glasgow. There is a direct bus service from the airport to Glasgow's Buchanan Bus Station which takes around 1 hour. Head to [edinburghairport.com](http://edinburghairport.com) for more information.

### By sea

From mainland Europe, you have two options. You can arrive in either:

- ⇒ Hull in the northeast of England where it's around a 4 hours drive to the Scottish border [stenaline.co.uk](http://stenaline.co.uk)
- ⇒ Newcastle, which is around a 2 hours 40 minutes drive from Glasgow [dfds.com](http://dfds.com)

When boarding from the major ports of Belfast and Larne in Northern Ireland, ferries will dock at Cairnryan in the southwest of Scotland, with a bus service taking passengers to the city centre in 2 hours 10 minutes.

### By train

⇒ **Glasgow Central Station** links Glasgow to the south

⇒ **Glasgow Queen Street Station** operates routes mainly to Edinburgh and the north

To book tickets, visit [scotrail.co.uk](http://scotrail.co.uk), [tpexpress.co.uk](http://tpexpress.co.uk) and [avantiwestcoast.co.uk](http://avantiwestcoast.co.uk). To view all available routes from across the UK, [visit thetrainline.com](http://visitthetrainline.com). If you're planning a trip from London to Glasgow, [check out the Caledonian Sleeper's website](#) and arrive refreshed after a comfortable overnight journey.

### By road

Scotland has an extensive motorway road network. Glasgow is linked to the following places:

- ⇒ Edinburgh with the M8 | England on the M74 | Stirling with the M80 | west coast of Scotland with the M77

For more information on Scotland's road network, [visit the Transport Scotland website](#).

## Extra! Extra! Village Storytelling Festival

In addition to the FEST conference, delegates will also have discounted access to the Village Storytelling Festival.

Organised by the Village Storytelling Centre, Scotland's biennial Contemporary and Community Storytelling Festival is back for 2024! With a format described as unique, visionary and ground-breaking, Village Storytelling Festival will explore the themes of identity and language, celebrating the diversity of Glasgow, its people, their stories and the ways in which they communicate them. We will also showcase the best in contemporary storytelling from Scotland, the UK and beyond.

VSF24 events will take place in the CCA from Tuesday 25th to Saturday 29th June, with a final day of storytelling and family activities to take place in our own community of Pollok on Sunday 30th June.

The programme which will be launched mid-April on the Village Storytelling Centre website. In the meantime, you can read about our previous festival, VSF22 [here](#).

