

Edinburgh's Fringe Festival

THINGS TO SEE & DO IN EDINBURGH

The Edinburgh Festival Fringe claims to be the largest arts **festival** in the world. The Fringe Festival tends to be more off beat than the main festival and is made up of all manner of professional and amateur performers. As a result it tends to appeal to a younger audience. The Fringe side of the Edinburgh Festival is now regarded by the stage industry as so cutting edge and innovative that it is viewed by many as a showcase for new talent.

2453 shows were registered for the 2010 festival.

In 2010, there were 40,254 performances in 259 venues, featuring 21,148 performers.

At least 3,000 performers take part in the opening parade.

In 2010, Festival organizers sold 1,955,913 tickets - but 558 shows were absolutely free.

In 2007 it was estimated that it would take you 5 years, 11 months and 16 days to see every performance, since then the number of performances increased by more than 20%

So, pretty big then?

What kinds of performances to expect:

Performances range from stand up comedy, revivals of classic plays, one person performances to wildly avant gard, in-your-face productions in places like - believe it or not - a public toilet at the 2003 festival.

Though every year is unique, the art forms presented at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in 2010 can give you an idea:

Theatre - 29%

Comedy - 35%

Music - 16%

Musicals, children's shows, dance and physical theatre, exhibitions and events each accounted for between 4 and 5%.

Is it family-friendly?:

The Edinburgh Fringe Festival has something for everyone. There is plenty of entertaining street theatre, parades to thrill kids of all ages and lots for children to gawk at, photograph and enjoy. And there are numbers of shows, puppet shows, workshops and musical [events for kids](#). One proviso

though - Edinburgh is crowded during Festival season so children should be old enough to cope with crowds or young enough not to notice.