

Glastonbury Festival: Mud, Music and Mayhem [B2]

Nato in una fattoria di mucche, è cresciuto fino a diventare il più grande festival all'aperto del mondo di musica, arte e sostenibilità; un fenomeno interculturale.

Famed for its **muddy** fields and **revellers** wearing **wellies**, Glastonbury Festival in Somerset is a **rite of passage** for many who live for live music. The first edition of the festival was held on 19 September 1970 and attended by 1,500 people, who paid just £1 to enter the festival grounds. Since then, Glastonbury has become the biggest outdoor music and performing arts festival in the world. It has a capacity of 210,000 people, who pay anything from £370 (€448) per person to attend.

KING ARTHUR

The music festival takes place on the site of a working farm called Worthy Farm. It is programmed every year for four years, with the fifth year a '**fallow year**' to allow the land to recover. It is located near Pilton, in an area known for its natural beauty. It is also a place of historical and mythological interest, as the legendary King Arthur is said to have been **buried** in Glastonbury Abbey. If that's the case, then the **blaring** music and the **stomping** of all those partygoers may have him **rolling over in his grave!**

YOUTH CULTURE

This year, Glastonbury is being held between 25 and 29 June. World-renowned musicians perform, but it is also a **springboard** for emerging talent. Alongside the music, which is, of course, the main attraction, there are other forms of artistic expression. This is **in keeping with** the intentions of the co-founder of the event, **dairy farmer** Michael Eavis, who wrote the following when he registered the company: "The Glastonbury Festival **aims** to encourage and stimulate youth culture from around the world in all its

forms, including pop music, dance music, jazz, folk music, **fringe theatre**, drama, mime, circus, cinema, poetry and all the creative forms of art and design, including painting, sculpture and textile art.”

ENTERTAINING & INSPIRING

Throughout its history, Glastonbury has **featured** many performances that have **gone down in music history**. Among them is the 2007 concert by singer-songwriter Amy Winehouse. Some artists have **stunned** audiences with **awe-inspiring** spectacles and celebrity appearances. In 2019, biologist and broadcaster David Attenborough made a surprise appearance on stage, **delighting** audiences. Attenborough showed his support for the festival's decision to go plastic-free. The popularity of the event has grown over the years and is appreciated by the public both in the UK and abroad. In 2024, Michael Eavis received a knighthood in recognition of his services to music and charity.

Glossary

- **muddy** = fangosi
- **revellers** = festaioli
- **springboard** = trampolino
- **aims** = avere come obiettivo
- **featured** = includere, presentare
- **stunned** = stupire, sbalordire
- **awe-inspiring** = impressionanti
- **blaring** = risuonare fragorosamente
- **stomping** = calpestare con forza
- **dairy farmer** = produttore lattiero
- **gone down in music history** = entrare nella storia
- **wellies** = stivali di gomma
- **rolling over in his grave** = rivoltarsi nella tomba
- **n keeping with** = conforme a
- **rite of passage** = rito di passaggio
- **fallow year** = anno di maggese
- **buried** = seppellire
- **fringe theatre** = teatro sperimentale
- **delighting** = entusiasmare