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DEFQON.1

SURVIVAL GUIDE

created by DC 'n' Friends



1 Did you forget food and water?

1

➤ Attendees try to **avoid purchasing food and water** at festival grounds due to the **premium expense**. As a result, they recommend eating before festivals.

"food I'll most likely get but it tends to be really expensive..."

- Will, 20



2/7

participants **purchase food** at festivals

ref. 506

2

2 Getting to the festival



➤ Participants **prefer to drive to festivals** as it is much quicker than travelling via public transport.

"It's kind of preference (driving)...Cause...I could have been there and then come back rather than just spend 40 minutes trying to get like all the way around, you know what I mean?"

- June, 20

ref. 507

3/7

prefer to **hire buses** for large groups of friends

4

4 Waiting in the queues



7/7

expressed issues with **queue wait times**

➤ A major dissatisfaction with festivals was queue wait times, primarily for lines for food, water and merchandise.

ref. 503

"The queue for food, bars, and toilets at any general festival is about 10 to 15 minutes, while lining up to pay and getting the food is about 15 minutes tops"

- April, 23

3

3 How to avoid security trouble



➤ Many participants **feel anxious** when **interacting with security personnel** at a festival, which often occurs while waiting to enter the festival venue.

"...getting closer to the end of the queue, I start to get concerned and anxious, because I start to second guess myself, but I always know I'm doing the right thing."

- June, 20

ref. 501, ref. 503

"...some cops were eyeing me out, like you know at the very top of the hill and the cops are just watching these guys and the anxiety that comes from that."

- Will, 20

5 Try not to lose your friends

5

➤ The greatest issue facing festival attendees **having an enjoyable time is losing friends**. It was clear that all interviewees found the most enjoyment in experiencing the festival with friends, greatly increasing the importance of having your friends with you.

"One guy at DEFQON that went off to get water, we didn't find until like 2 hours later"

- Kenneth, 19

ref. 504

"I was feeling scared, really scared. I didn't think I'd ever find my group again - I just randomly bumped into them and I'm glad I did."

- Amy, 20

6 Establish communications

6

➤ At most music festivals, **mobile-based communication** is the **most accessible tool to get in contact** with friends at festivals.

"I think with the Sydney ones, we can find out friends quite easily, we send photos, be like 'we're in this location next to the toilets 3b or whatever'"

- Julie, 20

! However, for many festival attendees at DEFQON, the **frustration and anxiety** that comes from getting lost or losing friends **increases with the lack of reception**.

ref. 504, ref. 505

"that was a big issue with defqon, even at the end of the night when everyone is leaving, we still didn't have reception in the middle"

- Kenneth, 19

7 Enjoy the festival vibes

7

➤ Many festival goers agree that the **types of music** and **emotional attachment to songs** played at a music festival can **affects their festival experience**.

! Festival infrastructure, like sound systems, can **greatly affect the participants' enjoyment of the music**.

"Midnight Mafia 2018 was my worst event... Maybe because I didn't enjoy the music back then."

- Julie, 20

"it takes me back to a memory or moment or just a feeling when I hear live."

- April, 23

ref. 502, ref. 508

"So a lot of festivals I've been to have really bad sound systems and that's enough to put me off. Because I pay \$150 and like I can't even hear it - like its muffled and I'd rather put headphones in at home."

- April, 23

8 Get home safe

8

8 Get home safe



➤ Several participants expressed issues relating to **finding their friends after the festival** was over, resulting in **major delays just to find them**.

ref. 507

"So what happened at DEFQON is we stayed back another hour to find all our mates"

- Kenneth, 19

You're ready for DEFQON

