

— CALL FOR EVENTS —

BRISTOL FOOD CONNECTIONS

12TH – 23RD JUNE 2019



Bringing **PEOPLE &**
GOOD FOOD Together

www.bristolfoodconnections.com



Food Connections is Bristol's co-created citywide food festival – bringing people and good food together in a way only this city can.

Do you feel passionately about the way we eat? Do you have a food-led initiative you would like us to shine a light on to help bring more participants your way? Do you want to bring communities together to celebrate your food culture? Are you a restaurant keen for a bit of exposure?

We are calling out for feasts and celebrations, cooking demonstrations, talks and debates, tastings, children's activities, food campaigns, art installations, pop-up markets, supper clubs, farm tours, and share a dish days...

This is your chance to show the nation what Bristol does best and demonstrate why we're Britain's favourite food city.

WHERE?

Bristol Food Connections Festival sees thousands of people break bread together at events of all shapes and sizes across the city. Connecting with each other and the city through food. We look to reach every nook and cranny of Bristol, across every one of the 47 Bristol postcodes – not forgetting the farms and food producers in the surrounding countryside – truly celebrating every aspect of the journey of our food.

WHEN?

We'll be asking people to put on events from 12th - 23rd June when we'll be shining a light on all the incredible work people are doing with food and drink in and around Bristol. Our aims remain to bring people together, strengthen our food community, celebrate existing projects, create new connections, learn from each other, stimulate new initiatives and affirm Bristol as the good food capital of the UK.

Last year we held over 130 events across Bristol, with over 20,000 people taking part. From growing to making, selling and sharing, talking, debating and challenging the way we think, eat, cook, grow and enjoy food.

WHO ARE WE?

Bristol Food Connections is a community interest company (CIC) that has been set up to support the festival. We want to celebrate Bristol and believe in creating opportunities for change. We were delighted to have this recognised at the Crumbs Awards this October as winner for Best Event 2018.

Working in partnership with the BBC, Bristol City Council, UWE, Watershed, Destination Bristol and many others, we aim to build a stronger network of people working together for a healthy and independent local food system. We'd love you to get on board too!

WHAT SHOULD MY EVENT BE ABOUT?

Your event can be fun, challenging, inclusive, exciting, informing and inspiring and we aim to select events that educate and inform. Maybe you're a church up for hosting a food waste banquet; a food shop taking us 'behind the scenes'; a restaurant wanting to break the record for rolling the world's longest sushi roll; or an ambitious school up for putting on a cake parade. Bristol Food Connections is a festival by the city, for the city, so this is a chance to show how magical Bristol can be!

We really support the wider connections you might make as part of this process, and especially encourage event organisers who may consider joining forces with others across the city. **Let's get together and create opportunities for more people to connect with Bristol through good food.**

FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS 2014-2018



The festival got underway with the BBC Food & Farming awards. Hundreds of chefs, farmers and producers came together to celebrate the best of British food, in our beautiful Orangery on College Green.



The Malcom X Community Centre hosted a lively, active and well-fed event. With exercise classes, stalls and a free Caribbean lunch to fuel those using the smoothie exercise bike.



Fareshare South West & Triodos Bank served up a delicious banquet made from waste food, hosting leading food waste campaigners to discuss solutions to the global food waste problem.



Barney Haughton and The Square Food Foundation held a beautiful Summer's Feast in the courtyard of The Station. As part of Square Food's ongoing cookery training programme the evening featured young chefs, live cooking and seasonal ingredients.



Hosted by Lucy Siegle, the finals of the Seed Fund competition 2015 saw new food businesses pitch their products to a panel of celebrity judges in the hope of winning £100,000 of development consultancy.



A collective of organisations invited the residents of Easton and beyond to come together for a day of sharing food and discovery. There were spice and creative workshops, demos, and delicious food on offer in Owen Square Park.



Award winning Jo Ingleby and Redcliffe Children's Centre held an experimental cookery workshop for the under 5's. Children got to grips with fresh seasonal produce, using their taste buds, senses and creativity to explore and discover.



Vela Pop-Up served up a 6 course Indian brunch feast at Harts Bakery. Vela are home cooks and lovers of food, who fed their guests with spiced breads, sweet pancakes, masala omelettes and plenty of chai.



Max Drake of the Urban Fringe Dispensary took a group through Castle Park to identify traditional medicinal plants and herbs. The group learned about their uses and that good health is right on our doorstep.



The UK's first morning coffee-rave took place at the Extract Warehouse in St Werburghs inviting early morning revelers to taste low-carbon coffee and participate in calypso workshops.



Foraging walks for wild edibles or making foraged drinks took place across the city.



The Easton Spice Festival brought people together to celebrate an area of the city famous for all things spicy. From live music, to cooking demos, best jerk competitions to children's art workshops.



People shared recipes from around the world while bringing their communities together to celebrate the wealth of cuisine the city has to offer.



All aboard! The Severnside Community Rail Project gave commuters a welcome treat and handed out a free healthy breakfast on the 7.04 to Severn Beach.



The 91 Ways project showcased their favourite dishes with people from Syria, Pakistan, Somalia and Ukraine sharing their food stories while introducing people to dishes eaten in their homes.



St Nick's Night market was a celebration of Bristol's diverse cuisines and thriving music scenes. Street food, DJs and BBC Introducing were part of a night to remember in the historic 'Old City'.



Xanthe Clay hosted the Women In Food panel at the Triodos Bank Foundation Space, with an intimate and in-depth discussion on the challenges and opportunities faced by those who have made food their life's work.



A special visit from Crayfish Bob to the Food Connections Festival hub saw Bob sharing his work with invasive species, and showing off some delicious crayfish cooked Swedish style.

OUR ROLE

Food Connections is a festival we create together. Our role is to support you through the process of putting on an event and to help you to promote it.

With a wealth of experience in organising events, the Food Connections team is well placed to offer you advice and support, from finding a venue for your event to connecting you up with speakers, performers, co-conspirators and possibly even event sponsors. And then there's the practical stuff like picking your way through road closures, making your event accessible and capturing and reporting on the outcomes of your event.

If your event idea is selected we'll provide successful applicants with a checklist of practices to consider when putting on your event called the Developing Your Event Guide. In this second stage of event development we will be holding an 'eventoring' session where you can access advice and guidance from our highly experienced event management team. We can advise you on all areas relevant to your events and give you the opportunity to connect with other event organisers.

WHO RUNS THE EVENT?

What we can't do is organise your event for you, our aim is to empower you to do so. All events remain the responsibility of you -the organisers. We recommend that you talk to us first if you have never put on an event before, so we can help you to realise what is feasible and how you might benefit from the support we offer.

If we think you have an amazing idea that might be a good fit with an in-house event we are organising for the festival, we might discuss with you the possibility of collaborating with Food Connections to make your event a reality.

KEY DATES

Call for Events – deadline 14th December

Develop your Event – deadline 1st March

Eventoring Session – early February

Tickets on sale – early April

Festival –12th – 23rd June 2019

PROMOTION AND MARKETING

Being a part of the festival means you'll benefit from inclusion in the Food Connections printed programme which was distributed last year in partnership with Bristol 24/7, as well as getting a listing on the Food Connections website. You'll also be a part of our schedule of marketing and PR and all the promotion that goes alongside it.

We have a dedicated marketing and communications team working closely with the BBC and other media partners to promote the festival and your events, helping you to reach wider audiences, during the festival and into the future. In 2016, our social media activity alone reached in excess of 3 million people.

With a team of photographers and film makers visiting events across the city, we get our team out to as many events as we can throughout the festival. Where possible we are happy to provide you with photography and footage after the event.

ONLINE TICKETING

If you decide to sell tickets for event, you can do this direct through the Food Connections online booking system which we'll be running in partnership with an outside ticket selling company. This will make it easy for customers to search for your event and purchase tickets quickly and easily via a ticket outlet that they can trust. We can guide you through this process and a small commission is paid for this facility.



WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

So, you'd like to run an event ... here's what to do next:

1: SUBMIT YOUR EVENT IDEA

online via

<https://www.bristolfoodconnections.com/put-on-an-event-for-food-connections-2019> or using the form opposite.

Our closing date for event ideas is Friday 14th December 2018.

Once you submit your idea our team will be in contact to assess your application and offer guidance on further developing your event idea. We may also look for connectivity between events and may suggest partnership ideas to help maximise interest.

Your event idea can be a work in progress, but please provide as much information as you can and consider how your event fits with Food Connection's aims.

2. DEVELOP YOUR EVENT

Once you have submitted an event idea form and we have come back to you with our assessment and any questions or suggestions, you'll have more time to develop your event.

In February our Eventoring session will be a face to face opportunity to ask for any advice you need for your event. You might want advice on marketing, promoting or ticketing your event, our aim is to get to the nitty gritty of how to put on events that are safe, affordable and sustainable.

We'll also ask you to work through our Developing your Event guide that provides a checklist of items you will may to think about when putting on your event, as well as useful guidelines we'll ask you to follow. These will be available to view online www.bristolfoodconnections.com if you want to take a sneaky peek, check back for details.

The deadline for sending in your Developing your Event checklist is Friday 1st March and tickets will go live in April.

NOW IT'S OVER TO YOU!

For further information, to discuss your ideas and get support please contact the Bristol Food Connections office via info@bristolfoodconnections.com or call 0117 9276 250 if we are not in the office, leave your number and we'll call you back.

We are also compiling a list of frequently asked questions, which can be seen via www.bristolfoodconnections.com.

EVENT IDEA FORM

Please note that the submission of an event idea does not guarantee inclusion in the Bristol Food Connections programme. We'll be curating the festival to be the best of the best, so do bear this in mind when making your application. We will be in touch to discuss your idea further.

Please complete and return the form below to info@bristolfoodconnections.com by Friday 14th December 2018, or post to us at 118, Corn Exchange, Bristol. BS1 1JQ.

Your Name

Organisation or Business name (if applicable)

What is your event idea?

(please tell us as much as you know about your event so far, including the likely venue if you have one and whether you plan to collaborate with others).

Please also let us know if you have an idea that Food Connections could be best placed to run rather than yourself, and if so how this would look?

Do you have a fixed date between 12-23rd June in mind for your event?

Have you put on events before? Please let us know any previous experience you have in events.

Please let us know ways that you have identified you might need support in developing your event?

More about you...

Your Contact number

Your Contact email

Your website address

Social media handles

WE LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING YOUR IDEA!

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