

# 101 amazing things happening in London this August

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Nick Ballon / Time Out

Say hello to August and the flippin' wonderful array of fun it's bringing to London! Start the month with a daytime party courtesy of Mister Sunday, sip on delicious wine, play games and eat great grub mid-month at The Three Crowns Urban Wine Fair, and wrap it all up at

**Aug 30: One Day Party (<http://www.timeout.com/london/clubs/one-day>)** Set in Kensington's super-plush Roof Gardens venue, this sky-high party features Dimmi and other DJs spinning sharp house and funk, plus cocktails and a BBQ.

**All month: Behind This Wall (<http://www.timeout.com/london/nightlife/behind-this-wall>)** One of the many sad things about seminal Shoreditch club Plastic People closing was the loss of Behind The Wall, a vinyl-focused club night, record exchange and general meet-up for wax addicts. Thankfully it's been reborn and is touching down on the wonderful terrace of Bethnal Green arts venue Oval Space during the summer.

**Opening Aug: Bloc Bar (<http://www.timeout.com/london/nightlife/bloc-bar>)** After the closure of long-standing Camden LGBT venue The Black Cap – and other venue closures around London – it's encouraging to find that new venues are actually still opening. Bloc Bar comes from the team behind popular east London gay bar East Bloc and looks like it'll take a similar approach.

## **Festivals in London**

**Aug 1-2: Clockwork Festival (<http://www.timeout.com/london/music/clockwork-festival>)** Two days of bands, booze and barbecue in one of Camden's best venues, hosted by London promoters Clockwork. Saturday's bill has raucous garage punks Arrows Of Love and psychedelic sounds by Blind Yeti and Electric Discharge Machine, while Sunday features Asylums, Tear and Mohit.

**Aug 8: Visions Festival (<http://www.timeout.com/london/music/visions-festival>)** Another year of underground music, street food, craft markets and summer fun at this cool one-day festival in Hackney. The lineup includes Camera Obscura, Fat White Family, The Antlers, Toy, Jens Lekman, The Antlers, Andy Stott, Merchandise, Shamir, Hinds, Girl Band, Oscar, Jones + more.

**Aug 8: 51st State Festival (<http://www.timeout.com/london/music/51st-state-festival>)** A new one-day dance music festival in the grounds of a country estate in north London, featuring big-name classic US house DJs.

**Aug 9: Tête à Tête: The Opera Festival (<http://www.timeout.com/london/music/tete-a-tete-the-opera-festival>)** The festival dedicated to new opera (the world's largest, apparently) returns to London with plenty of world premieres and operatic oddness. Venues across and around King's Cross this year include arts spaces, theatres, studios, streets and even a nightclub.

## **Aug 14-16: Canary Wharf Jazz Festival**

**(<http://www.timeout.com/london/music/canary-wharf-jazz-festival>)** Do you like free jazz? No, not that kind of free jazz – we mean the opportunity to catch some of London's best and most envelope-pushing jazz acts live, gratis. Canary Wharf Jazz Festival offers that opportunity, bringing top acts including Sons Of Kemet (Friday), Eska (Saturday) and Yazz Ahmed and Neil Cowley Trio (Sunday) to Canada Square Park.

**Aug 15: Reverb (<http://www.timeout.com/london/clubs/reverb-2>)** This mini-festival is set in Kensington's lush Roof Gardens venue, and features DJs, live music and comedy taking place throughout the day, plus cocktails and BBQ food to see you through.

**Aug 17-30: David Byrne's Meltdown**

**(<http://www.timeout.com/london/music/meltdown-line-up>)** This year's Meltdown takes place in August and is curated by David Byrne. The former Talking Head is a ceaseless musical innovator who's created everything from a musical about Imelda Marcos ('Here Lies Love') to an installation that turns buildings into huge musical instruments.

**Aug 21-23: Wyrkout (<http://www.timeout.com/london/music/wyrkout>)** Inspired by the makeshift series of gigs after the cancelled Jabberwocky festival last year, Wyrkout is a new DIY festival with noisy under-the-radar bands playing several venues over three days.

**Aug 29-30: South West Four (<http://www.timeout.com/london/music-festivals/south-west-four>)** Clapham Common's dance music festival attracts superstar DJs from across the globe, including Fatboy Slim and Faithless live.

**All month: BBC Proms (<http://www.timeout.com/london/opera-classical/bbc-proms-whats-on>)** Every year the Proms see the world's greatest orchestras and classical performers come to London, and 2015 is no exception. Advance booking is recommended for the biggest concerts – including, of course, the Last Night of the Proms.

**Festivals just outside London**

**Aug 1: Eastern Electrics (<http://www.timeout.com/london/music/eastern-electrics-3>)** Returning to the grand grounds of Hertfordshire's Hatfield House for the second year, premier dance festival Eastern Electrics has grown into an even bigger beast for 2015: the capacity of the one-day event has expanded to 12,000 people, plus the organisers have added an eighth stage and a 'ravey woodlands' area.

**Aug 1-2: Standon Calling (<http://www.timeout.com/london/music/standon-calling-2>)** This boutiquey festival near London plays host to The Dandy Warhols, Basement Jaxx and Little Dragon.

**Aug 6-9: Wilderness (<http://www.timeout.com/london/music-festivals/wilderness>)** The ever-magical August getaway returns for its fifth year in Oxfordshire, with a top-notch music line-up. Quirky pop goddess Björk headlines a bill that also includes Ben Howard, Nick Mulvey, awesome Afrotronic crew Ibibio Sound Machine, veteran funk ambassador George Clinton and many more.

**Aug 7-9: Supernormal (<http://www.timeout.com/london/music-festivals/supernormal>)** This super leftfield three-day festival in rural Oxfordshire is about much more than music: various weird goings-on around the festival site include lock-up performance art, a maze and zine workshops.

**Aug 13-16: Boomtown Fair (<http://www.timeout.com/london/music-festivals/boomtown-fair>)** While other festivals are happy with a couple of tents and a main stage, Boomtown goes the whole hog and transforms the Matterly Bowl estate in southeast England into an entire town just for the weekend.

**Aug 22-23: V Festival (<http://www.timeout.com/london/music-festivals/v-festival-chelmsford>)** Calvin Harris, Kasabian and Sam Smith headline the pop festival in Essex.

**Aug 28-30: Reading Festival (<http://www.timeout.com/london/music-festivals/reading-festival>)** The Libertines, Metallica and Mumford & Sons headline this August weekender just outside London.



## MUSIC

**From Aug 8: Multi-Story Orchestra (<http://www.timeout.com/london/music/multi-story-orchestra>)** Talk about musique concrète! Peckham's disused multi-storey car park is the setting for summer concerts from the 60-strong Multi-Story Orchestra under Christopher Stark, alongside recitals in a smaller 'strawditorium' space.

**Aug 13: Akala + Awate + more (<http://www.timeout.com/london/music/utopia-live-lates-akala-awate-more>)** Part of Utopia at the Roundhouse, this evening session features a live performance by ever-impressive, politically-minded London MC Akala. You'll also hear rhymes from local boy Awate and rapper/singer Amy True, plus a DJ set by wonky pop singer and composer Micachu.

**Aug 28-30: Music Cube (<http://www.timeout.com/london/music/music-cube>)** Over two weekends you can experience this concept at both of London's Westfields, Shepherd's Bush and Stratford. Acts are still under wraps, but last year's line-up (which included hip young producer MNEK and girl band Neon Jungle) should give you an idea of what to expect.

**Aug 29-31: Notting Hill Carnival warm-up and afterparties (<http://www.timeout.com/london/clubs/notting-hill-carnival-warm-up-and-afterparties>)** For the full Carnival experience, check the warm-up events and afterparties that we've mapped-out here (<http://www.timeout.com/london/clubs/notting-hill-carnival-warm-up-and-afterparties>).

## THEATRE



**Aug 5-Oct 31: Hamlet (<http://www.timeout.com/london/theatre/hamlet-43>)** Benedict Cumberbatch takes on the greatest stage role in the English language.

**Aug 12-16: King Lear with Sheep (<http://www.timeout.com/london/theatre/king-lear-with-sheep>)** The stars have aligned on this one: not only is there a director mad enough to try 'King Lear With Sheep' out, they've also found a theatre mad enough to host it. Yes, apparently there are actually real live sheep (in tiny costumes!) in this riff on Shakespeare's play.

**All month: Splendour (<http://www.timeout.com/london/theatre/splendour>)** Abi Morgan's intriguing four hander is revived in its first major London run as part of the Donmar Warehouse's new season. Robert Hastie directs 'Splendour', set in the drawing room of a presidential palace of an unnamed dictatorship where the dictator's wife, her best friend, a translator and a photojournalist await the arrival of the dictator.

**Aug 6-Sep 5: Celina Teague: I think therefore I # (<http://www.timeout.com/london/art/celina-teague-i-think-therefore-i>)** For all their bright flare, Teague's latest paintings actually have a dark undertone as they respond to the global atrocities reported via social media.

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