Smiling International School
An Extra Smile

Ferrara Buskers Festival

26th - 30th August 2026

Historical City Centre

www.ferrarabuskers.com

The Buskers Festival is an important event in Ferrara's cultural calendar, not only for its array of musicians from around the world but also for its street entertainment. The festival brings people together and provides a melting pot of music, cultures, traditions and arts.

This year, the Buskers Festival is being held in the historical city centre with over 250 artists performing from more than 19 different countries. There will also be talks, readings, a variety of workshops and other performances.

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

Visit the **Street Food** area in Piazza Castello and **craft market** on Corso Martiri della Libertà, open every day from 7pm (on Sunday from 4 pm onwards).

The **buskers** start playing in the city centre **at 8 pm** until around midnight (until 9 pm on Sunday).

Music continues from midnight into the early hours at the **'Dopofestival'** ('After-Festival') party in Piazza Trento Trieste. Admission is free.

Wednesday 26th August

From 7 pm to 8 pm:

- Official opening ceremony followed by a double slackline performance over the castle's moat
- **Talks:** 'The Social Values of Festivals - Communicative Creativity'
- **Readings:** 'A Fresh Perspective on the Japenese World'
- **Ecology workshops** with HERA: 'Transparent Bin', 'Recycling Ring' and 'Acqability'. (Suitable for all ages)
- **Art Workshops:** puppet-making (6 - 12 yrs) and 'Many Colourful Flowers' (3yrs+)
- **Workshops:** 'Climate Resonances' music therapy workshop (16yrs +).

Thursday 27th August

From 7 pm to 8 pm:

- **Talks:** book presentation 'La Locanda dello Zio Rock', 'Eco-Anxiety' talk, 'Women's Wellness and Prevention' conference
- **Readings:** The world of Manga
- **Ecology workshops** with HERA: 'Transparent Bin', 'Recycling Ring', 'Acqability' and 'Eco-Anxiety: Emergency Response for the future'. (Suitable for all ages)
- **Art Workshops:** 'The Invisible Instrument: beatbox masterclass' (4yrs +), 'Dancing on Another Planet: Dance Lab' (3yrs+), 'Fruit Clowns' (6-12yrs) and 'Many Colourful Flowers' (3yrs +)
- **Performances:** 'I Musicanti' and 'The Cirle of Wonders'.

Friday 28th August

From 7 pm to 8 pm:

- **Talks:** 'Women of the Street: the life of a travelling musician' and 'The Voice of the Street: Caring for the Busker's Instrument'
- **Readings:** Caterina Zanirato presents 'Samurai Gravel'
- **Ecology workshops** with HERA: 'Transparent Dumpster', 'Recycling Ring', 'Acqability' and 'Eco-Anxiety: Emergency Response for the Future'
- **Art Workshops:** 'The Voice is an Instrument: Beatboxing' (4yrs +), 'Dancing on Another Planet: Dance Lab' (3yrs+), 'Fruit Clowns', 'Playing Cards' (6-12yrs) and 'Many Colourful Flowers' (3yrs +)
- **Workshop:** Art Therapy (16yrs +)
- **Performances:** OperaPrima in Viaggio, Sheroes Aerial Dance, Eterna music project
- **Presentation** of 'Direfarecambiare' award to a busker who has contributed the most to making changes in the world following the themes of Agenda 2030.

Saturday 29th August

From 7 pm to 8 pm:

- **Talks:** 'Fortunello and Cirillino, the Acrobat Clowns - the art of staying alive admist the bombs of World War II', 'The Health of Tomorrow's Buskers'
- **Readings:** 'Land of the Rising Sun' - Massimiliano De Giovanni
- **Ecology workshops** with HERA: 'Transparent Bin', 'Recycling Ring' and 'Acqability',
- **Art Workshops:** 'Fruit Clowns' and 'Playing Cards' (6-12yrs), 'Many Colourful Flowers' (3yrs +)
- **Workshop:** Crochet
- **Performances:** OperaPrima in Viaggio, The Circle of Wonders and various music schools.

Sunday 30th August

From 7 pm to 8 pm:

- **Talks:** 'In Berlin with David Bowie' and 'The Rhythm of Movement: Sport, Music and Barrier-Free Inclusion'
- **Readings:** Cinema in the East - Ludovica Abdinur and Matteo Buriani
- **Ecology workshops** with HERA: 'Transparent Bin', 'Recycling Ring' and 'Acqability',
- **Art Workshops:** 'Many Colourful Flowers' (3yrs +)
- **Workshops:** 'Musiconauts' by Nandi (4-8yrs)
- **Performances:** Valsugana String Orchestra
- **Final Peformance at 9 pm:** The Forest of Harmony

LINE-UP of BUSKERS (8 pm onwards)

To see which musicians are playing on which day, visit the website and click on their photo. You can listen to their music and find out more about each band:
https://www.ferrarabuskers.com/en/lineup

OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION

- Bring an empty half-litre flask and refill it with water for free
- In case of rain, the performances will go ahead so bring a raincoat!
- Dogs are allowed but we would not recommend it can become very crowded

STREET FOOD AREA

The official Street Food Area for the Buskers Festival is in Piazza Castello where vegetarian, vegan and gluten-free options are available.
Why not stop off at Oasi Buskers Bar for a refreshing drink?

BUYING TICKETS FOR THE BUSKERS FESTIVAL

It is advisable to buy tickets online in advance where you can choose from **daily tickets** or the full **5-day pass**. The earlier you book, the cheaper tickets are. However, you can also pay at the entrance on the day if tickets have not sold out as places are limited.

- For people with disabilities, entry to the festival is free
- Children up to and including the age of 13 are free if accompanied by one fully paying adult

Visit the official website below for further information and to buy tickets:
https://www.ferrarabuskers.com/en/tickets

Spectators are invited to drop some money into the Buskers' hat - a donation to show your appreciation and support!

BUSKERS PREVIEW IN COMACCHIO

For those of you who would like to have a sneak preview of the festival, visit Comacchio on **Sunday 23rd August** where you can watch some of the artists perform around the historical centre and along the canals of the town **from 9 pm** onwards.