



Galway International Arts Festival

13 – 26 July 2026

Traders' Sustainability Policy Declaration

Galway International Arts Festival is dedicated to fostering a sustainable future by actively reducing its carbon footprint through the implementation of best practices in event management.

All traders are required to adhere to the following sustainability guidelines and confirm their commitment by signing this document. The Festival places a strong emphasis on environmental responsibility and may conduct compliance checks during the event. Failure to comply may affect future participation opportunities.

For any questions or concerns, please contact the GIAF Traders Manager at traders@giaf.ie.

Serving Materials

- ✓ ABSOLUTELY NO SINGLE-USE PLASTICS OR POLYSTYRENE packaging or serveware cutlery is to be present onsite. If you do not currently use the sustainable products we require, they can be sourced from/ we encourage you to source them from, <https://www.down2earthmaterials.ie>
- ✓ All receptacles and utensils at food stalls must be compostable, i.e. paper plates/bowls, wooden cutlery and cardboard takeaway boxes.
- ✓ Coffee cups and lids should be compostable and offered as an optional item where possible.
- ✓ Do not supply straws. This includes plastic straws, biodegradable straws and compost/paper straws.
- ✓ Please do not bring plastic bags for bought items. Consider encouraging customers to use reusable bags by having them available for sale.
- ✓ All takeaway serveware, including food containers and cutlery, must be certified compostable paper, card, or wood to BS EN 13432 standard.
- ✓ Additional information on avoiding single-use plastics can be found at <https://mywaste.ie/sustainability/plastics/avoiding-single-use-plastics-2/>



Food

- ✓ Avoid using single-serve sachets for spreads, condiments, sugar, salt and sauces.
- ✓ Where possible, foods, especially meats and fish, should be from certified sustainable farms, locally sourced and seasonal.
- ✓ Eggs should be free-range.
- ✓ All tea, coffee, sugar, and chocolate MUST come from sustainable and ethical sources such as Fairtrade, Rainforest Alliance, UTZ, or Fair for Life certified. Other schemes include Just Change or the Ethical Tea Partnership.

Waste

- Both Festival Trader sites, The Festival Garden at Eyre Square and The Heineken Big Top at The Fisheries Field, operate either **a three-bin or a four-bin system** of segregated bins on site for you to correctly dispose of your waste as follows:
 - Glass bin
 - Food waste, and compostable serveware (completely separated from the rest)
 - Landfill/general waste (this should be minimal)
 - Mixed recycling (plastic, metals, paper, flattened cardboard) into 240L or 1100L recycling bags/bins
- ✓ Waste vegetable oil should be stored in drums and removed at the end of the day. Under no circumstances should waste oil be poured onto the ground. Your pitch must be clean when you return it, as a fee of €500 will be charged for any spillages and waste discarded.
- ✓ Please do not block service access to the back-of-house bins.
- ✓ No black bags are permitted. Please bring your clear bags to use to allow for waste separation.
- ✓ Compliance with the above will be monitored throughout the festival by the Sustainability and Event Team and the Trader Manager. You must allow checks to be completed at any time. GIAF has a strict zero-tolerance policy for any abuse, including verbal.

By signing below, you acknowledge that you have read and understood the above sustainability guidelines and agree to abide by them during Galway International Arts Festival 2026. You understand that breaching this agreement may result in not being invited to trade with the Festival in the future.

Trading Name

Signature

Date