



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



Barcelona  
City of  
Literature  
UNESCO – UCCN  
Creative Cities  
Network

## **LITERARY FESTIVALS AND EVENTS**

### **Melbourne:**

**Digital Writers' Festival** - The Digital Writers' Festival is an online-first events program dedicated to celebrating the work of Australian writers and fostering new relationships through international collaborations.

More information: <http://www.emergingwritersfestival.org.au/digital/>

### **Lviv:**

**Lviv International Literature Festival** - one of the most important cultural events in Ukraine. It is Ukraine's largest and the only one literature festival, one of the most popular festivals in Central and Eastern Europe. Lviv International Literature Festival has taken place since 1997, since 2001 with foreigners participation, since 2006 – as a full-scale International Literary Festival within the framework of *Lviv International Bookfair*.

More information: <http://bookforum.ua/en/litfest/>

**International Literary Festival Prima Vista** - The aim of the festival is to promote literature, to enrich cultural life in Estonia and also to introduce foreign literatures in order to support the building of cultural bridges between different cultural communities.

More information: <https://kirjandusfestival.tartu.ee/en>

### **Norwich:**

**The University of East Anglia Festival** - first literary festival took place in 1991 and over the last twenty five years we have welcomed a host of award-winning authors, journalists, illustrators, scientists, economists, broadcasters and more.

More information: <http://www.uea.ac.uk/litfest/about>

### **Dublin:**

**International Literature Festival Dublin** - founded in 1998, is Ireland's premier literary event and gathers the finest writers in the world to debate, provoke, delight and enthral. Described by the press as 'boasting a stunning array of top international literary talent' and 'the country's most successful and easily the best annual literary event', International Literature Festival Dublin line-up is sure to impress.

More information: <http://www.ilfdublin.com/>

**Dublin Book Festival** - one of Ireland's most successful and vibrant book festivals, running since June 2006. The annual public festival showcases, supports and develops Irish publishing by programming, publicising and selling Irish published books, their authors, editors and

contributors – all in an entertaining, festive, friendly and accessible environment that reflects the creativity and personality of the Irish publishing sector and its authors.

More information: <http://www.dublinbookfestival.com/>

**Bloomsday Festival** - Bloomsday celebrates Thursday 16 June 1904, the day depicted in James Joyce’s novel Ulysses. The day is named after Leopold Bloom, the central character in Ulysses. The novel follows the life and thoughts of Leopold Bloom and a host of other characters – real and fictional – from 8am on 16 June 1904 through to the early hours of the following morning.

More information: <http://www.bloomsdayfestival.ie>

### Óbidos:

#### **International Literary Festival (Folio)**

Folio is an international literary event that aims to the promotion of domestic and foreign literature. This event welcomes every year the participation of dozens of authors, both nationally and internationally as well as concerts, theatres, performances, panel discussions, workshops. among others activities.

More information: [www.foliofestival.com](http://www.foliofestival.com)

### **Latitudes**

Latitudes is a travel literature festival that had its first edition in 2017. There are book launches, talks with authors, conferences, writing workshops and travels for gastronomy and music.

### Granada:

**Festival Internacional de Poesía de Granada** – the International Poetry Festival Granada gather every spring more than 10,000 visitors to listen poetry recitals, something unique in Europe, which has turned Granada into the role model poetry capital.

More information: <http://www.fipgranada.com/>

**Festival Granada Noir** – the first Andalusian Festival gathering together in the city of Granada between September 20 and October 20 writers, illustrators, and film-makers of thrillers and black genre.

More information: <http://granadanoir.com/>

**Tres Festival** - the Tres Culturas Foundation will once again organize the ‘Tres Festival. Voices of Mediterranean Sea’ in Granada, the great gathering of writers and professionals related to the field of literature that already has ten prestigious authors confirmed for its next edition, which will be held from April 26 to 29, 2018 (both inclusive) at the Federico García Lorca Center.

More information: <http://tresculturas.org/en/proyecto/tres-festival-2018/>



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### **Dunedin:**

**New Zealand Young Writers Festival** - playwrights and poets; comedians and historians; critics and consciences. Held in the heart of Dunedin - UNESCO City of Literature, produced by the Dunedin Fringe Arts Trust and with support from Creative New Zealand and Phantom Billstickers, each festival includes workshops, performances, panel discussions and bookish social festivities.

More information: <http://www.youngwritersfest.nz/>

**Dunedin Writers Festival** – celebration of crime, dysfunction, heartbreak and other things people write about.

More information: <http://www.dunedinwritersfestival.co.nz/>

### **Reykjavik:**

**Reykjavik Reads** - Reykjavik City of Literature hosts the Reykjavik Reads Festival in October each year. This month long festival has a special theme each year and it is dedicated to the art of the word in its broadest sense. It celebrates reading and writing for people of all ages, children, teenagers and grown-ups. Although the festival is hosted by Reykjavik City of Literature, it is a grass-roots festival and all those who want to take part – organizations, institutions, businesses or individual artists – are encouraged to join in. Among events and projects are workshops, public readings, literary seminars, literary texts in public spaces and street art, exhibitions, musical events, school projects and much more.

More information: <https://bokmenntaborgin.is/en/city-of-literature/reykjavik-reads>

**Reykjavik International Literary Festival** - set in cozy venues in downtown Reykjavík in September every two years, the festival offers interesting and entertaining programs for literature enthusiasts. Over a span of more than 30 years, the festival has welcomed Nobel-prize winners, novelists, historians, political activists, philosophers, cartoonists and more to take part in lively programs. All programs are in English and there's no admission fee to the events.

More information: <http://bokmenntahatid.is/en/>

### **Heidelberg:**

**Heidelberger Literaturtage im Aufbruch** - literary festival offering a program with readings by German-speaking and international authors, interdisciplinary events combining literature, music and arts, workshops, guided tours and discussions.

More information: [www.heidelberger-literaturtage.de](http://www.heidelberger-literaturtage.de)



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### **Prague:**

**International Book Fair and Literary Festival Book World Prague** - the Czech Republic's largest event for books, attended by exhibitors and guests from over 30 countries and regions of the world. Over four days visitors can familiarize themselves with practically every aspect of the Czech book industry, including antiquarian book sales. The Book World Prague fair is popular with the general reading public, with a regular attendance of about 40,000. Within the literary festival the fair offers a whole range of events, including seminars and conferences for professionals, discussions with writers, author's readings, presentations by publishing houses, prize-givings for achievement in publishing and literature, and a special programme of workshops for children.

More information: <http://sk2017.svetknihy.cz/en/>

**Prague Writers' Festival** - internationally acknowledged social occasion for great thinkers and eager readers to share important philosophical ideas. The festival takes place annually in springtime in Prague.

More information: <http://www.pwf.cz/index.php?lang=2>

**Poetry Day** - first Poetry Day took place on just one day in 1999, and marked the launch of a Poezie pro cestující (Poetry on the Metro) project initiated by the festival founder, the Literary and Cultural Club 8 (Renata Bulvová and Bernie Higgins). The festival is now coordinated by the Poetry Society (Společnost poezie), a small group of people involved in literature/teaching who work as volunteers to organise events and promote interest in poetry. Year by year, the length of the festival extended, as more and more organisations and towns participated, until it reached its current two-week duration.

More information: <http://www.denpoezie.cz/den-poezie-poetry-day-in-the-czech-republic/>

**Literary Festival for Kids** - unique art books for children, children's books for adults and comics for all, by Czech and foreign authors, both emerging and legendary, from Havel through Magor, Brabenec and Wernisch to Petr Nikl or Radek Malý.

More information: <http://www.meander.cz/en/node/897>

**Literature Night** - literary happenings organized by Czech cities in cooperation with the European Union National Institutes for Culture, foreign embassies, the Representation of the European Commission in the Czech Republic and the Labyrinth Publishing House.

More information: <http://www.nocliterary.cz/en/2017/city/281-praha/?lang=cs>

### **Edinburgh:**

**International Book Festival** - the Edinburgh International Book Festival began in 1983 and is now a key event in the August Festival season, celebrated annually in Scotland's capital city. Biennial at first, the Book Festival became a yearly celebration in 1997. Throughout its

history, the Book Festival has grown rapidly in size and scope to become the largest and most dynamic festival of its kind in the world. In its first year the Book Festival played host to just 30 'Meet the Author' events. Today, the Festival programmes over 800 events, which are enjoyed by people of all ages.

More information: <https://www.edbookfest.co.uk/>

### **Ljubljana:**

**Fabula (Slovenia's largest literary festival)** - the main focus of the festival is storytelling in general; in addition to book presentations and evening readings, the festival features screenings of films based on the works by Fabula festival guests. Besides renowned European story writers, numerous Slovene authors are featured in the festival.

More information: <http://www.festival-fabula.org/2017/>

**Slovene Book Fair** – the biggest book fair in Slovenia.

More information: <http://www.knjznisejem.si/>

**International Storytelling Festival** - offers a wide selection of events for children and adults. It is the most important storytelling event in Slovenia and has had a significant influence on the development of the Slovenian storytelling tradition. Stories from our vast folklore heritage, which are mostly prepared for this occasion only, are brought to life by storytellers of various professions and different generations.

More information: <http://www.pravljicedanes.si/index.php/stories-today-festival/>

**International Literary Festival Vilenica** - a gathering of poets, prose writers, dramatists and essayists, is organized by the Slovene Writers' Association in collaboration with the Cultural Centre Vilenica from Sežana. The festival takes place annually in Lipica and at other venues in Slovenia.

More information: <https://vilenica.si/en/news/>

### **Seattle:**

**Bumbershoot Festival** - now approaching half a century, Bumbershoot is one of Seattle's largest cultural touchstones. Each year, thousands of people from across the country flock to Seattle Center to attend this acclaimed festival, which has become one of the biggest and most-loved contemporary festivals in North America, while having maintained its Northwest spirit and innovative roots. The name Bumbershoot was chosen both as a knowing nod of respect to our city's most famous weather pattern, and a symbol of the overarching mission of this festival: to be an umbrella for all of the arts.

More information: <https://www.bumbershoot.com/>

**Short Run Comix & Arts Festival** – festival of indie comics and self-published, small-press and handmade books.

More information: <http://shortrun.org/>

**Lillehammer:**

**Norwegian Festival of Literature** - the largest of its kind in the Nordic countries, with a diverse program catering to readers of all ages.

More information: <http://litteraturfestival.no/>

**Manchester:**

**Manchester Literature Festival** - built on the legacy of its very successful predecessor, Manchester Poetry Festival, provides unique and imaginative opportunities for audiences to experience high quality live literature through an annual festival. The festival celebrates the power of writing across all creative and technological media. We produce a cutting-edge programme of activities that challenges the boundaries of what is traditionally understood to be a literature event and aim to promote internationalism, diversity and independence.

More information: <http://www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk/>

**Milan:**

**Bookcity Milano** - BOOKCITY MILANO is a three-day event (plus one day dedicated to schools) including author conversations, discussions, debates, readings and exhibitions.

More information: <http://bookcitymilano.it/>

**Utrecht:**

**The International Literary Festival Utrecht** – attracts 4000 visitors each year to hear and meet international writers, poets and thinkers.

More information: <http://www.ilfu.nl/>

**The Dutch Poetry Night** - the biggest poetry event in the Netherlands. Organised annually since 1980 in the TivoliVredenburg concert hall, the event lasts around eight hours and sees performances by 20 poets, alternated with musical intermezzos, in front of an audience of around 2000 people.