

## Glasgow: World-Class Event City

Glasgow is one of the world's Top 5 Ultimate Sporting Cities and in 2019, was voted the World's Leading Events and Festivals Destination. It is one of Europe's most vibrant and diverse destinations and is recognised as a world-class city in which to live, work, study, invest, meet and visit.

The city is Scotland's cultural and sporting centre – home to the largest annual cultural offer and the largest sporting infrastructure outside of London.

In the past decade the city has hosted the XX Commonwealth Games in 2014; MTV EMAs 2014; FIG World Artistic Gymnastics Championships 2015; Turner Prize 2015; the inaugural 2018 European Championships and European Athletics Indoor Championships 2019.

The city also has a strong annual events programme with highlights including Celtic Connections; Glasgow Film Festival, Aye Write, Glasgow Mela; Merchant City Festival; World Pipe Band Championships; Piping Live! and the biennial Glasgow International.

Glasgow is at the forefront in its policy led approach to the hosting of major events and hosts events because of their contribution to, and indeed acceleration of, the strategic and policy objectives of the city.

This includes making our events more inclusive, accessible and sustainable. We are working on ways of reducing our carbon footprint by encouraging the use of public transport for local citizens; introduction of recycling initiatives and eco-friendly materials and reduction in use of single use plastic.

Looking ahead 2022 will see the reopening of The Burrell Collection - the refurbishment and redisplay of an internationally renowned collection of works of art gifted to the city by Sir William Burrell. The collection is housed in a purpose-built home which has been upgraded with renewable energy sources and significantly increased environmental performance.

Twenty years after it was first awarded the title in 2003, Glasgow will become **European Capital of Sport 2023** – the only city to be awarded this prestigious title twice, providing Glasgow with the opportunity once again to highlight the health and wellbeing benefits of being active.

Glasgow is also the only city in the UK to be awarded the UCI Bike City label in recognition of its ambitions and commitment to using cycling to advance its sustainability goals.

In 2023, Glasgow and locations across Scotland will host the inaugural **UCI Cycling World Championships** which will be the largest cycling event in the world. This event will shine a light on the city's progress as sustainable event host, highlighting cycling's benefits as a simple, affordable, reliable, clean and sustainable means of transport, promoting health for all.

The event will adhere to the UCI's sustainability strategy, which commits to making cycling one of the most sustainable sports in the world.

Glasgow's vision is to create the perfect event experience for major event owners, businesses, event visitors and citizens.

The UK will host the 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) in Glasgow at the Scottish Event Campus (SEC) on 31 October – 12 November 2021.

## **ENDS**

Issued by:  
COP26 Team  
Glasgow City Council

Further information on the city's festivals and events at:  
[www.peoplemakeglasgow.com](http://www.peoplemakeglasgow.com)



**PROUDLY HOSTED IN GLASGOW**