

Derby Tourism

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Derby Festé comes of age

Already recognised as one of the most spectacular weekend festivals of its kind in the Midlands, this year's Derby Festé promises to bring some of the very best outdoors acts in the world to the streets of Derby in September.

The three-day festival - scheduled to run from September 24th to 26th in 2010 - will bring a variety of international and local artists together for a feast of eye-popping live performances which organisers say will both "stimulate the senses, and take your breath away"!

Since Derby Festé first appeared in 2007, locals and visitors alike have seen fire-breathing dragons roaming the streets of Derby, daring acrobats performing death-defying stunts, and the entire city centre brought to life by street parties and live bands.

Not surprisingly, Derby Festé has quickly become the annual highlight of the city's events calendar – and the 2010 event will build on the success and popularity of previous years, to offer an even bigger, bolder and internationally acclaimed programme of entertainment.

The full line-up of acts for 2010 has yet to be announced, but what *is* known so far is that the recently created Cathedral Green will be the venue for a magnificent Luminarium which will perfectly reflect the overall theme of this year's Derby Festé – "Colour & Light".

The festival as a whole will get under way on the streets on Derby on Friday evening with a huge outdoor disco in the city's market place.

But the undoubted highlight of the three-day spectacle will be the appearance of the internationally acclaimed percussion and pyrotechnics act, Les Commandos Percu, who will help to make the city rock with a choreographed performance in front of thousands in the Bass Recreation Ground.

Much of the event will be focused around the city's Market Place and the Cathedral Green which overlooks the river Derwent with parades and street performers throughout the city centre.

Specially discounted hotel rates will be available over the festival weekend. Further details will appear on the website www.visitderby.co.uk during the run-up to Festé.

For more details on Derby Festé, visit www.derbyfeste.com

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Editors Notes:

Derby Festé was founded in 2007 to mark the opening of Westfield Derby. This was followed in September 2008 by a second Festé event to mark the launch of the Cultural Olympiad in the East Midlands and the opening of QUAD. In 2009, Derby Festé became a stand-alone festival for the East Midlands.

Since the first event, Derby Festé has had the ambition of developing into an annual event with funding from various public and private sector organisations, including: emda (East Midlands Development Agency); Arts Council England; Derby City Council; Déda; QUAD; Derby LIVE; Westfield Derby. The delivery of the event has always been very much a partnership between these partners and 2010 will continue that partnership.

Festé has been supported by East Midlands Development Agency through an investment made in Derby's festival programme. emda is one of nine Regional Development Agencies in England, set up 1999 to bring a regional focus to economic development.