



Pitch your tent properly – there’s no use in it falling down around your ears in the middle of the night. Make sure you double-check all the guy-ropes once you’ve put your tent up. And don’t forget where you’ve put it! Tents do all look quite similar, so make your’s stand out with a flag or banner or something.

As you can’t lock a tent, and there are idiots who nick stuff at festivals, try to be creative about where you hide your valuables. Stuff them down inside a rolled-up sleeping-bag, in with your toothbrush, in a pair of socks... anywhere that isn’t obvious!

Drinking vast amounts of water is a good way to cure a hangover. But not drinking is even better.

Hopefully, you want to bring back memories, photos and maybe a sunburn from a festival, not an infection; take and use condoms.

Happy camping!

Underage Festivals

Today, there’s no denying that music is incredibly important to the vast majority of us. But sometimes, trying to book tickets to see a favourite band, we reach a dead end at the phrase: ‘NO UNDER-18s ALLOWED’. Sometimes you might be able to sneak in, but when tickets can be so expensive, is it really worth the chance? Often, ticket companies refuse to refund to underage customers if they couldn’t get past security. Now, it’s not the band’s fault

that their venue happens to be a club or a bar, and the venues themselves can’t do much about the licensing laws they have to follow – that’s just the way things are. So, last year, someone decided to do something about it.

On 10 August 2007, in Victoria Park, London, over thirty great bands and about 5000 excited young Londoners appeared for one of the best days out of their lives. It was a world first – no-one has ever tried anything like this before, and it was a world success. Acts included The Young Knives, Boy Kill Boy, The Pigeon Detectives, The Rumble Strips... plenty of bands that have recently made a huge impression on the indie scene. Underage Festival, the brainchild of fifteen-year-old Sam Killcoyne, is the only festival in Britain that is open exclusively to 14-18 year olds, with photo ID required and no alcohol sold anywhere on site.

Unfortunately, at the time of going to print, the organisers haven’t released any line-up plans for this year’s Underage. We haven’t even heard any rumours. We can only hope that it will be as good as or better than last year... fingers crossed! In the meantime, here’s a couple more London events being held in the next few months that we think are worth looking into:

National Youth Dance Festival, London:
A week’s worth of dance events and workshops, held in theatres and cinemas around London from 5th – 13th July. This year, they’ve brought

in the new ‘Dance Tourist’ programme, open to anyone, to help you find all kinds of dance events – both watching and participating! Check out www.yde.org.uk for more details.

Mayor’s Thames Festival:
For the past eleven years, there has been a mini-festival held by the riverside on Southbank. This year it’s being held on 13-14 September and will include hundreds of dancers and artists throughout the day then a street carnival both nights! If you don’t fancy watching the dancers, the Thames Festival’s river race has over 300 boats roaring down the river and the weekend is rounded off with a huge fireworks display. Have a quick look at www.londontown.com for more information.



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