

Nozstock the HIDDEN VALLEY

Social Story

Welcome to Nozstock: The Hidden Valley!



Nozstock is a music festival. This means that there will be lots of music to listen to on different stages and lots of activities to get involved in. You may see people in wacky outfits and lots of surreal buildings or sculptures whilst you are at the festival. There will be decorations across the whole site, some of them are really big, you might find them a little bit scary but don't worry – they can't hurt you. As well as the decorations there will be actors - they will be dressed in up in costumes and they will use the whole festival

as a stage. This means they will be in the crowds so they might approach you or try to talk to you and do strange things. There are also stalls at the festival where you can buy food and drink or a souvenir. You will need to be prepared for different weather. Pack a warm jumper, wellies and rain macs and sun cream and hat!

! *TOP TIP:* If someone in costume approaches you and you don't like it just let them know and they will leave you alone.

Getting Here

There will be lots of people and cars on your arrival, sometimes there is a lot of traffic. This is because lots of people all arrive at the same time. When you arrive at the festival people in brightly coloured jackets called stewards will point you in direction of the festival entrance. Stewards are there to help you and answer any questions you have. The festival entrance is where you will hand the staff your ticket and in return you get a colourful wristband. Take care of this as it shows people who are working at the festival that you have permission to be there.



! *TOP TIP:* If you would like a member of staff to give you a tour of the site when you get here so know where everything is, speak to someone at the info office.

Camping



The field will be full of lots of tents. Camping can be really fun but sometimes a bit noisy and crowded. Ear plugs can help you to sleep better which you can get from the info office. The family camping area is good for families and there is a quiet campsite too which is further away from the music and less crowded. There are showers and lots of toilets available.

! *TOP TIP:* Remember to keep your campsite tidy – and you might win a prize from our campsite judges! Keep anything that can be recycled and used again.

Stages

There are lots of different stages at Nozstock which play different types of music and open at different times. Here is a bit of information about the stages you will see when you're here.



The Orchard is Nozstock's main stage. There is a big bar opposite to get drinks and lots of food stands if you get hungry. Lots of live bands play here. You can sit and watch them in the daytime. It gets much busier at night and you will need to stand up as it can get crowded but you can also dance and sing too! **The Garden Stage** is very near to the Orchard. It has lots of live bands too but also some DJs. It is next to a Farmhouse and near to a bar. There are toilets near the Garden Stage.

The Cubicles, The Bullpen, The Coppice and **Elephant's Grave** are all electronic music stages where you can see DJs play. They play lots of fast, loud music and have flashing lights. **The Cubicles** and **The Bullpen** are inside a large shed. It can get very hot and crowded in there. You can go and sit with our welfare team if you find it a bit overwhelming. **The Coppice** and **Elephant's Grave** are outside and near to a lake and lots of trees. They are much calmer in the daytime and can be nice places to sit. There are toilets at Elephants Grave.





Little Wonderland has lots of fun activities for children. There are lots of places to sit down, make things and be creative. Plus there are stories, play sessions, dance workshops and even circus performers.

The Bandstand is a live music, outdoor stage. This is a quieter space than the other stages where you can sit and listen to the music. There is a bar nearby and lots of stalls.



The Cabinet of Lost Secrets is a mixture of live bands, DJs and unusual theatre. It is an indoor space with secret doors that lead to new rooms. Sometimes it can seem small and dark until a new door opens. You might see some unusual things and strange costumes here.

The **Wrong Directions Cinema** and **Department of Cultural Affairs** are both indoor spaces. Here you can sit and watch films, plays, dance or poetry rather than music. Sometimes it can seem dark when they lower the lights but it's just to make the performance even better. Next to the Department of Cultural Affairs is the **Sunken Yard** which has DJs playing you can dance to and games you can join in with, they even have a paint fight every day.



The **Craft Area** is a space where you can create amazing things using different craft techniques and watch items being built or sculpted. This area can be noisy when tools like chainsaws are used. At night there are large fires and forges in use.

! **TOP TIP:** Some of the indoor stages have acting, films or poetry rather than music. It's best to be quiet during these performances so that everyone can enjoy what you're watching. If you are at an outdoor stage you can shout and dance as much as you like!

Nozstock At Night

At night the festival will look different. There will be lots of cool lights, fire performances, dancing and great music, but also lots of people. It can get very loud and crowded. Be careful and stay with your family and friends. If you are feeling lost or unwell ask a steward, in the bright jackets, for help. The Welfare Tent in the campsite can give you a quiet place to sit if you are feeling overwhelmed. There are lots of people ready to take care of you. Don't be afraid to speak up.



! *TOP TIP:* How about making a plan in case you do get lost? Pick a place that is quiet to meet your friends/family. We recommend the Welfare Tent. We can give you a plain wristband to write your family's phone number on in case you need someone to call them if you become separated. Ask about these when you come through the festival entrance.

Leaving the Festival



We hope that you will have an amazing time at Nozstock, At the end of the festival everyone packs up their tents, tidies their camp and is ready to go by Monday lunch time. There will be lots of stewards to help you with anything you need.

! *TOP TIP:* There will be lots of traffic and people leaving on Monday morning, so you might want to leave on Sunday night to avoid a long wait in the car.

Anything else?

If you have any questions about coming to Nozstock and what you might see here you can come and talk to us at the info office in the campsite when you arrive, or you can email us at info@nozstock.com or phone us on 01885 475005. Don't be afraid to ask any of our crew for advice.



! *TOP TIP:* Our website www.nozstock.com has lots of information you might like to read before you arrive, like what bands are playing, maps of the festival. what you might want to bring with you and some of the activities you can get involved in.

See you there!