



No Stress Nomads

A LIFESTYLE OF TRAVEL, FOOD, & DRINK.

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November 17, 2019 by Jefferson Vinall

Edmonton Folk Music Festival

Also known simply as Folk Fest, the Edmonton Folk Music Festival is an annual event occurring each August at the picturesque Gallagher Park, in Edmonton. The four-day outdoor music fest is held over the second weekend of August, and is put on by a local non-profit group.

Folk Fest is a great time for sitting on grassy hill in Edmonton's beautiful river valley, taking in a breath of fresh air, and listening to some excellent music. Plus, there are food vendors, beer gardens, a cannabis zone, and morning yoga!

World-renowned festival

Folk Fest is a world-renowned music festival. It features some of the best performers in the world. In past years the festival featured such well-known artists as: Sarah McLachlan, Bruce Cockburn, Blue Rodeo, City and Colour, Brandi Carlile, and Hozier.

Drawing over 20,000 guests per day, it requires over 2,500 volunteers each year. In 2019 it had grown to showcases over 66 performers.

There is an effort to have as many new acts as returning acts, just to keep the festival fresh. You'll hear a variety of musical genres at Folk Fest, including Americana, African, Celtic, Central American, and world music.

Forty years of fun

2019 was a special year for the Folk Fest, as it saw its 40th anniversary. And for the first time ever, cannabis was legal to consume at the event (in certain designated smoking areas).

The festival has been recognized by the Flight Network's [15 of the Best Music Festivals in North America](#), by the UK's [Rough Guides travel site](#), and it dominates the news media in Edmonton each year, with national media coverage as well. The event is also [featured by Travel Alberta](#), and [Explore Edmonton](#).

Single day adult passes are priced at about \$75 CAD, while full weekend passes are about \$189 CAD. Youths aged 12-17 benefit from discounted prices. And there is free admission for kids 11 years old & under, and for seniors aged 80 and over.

Edmonton Folk Fest weather can be...

As an outdoor festival, it is heavily recommended that you dress accordingly. August in Edmonton can see 32°C/90°F scorching sunny days, and 9°C/48°F wet rainouts. August is usually dry and 22°C/72°F. Also, the weather often changes quickly in Edmonton, so plan for both sun and rain, despite the forecast. Pack an umbrella and sunscreen!

Edmonton Folk Fest organizers are mindful of summer storms, and they place the utmost importance on guest safety. If a bad storm is expected by the staff meteorologist, they will issue an evacuation order.

If it has recently rained, you can expect to get a bit muddy. But that's part of the fun!

For specific event info and to get tickets, check out the [Edmonton Folk Fest website](#).

 festivals, Travel
