



Guernsey
Arts
Commission

Busking in St Peter Port Permit Application Guide

Any persons interested in busking in St Peter Port are required to obtain a permit which is issued by the Constables of St. Peter Port.

This guide explains how to apply for a **permit** and sets out a performance **code of practice** which has been developed in close association with The Guernsey Arts Commission (GAC) and St.Peter.Port Port Constables.

The GAC and Constables are committed to adding vibrancy to the Town through the busking initiative and are keen to work with musicians, artists and entertainers to maximise this. We will take a proactive approach to communicating with Buskers.

Applicants are asked to consider their commitment to busking before applying as they are expected to commit to a minimum of 6 busking sessions per annum.

Permit Application procedure

- **NEW** applicants wishing to obtain a permit will need to contact the Guernsey Arts Commission at the Guernsey Information Centre, North Esplanade, St. Peter Port telephone 709747 or e-mail info@arts.gg Information can also be downloaded from www.arts.gg
- All approved applicants will receive their permit for that year from the Constables of St. Peter Port. Their names and contact details will be held by The GAC, Constables of St. Peter Port and Town Centre Partnership.
- Busking permits are not transferable and may be withdrawn if the code of practice set out is not followed.
- The issue of a permit is for one year starting from the first of January each year. The permit can be renewed on an annual basis. **Previously approved acts** are only required to verify that the information which they submitted in their original application form still applies or in the event of any changes provide updated information.
- In the case of performing groups the permit will be issued in the name of the group leader thereby enabling the membership of the group to vary according to changing circumstances.
- Permits will be issued and posted from the Constables of St. Peter Port, Constables Office, Lefebvre Street, St. Peter Port. The office is open 8.30am – 4.00pm and from Mondays – Fridays.

Designated Busking sites and timings

The permit will only be issued on condition that the acts are performed on **Monday – Saturdays** during the period **10 am until 7 pm** and in the following designated sites as per the attached map :-

- A** Adjacent to Liberation Monument
- B** La Plaiderie - opposite Moores Library Bar
- C** Next – corner area
- D** Le Marchant Steps - area adjacent to the Guernsey Post Office in Smith St
- E** High Street - in the area outside Boots, the Chemist
- F** Outside the entrance to the Guernsey Information Centre
- G** Area between Fletchers Sports and Dix-Neuf Brasserie and Bar
- H** Lloyds Chemist – at the bottom of Market Steps
- I** Town Church Square
- J** Town Church – seaward side
- K** Area outside the Picquet House

- L** Market Square - for the avoidance of doubt the cobbled area is defined as the Market Square. It does not include any paved areas or Market Terrace (area in front of HVM store) or Market Street. Permit holders may freely perform in this area from 10am to 7pm on Monday to Friday. Those wishing to perform in the area on Saturdays or Sundays must contact Jack Honeybill of the Town Centre Partnership at: 01481 711039 Mobile: 07781113464 or at jackhoneybill@hotmail.com

- M** Mill Street - any appropriate point along the street e.g. unoccupied shop

Special note on Liberation Day and Seafront Sundays and Town Carnival week

- Busking on Liberation Day is handled by the Liberation Day Working Group. Selected buskers with existing permits will be approached by the group. Submissions will not be considered.
- Busking is also permitted for Seafront Sundays – a schedule of the selected dates for the period May-September is available from Jack Honeybill of the Town Centre Partnership. Again specific sites and time slots can be arranged by contacting the relevant organiser for the day as per the schedule.
- Busking is not permitted through Town Centre Partnership's 'Town Carnival' week (please check for dates), however the Carnival organisers may approach acts through Jack Honeybill of the Town Centre Partnership.

Code of Practice

- **Music or voice at all of the above sites may be amplified but not to an unacceptable level.** For amplification busking amps are recommended in all sites other than Market Square where an electric power supply is available – a list of potential suppliers of busking amps is attached. **Please note that Legislation in Guernsey under the Noise Abatement Ordinance 1962** requires anyone wishing to use a PA/sound system outdoors to obtain a permit from the Guernsey Police. This will be facilitated by the Sport & Culture Department.
- Performances of no longer than 60 minutes duration are recommended at all sites.
- Equipment and any personal effects must not be spread out so it obstructs pedestrians and care must be taken in the Market Square to avoid damage to the cobblestones.
- The areas must be left clean and tidy after each performance.
- The permit must be carried with the named Busker(s) at all times during the entertainment, and must be presented if requested to do so.
- No sign can be displayed inviting payment except where a collection for charity has been authorised by the Parish Constables. Buskers are allowed to have a hat or case nearby that people may put money in if they wish as well as sell recordings of their own (and only their own) performances.
- Buskers shall not say anything which is likely to cause alarm, distress or offence to members of the public. If the complaint is about excessive noise it may be possible for the busker to reach a compromise by reducing their noise level.

Special note: Public Liability Insurance Cover

- All permit holders are required to have Public Liability Insurance cover of £2.5 million. The Sport & Culture Department will provide this cover for those who do not have their own insurance.
- **The States of Guernsey will not accept any liability should any injuries be sustained to the permit holder or members of the general public.**

Performers aged under 18

- For those aged under 18, a Busking in St. Peter Port Parental Consent form will need to be completed by a parent or guardian. We do not recommend young people under the age of 16 taking part without an adult present. The Guernsey Arts Commission or the Town Centre will not be providing supervision for under 18s to take part. Parents and guardians therefore should make arrangements for their children to be supervised during this activity if they deem it necessary.