

EMBARGO UNTIL 27.03.18 10AM



DOWNLOAD FESTIVAL GETS READY TO RUMBLE WITH WWE NXT

**ALEISTER BLACK, ADAM COLE, VELVETEEN DREAM, RICOCHET, NIKKI CROSS,
SHAYNA BASZLER, KAIRI SANE, THE UNDISPUTED ERA*
PLUS MANY MORE TO APPEAR AT FULLY FLEDGED WWE EXPERIENCE ON SITE**

21 MORE BANDS JOIN BILL

**HELL IS FOR HEROES, AVATAR, ANDREW W.K, BAD RELIGION, BLACK FOXXES, CKY,
NOTHING MORE, LAWNMOWER DETH, BAD COP / BAD COP, BEING AS AN OCEAN,
AND MANY MORE ADDED TO STELLAR LINE UP**

Download Festival, the champion of rock events, has today announced the grand return of **WWE NXT LIVE!** to the hallowed grounds of Donington Park. Fans will be electrified with incredible displays of skill and athleticism, as the hugest names in sports entertainment deliver the fully-fledged NXT show to a full-scale ring in the festival arena. Not only that, but 21 more exciting names have been added to the bill including **Andrew W.K, Hell Is For Heroes, Avatar, Bad Religion**, and more. Download Festival is the only place in the world where fans can experience the exhilarating world of WWE NXT alongside the world's biggest rock stars, across **June 8 – 10**. Tickets are available now from downloadfestival.co.uk/tickets.

Alongside headliners **Avenged Sevenfold, Guns N' Roses** and **Ozzy Osbourne**, massive NXT names **Aleister Black, Adam Cole, Velveteen Dream, Ricochet, Nikki Cross, Shayna Baszler, Kairi Sane, The Undisputed ERA** and many more will descend upon Download for a weekend of high flying manoeuvres, action-packed matches and unexpected surprises along the way. NXT has made a massive impact at the festival in previous years, performing to capacity crowds throughout the weekend, featuring impressive debuts, shocking returns and the exciting action even spilling over to band's performances, this year is set to be even bigger and better.

Andy Copping Said:

"I am incredibly fired-up to welcome WWE NXT back to Download Festival. This festival exclusive marriage of rock and wrestling is totally unique and the only place where you can see the world's most legendary rock stars and the brightest WWE prospects together. If previous years are anything to go by this is going to be the biggest most fun weekend ever."

WWE NXT Superstar Aleister Black Said:

"I've been a music guy all my life. Getting to combine the two things that I love the most, metal and sports entertainment, on one of the most exciting stages in the world and to perform for a fanbase that understands me and is responsible for my success will make this an unforgettable experience."

Be prepared to run away with the metal circus as **Avatar** make their first and unmissable Main Stage appearance. On the Zippo Encore stage, the undisputed King Of Partying **Andrew W.K** is making his way back to Donington, whilst **Hell**

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Is For Heroes set the blueprint for post noughties British alt-rock and make their overdue Download debut. Cross over nu-metal skate punks **CKY** also join the stage for a serving of sludgy riffs, as well as three-time Grammy nominated **Nothing More** who have ridden wave of success bolstered by the electrifying frontman Johnny Hawkins.

The Avalanche Stage presented by Kerrang! Radio's Fresh Blood gets even bigger as pivotal punk outfit **Bad Religion** have been confirmed as the final headliners with nearly four decades under their belt. Also added are UK up and comers **Black Foxxes** who have catapulted themselves through the British rock scene with a raw edge that have made them undeniable ones to watch, seminal Suffolk band **A** who are fresh from supporting Hell Is For Heroes, plus harmonious punk foursome **Bad Cop / Bad Cop** and more.

Other names announced today include **Culture Abuse, Lawnmower Deth, Starcrawler, Ded, Being As An Ocean, Ecce Vandal, Igorrr, Loathe, Kaiser Franz Josef, Helpless, Cellar Darling, Anchor Lane.**

Download Festival is the home of rock music and takes place on the sacred grounds of Donington Park, which have been associated with rock since the eighties. The festival attracts icons of rock and metal to its main stage, plus some of the best and hottest new acts in the world. AC/DC, KISS, Metallica, Def Leppard, Guns N' Roses, Rage Against The Machine, Slipknot, Linkin Park and many more have all headlined its main stage.

*WWE talent are subject to change.

www.downloadfestival.co.uk

- ENDS-

NOTES TO EDITORS

WWE has been synonymous with rock culture for decades and has a long history of engaging with the rock community, previously collaborating with the likes of; Motörhead, Killswitch Engage, Alice Cooper Limp Bizkit, Kid Rock, Living Colour, Rob Zombie, POD and many more huge bands. It also provided one of the most touching moments in Download history when Executive Vice President of Talent, Live Events & Creative and WWE icon **Paul "Triple H" Lesquesne** was awarded the Metal Hammer 'Spirit Of Lemmy' award on the main stage, in honour of his relationship with the late legendary Motörhead frontman Lemmy Kilmister and to acknowledge the affinity between the rock and wrestling worlds.

DOWNLOAD LINE UP

Announced today:

Avatar, Hell Is For Heroes, Andrew W.K, CKY, Nothing More, Culture Abuse, Lawnmower Deth, Starcrawler, Bad Religion, Ded, Being As An Ocean, A, Ecce Vandal, Black Foxxes, Bad Cop/Bad Cop, Igorrr, Loathe, Kaiser Franz Josef, Helpless, Cellar Darling, Anchor Lane

Full line up:

Avenge Sevenfold / Guns N' Roses / Ozzy Osbourne

A / Alexisonfire / All Them Witches / Anchor Lane / Andrew W.K / Asking Alexandria / Avatar / BABYMETAL / Bad Cop/Bad Cop / Bad Religion / Baroness / Being As An Ocean / Black Foxxes / Black Stone Cherry / Black Veil Brides / Blessthefall / Body Count Ft. Ice T / Boston Manor / Bullet For My Valentine / Bury Tomorrow / Cancer Bats / Cellar Darling / CKY / Corrosion Of Conformity / Cradle Of Filth / Culture Abuse / Dead Cross / DED / Blooms / DragonForce / Dream State / Emmure / Employed To Serve / Gold Key / Greta Van Fleet / Hatebreed / Helpless / Higher Power / Igorrr / In This Moment / Inglorious / Jamie Lenman / Jonathan Davis / Kaiser Franz / Knocked Loose / Koyo / Kreator / L7 / Lawnmower Deth / Less Than Jake / Loath / Malevolence / Marilyn Manson / Marmozets / Mayday Parade / Meshuggah / Milk Teeth / Miss May I / Monster Truck / Myke Gray / Myrkur / Neck Deep / No Hot Ashes / Parkway Drive / Plini / Powerflo / Puppy / Rise Against / Rolo Tomassi / Savage Messiah / Shinedown / SHVPES / Sleep Token / Starcrawler / Stick To Your Guns / Stray From The Path / Sun Arcana / Tesseract / The Bottom Line / The Bronx / The

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Faim / The Hives / The Hyena Kill / The Maine / The Pink Slips / The Struts / The Temperance Movement / Thrice / Thunder / Thy Art Is Murder / Tigress / Turbonegro / Volbeat / Von Herten Brothers / Wayward Sons / Whiskey Myers / Woes / WSTR / You Me At Six / Zeal & Ardor

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for Download Festival are available now from downloadfestival.co.uk/tickets

A loyalty discount is available for a limited time. downloadfestival.co.uk/news-features/register-interest-2018-loyalty

RIP PARK FARM CAMPING / CAMPERVAN TICKETS ARE NOW SOLD OUT!

Extras including parking and lockers can be purchased during the booking process or as a standalone after you've purchased your ticket. Limited edition Download 2018 Zippo lighters will also be available to purchase alongside your festival ticket. Zippo windproof lighters have become the ultimate accessory for making a bold statement in music and are the perfect way to show your appreciation for your favourite band; with a classic Encore moment. Backed by its famous lifetime guarantee, a Zippo is a lighter for life.

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'THE ACCESS CARD' FOR DISABLED CUSTOMERS

The Access Card is a scheme developed by disabled people for disabled people and is widely accepted at events and venues across the UK. It offers a new & dynamic method of communicating disabled people's needs and speeds up the ticket purchasing process.

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Carlsberg are proud to be the official beer partner of Download Festival. Carlsberg will be bringing a touch of Danishness to the festival this summer as it's the fusion of Danish simplicity and precision that brings you a light, easy drinking, refreshing lager.

www.carlsberg.co.uk



Somersby are excited to be the official cider partner of Download Festival. Best served thirsty. This delicious cold-filtered cider has no artificial flavours or sweeteners, simply bucket-loads of great apple taste. That's real refreshment.



Pepsi Max is proud to be the official cola partner of Download Festival. Follow us on Twitter @PepsiMaxUK



Get your rock spirit on and put your Zippo windproof lighter in the air at Download! Zippo windproof lighters have become the ultimate accessory for making a bold statement in music and are the perfect way to show your appreciation for your favourite band, with a classic Encore moment. Backed by its famous lifetime guarantee, a Zippo is a lighter for life.

Limited edition Download 2018 lighters are only on sale with festival ticket, so buy yours now to avoid missing out! Show your ID at the Zippo booth at the festival to collect your limited edition lighter. Follow [Zippo](#) on Facebook and Twitter [@ZippoEncore](#) to be kept up-to-date with the latest news, exclusive offers and other exciting announcements about rock's biggest events and festivals. Remember those who rock, roll with Zippo!



Big Green Coach is the largest festival coach travel provider in the UK and is the official and exclusive coach travel partner to Download Festival. Operating return coach travel from 74 locations around the UK directly to the festival, Big Green Coach is making getting to Download easy. Choose from Wed, Thursday or Friday arrivals and they will get you safely home on Monday morning. Coach only or packaged with festival ticket:

<http://www.biggreencoach.co.uk/events/download-festival-tickets-coach-travel>



Co-op is coming to Download and we couldn't be more excited to be at the heart of festival communities this summer. For the first time you'll be able to buy your essential items directly from the Co-op shop in the campsite, including food, water, beer, wine and toiletries. Of course we'll have sun cream and rain ponchos too! Co-op is all about being close to our customers and it doesn't get much closer than being right outside your tent.

Visit us at www.coop.co.uk/food