

PRESS RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Come Together for International Beatleweek 2019

**70 bands to entertain Beatle fans from 40 countries
Fab Four festival worth and estimated £2.8m to city
economy**

The world's largest and longest-running Beatles festival returns to Liverpool next month.

International Beatleweek 2019 will feature 70 bands from 20 countries and is worth an estimated £2.8m to the city's economy.

Fab Four fans from around 40 countries across the world, including Brazil, Russia, the US, Spain and the Netherlands, will converge on the Mersey for the seven-day event which is organised by Cavern City Tours.

This year marks 50 years since the release of Abbey Road and 60 years since the Casbah Club was opened by Mona Best – mother of The Beatles' first drummer Pete Best - in West Derby.

Both landmark anniversaries will be celebrated at events between August 21-27, as will the Mathew Street Festival which ran alongside Beatleweek for 20 years until it was cancelled in 2013.

Special guests at this year's festival include John Lennon's sister Julia Baird, Rock and Roll Hall of Fame drummer Alan White – who played with both John Lennon and George Harrison as well as with Yes, and producer and recording studio engineer Jack Douglas who worked with John Lennon on both Imagine and Double Fantasy.

Beatleweek runs for seven days with the core events taking place between Friday, August 23 and Bank Holiday Monday, August 26.

They include the Annual Beatles Convention at the Adelphi Hotel on Sunday, August 25 which features guest speakers, interviews, film shows, a giant Beatles flea market, and performances from 40 tribute bands.

Cavern City Tours director Bill Heckle said today: “Beatleweek remains the biggest celebration of Beatles’ music anywhere in the world, and despite it being 50 years since the band broke up, their songs continue to inspire a new generation of fans and musicians.

“What International Beatleweek has done over the past three decades is to create this amazing family all over the globe. It’s an umbrella for like-minded people, many of whom have forged deep friendships over many years – and some of which have resulted in marriage!

“This year’s event sold out in May which makes it the fastest-selling in Beatleweek’s long history.

“This is fantastic for the future of the festival, but also for Liverpool’s tourism industry.

“International Beatleweek is worth an estimated £2.8m a year to Liverpool, with thousands of festival-goers travelling here from dozens of countries and spending money on hotels, taxis, experiences and souvenirs, and in restaurants, bars and cafes across the city.”

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NOTES TO EDITORS

About International Beatleweek

Organised by The Cavern Club, the annual International Beatleweek Festival celebrates the music of the most famous pop group the world has ever known, and it all happens in the place where it all began – Liverpool.

With its origins dating back to 1977, It is the biggest and longest running Beatles festival in the world and typically attracts 12,000 people to events held across city centre venues. This is truly an international event with bands from over 20 countries and fans from over 40.

As well as live gigs, there are exhibitions, memorabilia sales, guest speakers, video shows, sightseeing tours and a convention. The Cavern offer packages which can include accommodation at a wide choice of city centre hotels and tickets to events or ticket only packages.

About the Cavern Club

The Cavern Club opened its doors on January 16, 1957 as a jazz club modelled on the famous Paris nightspot Le Caveau de la Huchette. The opening act was the Merseysippi Jazz Band.

Skiffle groups including the Quarrymen were allowed to play at the club but it was not until the early 1960s that it became a regular spot for blues bands and beat groups.

Between February 1961 and August 1963, The Beatles made 292 appearances at the club.

The original Cavern closed its doors in 1973 to make way for work on the city's underground railway loop, with a replacement venue opened on the opposite side of Mathew Street. That club later became Eric's.

The current Cavern was reopened on April 26, 1984 at the original address.

Cavern City Tours took over its running in 1991 and in the past 29 years the venue has played host to a stellar line-up of artists including Oasis, Tom Robinson, Travis, Arctic Monkeys, Adele, Jessie J, Monkee Micky Dolenz and Sir Paul McCartney.