



BFI Film Audience Network (FAN)

Welsh film festivals in 2025

Bringing UK independent and international film and the moving image to audiences across Wales and the UK.

This guide is designed to give an overview of film festivals in Wales, in 2025. If you are a festival looking for funding, please see our [Film Exhibition Fund](#) or our [Training & Skills Bursaries](#).



CHAPTER

At a glance

41 Film Festivals in total

35 Welsh events

5 UK Events delivering in Wales [1]

1 International festival delivering in Wales

19 Distinct themes from Adventure to African Cinema

2 Festivals developed per year between 1980-2025

28 ceased to operate (an increase of 2 in 2024/25)

About Film Hub Wales

At Film Hub Wales (FHW), we celebrate cinema. We fund, train and advise organisations that screen film, from film festivals, to societies and mixed arts centres. This fund aims to bring the best UK independent and international film to audiences across Wales, delivering against the priorities set out in the [BFI's Screen Culture 2033 strategy](#).

We're part of the [BFI Film Audience Network \(FAN\)](#), which has been awarded BFI National Lottery funding with the aim of reaching audiences across the UK, giving them the opportunity to enjoy a broad range of films, regardless of geography or circumstance.

Chapter is appointed as the 'Film Hub Lead Organisation' (FHLO) in Wales. [See examples of our funded projects here.](#)

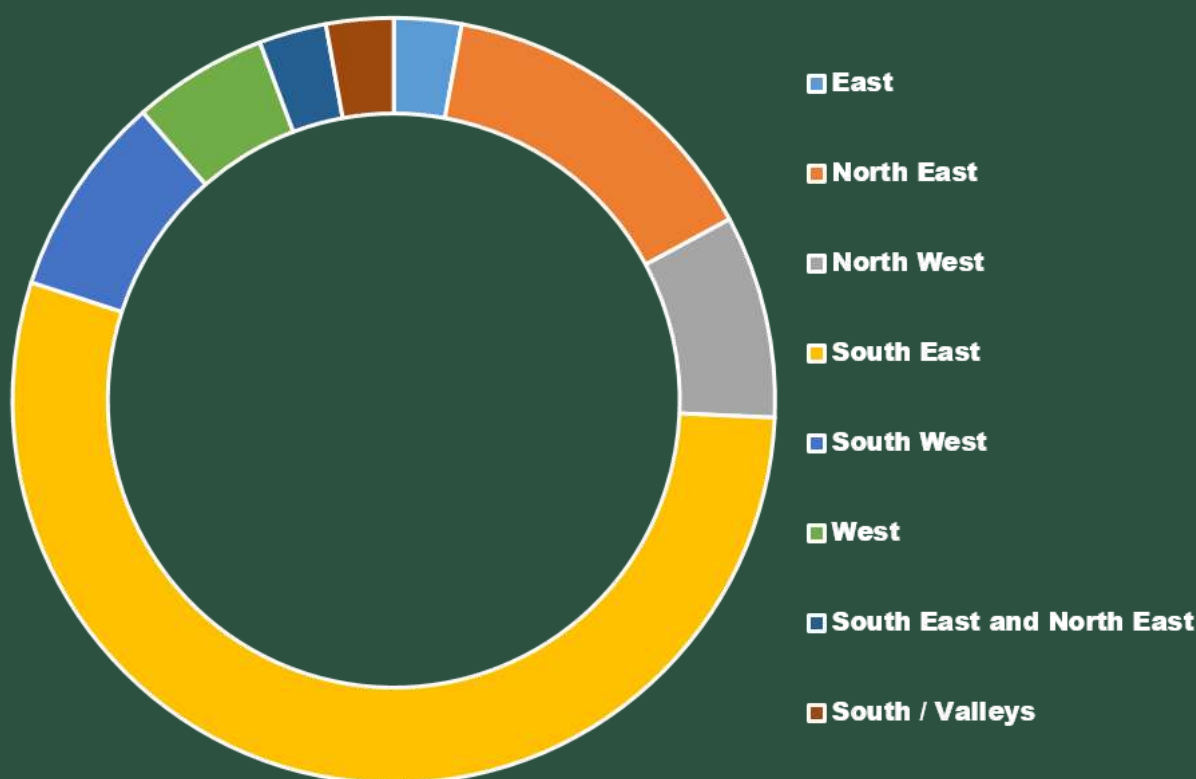
[1] This figure is likely to be far greater, as we do not include touring festival programmes. Currently based on returning festivals only.

Who are the Festivals?

Please see our [member map](#) for a list of current festivals in Wales.
We update the map regularly.

Geographical spread

Wales wide coverage with concentration in the South East.



Admissions

Festival admissions range between **30 - 25,000**

73% of the festivals mapped are considered local, reaching up to 4,500 people annually. Some festivals include a portion of online figures in their totals.

Across a sample of 21, average admissions were calculated at 4,800. This is impacted by three significant events (two of which are UK with only partial delivery in Wales), which when removed from the sample, decreases the average to 2,225.

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Unique Festival Themes



- Aging
- Animation
- Art, music, culture
- Black British Cinema
- British / Independent / World cinema
- Coast and sea
- Comedy
- Disability
- Film and Photography
- Football
- Horror
- Italian Film
- LGBTQIA+
- Mainstream outdoors
- Music / Science / Arts / Talent
- New talent / Broadcast / Student work / Shorts
- Welsh Language / Welsh film

Useful Partners

- **BFI Audience Projects Fund**: Festivals of national (UK) significance can access funding from the BFI,
- **Ffilm Cymru Wales**: Festivals can access funding through their film exhibitor fund,
- **Creative Wales**: Contact the team for funding options,
- **BAFTA Cymru**: Festivals can become an accredited festival partner,
- **Iris Prize**: Access the Best of Iris and best practice as Wales' largest festival,
- **Independent Cinema Office**: access to national training schemes,
- **WCVA, VAW (Creative Lives) and University of South Wales**: provide volunteering opportunities for young creatives where practical,
- **British Council**: Feature on the festivals database and discover films,
- **Inclusive Cinema Legacy**: for access advice including 'Dismantling Structural Inequality in Your Cinema',

Funding Available

Audiences:

- [Film Exhibition Fund \(FEF\)](#) (larger audience development screening programmes)
- [FEF Pitch Pot](#) (single events or short term programmes)
- [Made in Wales](#) (applications should be made to FEF)

Training:

- [Training & Skills Bursaries](#)

We also offer networking events, training courses, marketing support, and industry news. Find a list of further external funding sources [on our website here](#).

Not a Film Hub Wales member?

To become a member, [fill in our Application Form](#). [Membership](#) is free to qualifying organisations and offers access to our range of funding, support and benefits.

Contacts

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Appendix

What do we define as a Film Festival?

An extended presentation of films, of varying scale and size, in one or more exhibition venues and often with digital content. Sometimes within a single region but may include multiple touring, or community events. Increasingly, film festivals can include year-round activities that develop beyond a set of particular dates. Festivals often have a unique selling point but have common themes such as showcasing new talent, creative special events and new international and domestic releases designed to attract new audiences. They enable us to celebrate diversity on screen and develop creative outlets for regular audiences.