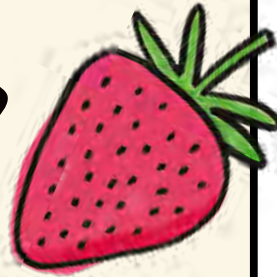


THE STARTING LINE-UP: JUNE'S FRONT RUNNERS



LIVE MUSIC

Bicester Village
1 June to 28 August

Every Friday from June through August, the breezy outdoor terraces of Ottolenghi, Cecconi's, The Double Red Duke and La Tua Pasta will host soloists and DJs for live-music nights designed to help you wind down and kick start your weekend. Look out for special cocktails and exclusive menus on the night. bicester-village.com

MARILYN MONROE: A PORTRAIT

National Portrait Gallery, London
4 June to 6 September

A century after her birth, the actor and pin-up's scene-stealing star power is being celebrated at the National Portrait Gallery this summer. Featuring era-defining photography by Andy Warhol, Richard Avedon, Cecil Beaton and more, the exhibition explores the creative control Monroe commanded – and conceded – over her own image. npg.org.uk

MARYLEBONE MUSIC FESTIVAL

London
15 to 21 June

Hitting all the right notes, this neighbourhood favourite returns, taking over some of Marylebone's loveliest corners – from the Wallace Collection to Manchester Square Gardens. Expect a mix of classical and contemporary performances, including pop sensation Sungjoo, *Peter and the Wolf*, and epic film scores from the Orion Orchestra, with Sue Perkins conducting and hosting across the programme. marylebone-music-festival.com

ROYAL ASCOT

Ascot, Berkshire
16 to 20 June

Fine thoroughbreds, well-hooved pedigrees and immaculate manes: and that's just the crowd in the Royal Enclosure. Horse racing at Ascot makes for a quintessentially British day out: you'll find us scoping out the best-dressed and pocketing our wins after a flutter at the bookies (most take cards, but it's worth bringing cash for some). ascot.com

SUPPER CLUB

AT KNEAD BAKERY
Cheltenham, Gloucestershire
20 June

Owners Kris Biggs and John Hawes met working in a Michelin-starred kitchen, and their bakery, Knead, has become a local staple since opening in 2020. On the menu at their Argentina-inspired barbecue night is slow-cooked brisket, wood-fired seabass with charred avocado plus salsa criolla, and grilled peaches for pudding. kneadbakery.co.uk

ENGLAND VS THE WEST INDIES AT LORD'S

Marylebone, London
24 June

For the first time, 12 teams will compete in the ICC Women's T20 World Cup in a tournament of 33 matches across seven venues, including the incredible Lord's Cricket Ground, where England will go head to head with the West Indies. In July, the first ever women's Test match at Lord's will take place, too. Don't forget SPF and a hat. lords.org

FRIDA: THE MAKING OF AN ICON

Tate Modern, London
25 June to 3 January 2027

Chart Kahlo's extraordinary rise from little-known painter to one of the most recognisable figures in art history – and a global icon. This major retrospective brings together more than 30 of her most iconic works alongside personal artefacts, clothing, jewellery, photographs and paraphernalia, offering a rare glimpse of the woman behind the legend. tate.org.uk

HIGHLAND COW WEEKEND

Cotswolds Farm Park, Oxfordshire
27 to 28 June

A summer spin on spring's ever-popular lambing season (kids can't get enough of bottle-feeding the newborns), this new event offers meet-and-greets with some of the most popular four-legged friends on the farm: Highland cows Ted and Ruby, plus their crew. Missed the June dates? Try again in September. cotswoldfarmpark.co.uk

STRAWBERRY FULL MOON CEREMONY AT DAYLESFORD FARM

Moreton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire
27 June

Mark June's 'strawberry moon' – named for the fleeting strawberry harvest – with an evening of breathwork, cacao meditation and sound bathing at Daylesford Farm. Set against the farm's lush landscape, this gently immersive session invites guests to slow down, reset and reconnect with the season. daylesford.com

BLenheim PALACE FESTIVAL

Woodstock, Oxfordshire

27 June to 4 July

A brand-new event to bookmark this summer, this historic home throws open its stately gates for a week of open-air concerts. Headliners include Teddy Swims, Alanis Morissette and Michael Bublé, with Fortnum & Mason picnic hampers on hand and a range of upgrades – from fine-dining experiences in the palace's library to supper in the orangery – for those making a night of it. blenheim-palace-festival.com

HENLEY ROYAL REGATTA

Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire
30 June to 5 July

Watch the red flag drop as elite rowing crews from around the world take to the Thames over six days. This summer, spectators can immerse themselves in the action with riverside glamping, too, with bell tents and uninterrupted views of the course. hrr.co.uk

MEDITATION AT

WHATLEY MANOR
Malmesbury, Wiltshire
26 to 27 June

Embrace the summer solstice with a beginner-friendly Active Meditation Retreat led by holistic healer and yoga teacher Maria Parvati. It's set within the tranquil grounds of Whatley Manor – guests can join for one or both days, with 10% off stays when booking a room. whatleymanor.com

WIMBLEDON WATCH PARTY

Bicester Village
29 June to 12 July

The Double Red Duke celebrates its first summer at Bicester Village with a season of sports screenings, kicking off with Wimbledon. Expect Pimm's, pints and parasols at The Duke's Summer Garden, plus live music throughout. Better yet, it opens from 9am for a full English – a breakfast of champions, indeed. bicester-village.com

F1 EXPERIENCE

Bicester Village
Throughout June

BOSS partners with Apple Vision Pro to bring Bicester Village guests a high-octane Formula 1 experience. Using cutting-edge spatial technology, a virtual-reality headset transports you into a three-dimensional world of precision tests and virtual laps – simulating the mental focus required of F1's finest drivers. bicester-village.com

SCHIAPARELLI: FASHION BECOMES ART

V&A, London
Until 8 November

Often framed through her collaborations with Salvador Dalí, Elsa Schiaparelli was a radical force in her own right. This major exhibition explores the designer's singular vision, spell-binding surrealism and exquisite craftsmanship, with insight from the fashion house's current creative director Daniel Roseberry. vam.ac.uk

