

# EDINBURGH'S HOGMANAY 19

## Franz Ferdinand to headline Edinburgh's Hogmanay 2019

### Metronomy and Free Love support

Tickets on sale 10.00am Monday 3 September  
[edinburghshogmanay.com](http://edinburghshogmanay.com) and (+44) 131 510 0395

[BAND IMAGES HERE](#)  
EDINBURGH'S HOGMANAY [IMAGES HERE](#)

Scotland's favourite indie band Franz Ferdinand is set to headline Edinburgh's Hogmanay, the biggest New Year celebration in the UK, for the first time.

10,000 tickets to Edinburgh's Hogmanay Concert in the Gardens will go on sale on Monday 3 September at 10.00am at [edinburghshogmanay.com](http://edinburghshogmanay.com) and (+44) 131 510 0395.

One of the standout bands from Scotland's inimitable musical heritage, **Franz Ferdinand** burst on to the British music scene in the early noughties in a flurry of jagged riffs, hands-aloft choruses and irresistible hooks.

This is **Franz Ferdinand's first appearance** at the world-famous Edinburgh's Hogmanay, after its scheduled support of Erasure in 2003/04 was blown off course.

This year their stunning new album ***Always Ascending*** is hitting people in the heart and the head, and Franz Ferdinand has found itself on the shortlist for the 2018 SAY Award, winning the popular vote. Forget everything you think you know about Franz Ferdinand, ***Always Ascending*** is nothing short of a rebirth. A triumphant recasting

of one of our favourite groups, bursting with fresh ideas and vigorous sonic experimentation: the sounds of the Parisian night, the exhilaration of an Italian car racing down the autobahn; a feeling of euphoria so pure it could only exist on a knife's edge, occasionally gliding into euphoric heartbreak.

With some of the most danceable, chantable indie anthems of the last two decades, Alex Kapranos and co. have built a reputation for truly electrifying live shows.

One of the most idiosyncratic British acts of recent decades, **Metronomy** is one of those bands that's impossible to pin down and equally as hard not to fall in love with. Seamlessly intertwining funk, electro and rock elements, the eclectic quartet from Devon have built themselves a legion of fans over 5 albums. Their 2011 breakthrough album *The English Riviera* was nominated for a prestigious Mercury Music Prize, and songs like *The Bay* and *Love Letters* are dancefloor staples far and wide. The band has performed at festivals all over the world and is a regular on the UK live music circuit, continuing to enamour fans with its own brand of shuffling beats, ear-worm bass lines and whimsical take on pop.

Glasgow based **Free Love** is the latest manifestation of Scottish duo Suzanne Rodden and Lewis Cook (FKA Happy Meals) – a continuation and progression of their utopian dance pop experiments released on Night School Records and Optimo, which have seen them nominated for Scottish Album of the Year and performing across the globe. Touring across Europe supporting Liars and The Flaming Lips, and with festival shows as far as Austin, Moscow and Bangalore, the band have become notorious for their sensual live ceremonies. Using a table of all-hardware electronics, Free Love harness a charismatic chaos and unpredictable energy that sets them apart as one of the most exciting artists of 2018.

**Alex Kapranos from Franz Ferdinand, said** “Hogmanay is the greatest party of the year and there is nowhere in the world like Scotland to celebrate it. Just thinking about bringing in the bells in Edinburgh gets me excited. It's going to be some night!”

**Charlie Wood and Ed Bartlam, directors of Edinburgh's Hogmanay, said** “We're super excited with the line-up for the Concert in the Gardens at Edinburgh's Hogmanay. It's going to be quite a party! Franz Ferdinand has had a fantastic year with *Always Ascending* and, in this, their first appearance at Hogmanay, they're our top choice to get the crowd going into the midnight moment! Great support too from top Scottish talent Free Love and dance-floor and festival favourites Metronomy. Edinburgh once more proves itself the best place to be for New Year!”

**Councillor Donald Wilson, Edinburgh's Culture and Communities Convener, said:** “Edinburgh's Hogmanay is THE place to be to bring in the bells and with a strong Scottish musical line-up, this is going to be one of our best celebrations yet. Let headliners Franz Ferdinand ‘take you out’ of 2018 and secure your tickets now for our world-famous Concert in the Gardens 2019.”

The full programme for Edinburgh's Hogmanay 2019 will be announced soon.

Ticket prices:

**Premium tickets: £165 (£160 + £5 booking fee).** Premium standing viewing area (hard-standing on top path) with exclusive bar, food and toilet facilities.

**Enclosure ticket holders: £75 (£70 + £5 booking fee).** Exclusive standing viewing area (hard-standing) in-front of the Concert stage.

**Gardens ticket holders: £65 (£60 + £5 booking fee).** Standing viewing area (grass) around the Enclosure area.

Tickets available from **Monday 3 September at 10.00am** at [edinburghshogmanay.com](http://edinburghshogmanay.com)

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## **ABOUT EDINBURGH'S HOGMANAY**

[HIGH RES IMAGES AND FILMS FOR DOWNLOAD](#)

**Edinburgh's Hogmanay is the UK's (if not the world's) leading New Year Festival lasting 3 days in Scotland's stunning capital city drawing an estimated 150,000 people from Scotland and around the world.**

Edinburgh's Hogmanay continues its charity partnership with **Edinburgh's One City Trust**.

Underbelly will deliver an ambitious Edinburgh's Hogmanay 2019, working with an internationally renowned creative team, on behalf of the City of Edinburgh Council,

Edinburgh's Hogmanay 2019 is supported by City of Edinburgh Council, Scottish Government through the Edinburgh Festival's Expo Fund, EventScotland International Events Programme and the Year of Young People 2018 Events fund, all working together to create a world leading New Year in Scotland.

### **About Underbelly**

Underbelly is a UK based live entertainment company the beginnings of which are rooted in the Edinburgh Festival Fringe in 2000. Its events and festivals division now operates one of the largest operations at the Fringe, selling over 460,000 tickets for over 200 shows in 22 venues over 25 days in 2018.

2019 will be the seventh Edinburgh's Christmas that Underbelly has produced for City of Edinburgh Council (2017/18 saw a record breaking 781,520 tickets issued to visitors from 47 different countries), and the second Edinburgh's Hogmanay also on behalf of City of Edinburgh Council, which in 2018 welcomed 160,000 over 3 days.

Elsewhere Underbelly also produces Underbelly Festival on the Southbank in London, this year in its 10th year and one of the biggest multi-arts offerings in London, Christmas in Leicester Square, Udderbelly Festival in Hong Kong, West End Live in Trafalgar Square for Westminster City Council and the Society of London Theatre.

Through its Underbelly Productions arm it produces and promotes live shows in London's West End at the Edinburgh Fringe, and throughout the UK and on tour internationally.

In 2017 Underbelly sold over 1.4 million tickets to its various events.

[www.underbelly.co.uk](http://www.underbelly.co.uk)