

INVERNESS CITY CENTRE

BUSKERS GUIDE

STREET PERFORMING (BUSKING)

Street performing is a valued and long-standing art form that contributes to the character and vibrancy of Inverness city centre. When done considerately it helps to create a welcoming atmosphere and brings enjoyment to both residents and visitors. However, performers must be mindful of their surroundings and show respect for local businesses, residents, and city centre users by following the recommended good practice guidelines.

THE LAW

Under Section 54 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, Police Scotland has the authority to request that a busker stops performing if their activity is causing a disturbance. If a performer refuses to comply, police officers have the power to confiscate equipment and may refer the matter to the Procurator Fiscal for further action.

ADVICE OR ASSISTANCE

If you are experiencing an unreasonable disturbance from a performer you can report the issue to Police Scotland by calling **101** or via their online reporting form: www.scotland.police.uk/secureforms/c3

In addition please contact Inverness BID for further advice or support:

Inverness BID, 17 Queensgate, IV1 1DF. Tel: 01463 714550

Email admin@invernessbid.co.uk

BUSKERS CHARTER

BE CONSIDERATE

When performing in public spaces, please be mindful that your music affects nearby businesses and residents. Performances should be limited to a **maximum of one hour per location**, wait at least two hours before returning to the same spot, and vary your repertoire to avoid repetition.

This considerate approach ensures busking remains welcome and appreciated throughout our shared spaces.

BE UNPLUGGED

Street performances and busking must be conducted at reasonable volume levels that allow nearby businesses to operate without disruption. Your performance should not be audible beyond 30 meters from your pitch, ensuring minimal noise impact. Amplification should be maintained at minimal levels to prevent disruption.

BE RESPECTFUL

Please maintain at least **50 meters distance** between your pitch and other street performers to prevent sound overlap. Ensure your performance area doesn't block public walkways, business entrances, ATMs or other essential access points.

BE AWARE

Please familiarise yourself with this Charter and adhere to the guidelines. City Centre BID, Council Enforcement and Police Scotland monitor performances and will address any violations of the code of conduct.

BE COMPLIANT

Please comply with all Regulatory Authority. If asked by Police Scotland to stop performing, move away or restrict your performance, you **must** do so immediately to avoid being charged with a criminal offence and having your equipment confiscated. By law, the sale of merchandise is not permitted unless you hold a Street Traders License from Highland Council.

Please work with us to create a vibrant,
welcoming city centre that enhances the
experience for everyone who visits