ART AT PAXTON 2027

Events' Information (Please read in full before booking).

SPRING ARTS' EXPO – Sunday March 28

SUMMER ART FAIR - Saturday & Sunday August 28-29

Location:

Ballroom (indoors) and outside (own gazebos only/weather permitting) Paxton House, Paxton, Berwick-upon-Tweed.

Exhibition/Trading Times – 10am – 3pm (March); 10am – 4pm (Aug) (Times coincide with House opening)

Exhibitor Arrival Times to set up – Indoor access from 8.30am (we may arrive a little later on the second day of two-day events where everyone is already set up from previous day)

Gazebo exhibitors may want to arrive earlier to set up their structures. There will be no access inside until after 8.30am.

About

Art at Paxton 2027 consists of two annual events. One on Easter Sunday to coincide with the official opening of Paxton House after the winter closure and second is the two-day Summer Arts' Fair in August. (We staged two similar successful events for the first time at Paxton House in 2026 and we hope they will become regular annual events). Both these annual events are curated and offer artists and makers the opportunity to exhibit and sell their work and to stage small free demonstrations (please mention this on your application form so we can discuss this with you in advance).

The events take place inside Paxton's refurbished Ballroom (former Picture Gallery) which is accessed via stairs and a lift, from the gift shop and the central courtyard,

The Ballroom is now Paxton's public-facing events' space to compliment the Hayloft Gallery's seasonal curated back-to-back exhibitions. Both are open free to visitors and are separate to Paxton's guided house tours.

Both Art at Paxton events place an emphasis on original art displayed on floor easels, plinths and tabletop. The events will incorporate some larger works and sculptural pieces. We are looking for original work, with a smaller percentage of giclee prints and cards. We would also welcome hand-crafted, artisan work, celebrating traditional craft skills of all kinds, but applied in contemporary ways.
(Please note that we do not show or sell "merchandise" ie items made and printed elsewhere, even if featuring the artists' work ie mugs, fridge magnets, tea towels etc. We may consider such products only if they have been handcrafted/made entirely by the artist or in collaboration with another artist. If you make your own or collaborate with another artist, please discuss this with us at the time of booking)

Cost (Indoor space): £35 for one day event. £70 for two-day event
Cost Outdoor space - own gazebo – (please see separate info below) £20 per day.

Indoor space - This is for a standard single space in the Ballroom, with provision of one 6ft trestle table and a chair, unless we are setting up the entire space as a mixed/curated exhibition. We would discuss any plans for this with artists at the time of booking. There may also be scope for more than one artist to collaborate to create small exhibitions within the space, in addition to selling spots.
If the hall is set up with standard spaces, in addition to the trestle, there will be space for around 2-3 floor easels behind and next to it (depending on size of artwork), one floor print browser as well as tabletop easels.
Where possible, artists with floor easels/larger works will be placed around edges of room unless we decide to create a different exhibition set up for that specific event. Such plans would be discussed with all artists at the time of booking.
Artists with larger pieces of work/plinths etc will be placed in suitable spots (as suitable as we can and must be discussed with us at the time of booking).
Artists with very large work may be limited to bring fewer pieces on easels in order to fit into a standard space.
We will discuss planned set up and layouts with you at time of booking or when I am planning layout of room.

Some pitches are central and more suitable to artists with smaller works, mostly table top, or where trestles are not used for individual central art on easel displays.
Interior displays can remain set up overnight but are left at your own risk

Please don't leave any money or items of great value overnight.

We suggest that work is not left on easels or plinths overnight in case it falls. Please lift down paintings and place them flat or rest against a wall behind your table.

Please do not attach anything to walls, woodwork or marble columns.
There are some very precious tables around the edges of the Ballroom at Paxton, which must not be touched at all! These may be cordoned off, but likely to be next to some artist positions. Please take extra care if you are close to these items

Arrangements will be made separately with any individual artists may want to exhibit larger works on floor easels or plinths IF any separate spots are available in addition to their designated space.

Please provide information or requests to accommodate larger works in the section on the separate booking form.

What is provided/What do I need to bring?
Indoor Exhibitors - Trestle tables and chairs are provided for indoor exhibitors. If you prefer to use just floor easels or plinths rather than a table, please put details of your planned display on your application/booking form.
Please provide measurements and any other relevant information about scale of work as will ensure we find you the best spot for it.
If you are using a trestle table, please bring your own table covering, ideally a plain neutral colour, preferably white or black so to create a more curated appearance, and long enough to reach floor at front to cover any storage beneath table.
Please do not bring advertising banners, either attached to your tables or free standing

because they do not fit with the exhibition style event we are trying to achieve in this beautiful space. Please place business cards or a small sign on your table with your name and details to comply with legal trading requirements (selling exhibitors only).
Artists are also advised to bring own spotlights to attach to their easels or tables if they are worried about light levels.

Exhibitors (inside and out) should not pack up until end of trading. If weather/wind becomes too dangerous or difficult for outdoor stalls, a joint decision (outdoor traders and event organiser) will be made about packing up early(outside-only)

Trolleys can be used to carry loads via lift and straight into Gallery. Once unloaded they will need to be taken back down to cars to store so to keep exhibition space uncluttered. Cars can be unloaded near courtyard entrance (entrance must not be blocked and no cars can be brought into courtyard).

All-day free parking for our cars is in the huge car park next to house.
Cars cannot be parked on driveway or on grassed areas near house, garden or courtyard. This also applies to outdoor traders.

There is no camping or overnight parking allowed in grounds, apart from designated camp site which should be booked directly with Paxton.

TOTAL EVENT CANCELLATION/REFUNDS
If we are forced to cancel entire event due to bad/dangerous weather warnings, we will not be able to offer refunds because we still must cover all venue hire/organisational costs. Our insurers do not cover us for any event cancellations.

In the unlikely event we have to cancel the event for any other reason (within our control/our decision for no justified reason) full refunds will be given or alternative events/venues offered as transfer.

If traders cancel, we ask for minimum of 6 weeks notice for annual two-day events and minimum four weeks' notice for monthly events to receive a refund, otherwise no refunds can be given. If you prefer to transfer payment to a different event rather than receive a cash refund, then this can be done if there is space available.

PAYMENTS

Once applications are accepted we will send confirmation of booking and payment details. We ask that payments for these events are made at time of booking. Please see details on booking form

OUTDOOR/GAZEBO EXHIBITORS (see separate information below)

We have an option to place a few outdoor artists/maker-own suitable gazebos at both events (weather permitting).

Outdoor artist/maker own Gazebos/Stalls - Cost £20 per day.

Traders can book one or both days (as either event).

Two artists or makers can share own stall/gazebo as long at both meet our criteria and apply separately on booking form and provide all required information about their individual work and planned displays/set up.

Both traders would need their own PLI.

Outdoor exhibitors must bring their own suitable gazebo, tent or stall measuring no more than 3mx3m (Please provide measurements and information about it on your Risk Assessment form) also need to provide own tables, chair and display stands.

They will be expected to erect own structure (some help may be available) and be self sufficient (ie totally independent of interior space even in event of rain).

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Nothing can be brought into house or gallery from outside nor stored overnight inside Paxton.

All gazebos or other structures must be suitable for all weather outdoor use, compliant with Health and Safety regulations, properly weighted and tethered. Also need to be fully

insured by your PLI in case they cause any damage or injury in event of being blown over.
Outdoor displays and gazebos/stalls must be cleared of all stock and furniture overnight as there is no onsite security and the gardens are open to public. There is no storage inside Paxton House, though if gazebos are taken down overnight, they can be stored overnight, outside in the enclosed courtyard area. Please note, this area is still open to the public and not secure.
Gazebos can be left up overnight, but only if weather and the forecast is ok. If there is any risk of wind etc, they will need to be taken down. The organiser will make this decision on the day.
If they are left up, they are done at your risk and you will be liable for any damage or injury if they are blown away.
Please ensure you have full PLI to cover this.

Please park cars in the car park and not next to your gazebo/stall.
Camping or sleeping overnight at/in your gazebo or vehicle in car park is NOT allowed.
(There is designated camp site at Paxton for those wishing to stay overnight. This should be booked directly with Paxton.)

Please provide as much information as possible about your structure, planned style and size of display and details about what you plan to exhibit and sell.

*Trestle tables and chairs are only provided for indoor exhibitors in Gallery
*We reserve the right to refuse or remove any structures or products that do not fit our ethos or have not been notified about in advance.

Gazebos should be no bigger than 3m x 3m), suitable to withstand winds of up to 40mph (most ordinary garden gazebos only withstand up to 25mph winds, so please check).

Gazebos must be properly weighted and tethered, and covered by artist/maker own Public Liability Insurance.
They will be positioned in allocated spaces on the grassed areas outside courtyard

cafe/gallery/toilets entrance.

Gazebos can be left up and in situ overnight for two-day event, only if properly weighted and tethered, and if there is no forecast for bad weather and wind.
If it is windy or wind is forecast, then gazebos should be dismantled and laid flat inside the courtyard area overnight or removed

If bad weather/wind is forecast ahead of the event, we will need to assess whether it is safe to put up gazebos on the day. If it is not deemed safe, then there is unlikely to be any alternative space available indoors and no refunds can be given. (If we are underbooked and there is space inside, we will do our best to relocate you indoors).
All outdoor exhibitors will be required to prepare a full risk assessment for their planned gazebo set up and display. We will send guidelines covering restrictions and legal requirements.

You must have PLI to cover your gazebo and any furnishings used (this is in case of any injury or damaged caused to anyone else). Any risk or liability for it and your display, is entirely yours. So if someone was injured or something damaged by a untethered flying gazebo in the event of wind or bad weather, you will be liable for it.

Outdoor traders are required to bring your own trestles, chairs and display stands. All furniture should be removed and safely stored or take away overnight in case of winds.
If weather forecast on day before event means it may be too risky for outdoor stalls to be set up, then your outdoor space may be cancelled at short notice. The organisers decision will be final. In such an instance, the indoor event may still go ahead as planned unless it is too dangerous for driving.

If outdoor pitches are cancelled, we are unlikely to be able to offer outdoor traders any alternative indoor space, however IF there is available space indoors, we will do our best to accommodate you, albeit probably on a reduced scale.
The outdoor stalls are likely to be only seasonal and are an addition to the Gallery event.

The Gallery event will take place regardless of whether there are outdoor stalls or not.

If you would like more info please get in touch at info@thetinshed.co.uk

If you would like to apply, please fill in the separate application form and send a few pics of your work or a link so we can see what you do.

Hope you can join us.

Lesley

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