

THE ROYAL INTERNATIONAL AIR TATTOO

SHOW CAMPING

The Royal International Air Tattoo (also known as RIAT) is one of the largest military airshows in the world. The event is held annually in the third week of July at RAF Fairford, its home since 1985. RIAT welcomes close to 200,000 staff, volunteers, and visitors to the event, which features around 250 aircraft in the air display and the static line-up. Delegations of senior Air Staff meet Industry in the chalets, and families enjoy the STEM exhibits within the Techno Zone and around the showground.

1. **Audience Profile.** RIAT is a family-friendly event, and there is no charge to Under-18s when an accompanying adult has purchased a general admission ticket. RIAT has historically had very little antisocial behaviour. All members of the public leave the event by 1800 hours on Fri 17 July and 1930 hours on Sat 18 and Sun 19 July.
2. **Organisers.** The Trustees of the Royal Air Force Charitable Trust, as 'owners' of the trading company, work with the RAFCTE Board of Directors to ensure the delivery of the event. HRH The Duke of Kent is Patron, and the event is supported by a small group of Honorary Vice Patrons and Ambassadors.

RAFCTE is the Event Organiser and is a small company of both permanent and temporary staff based in Fairford. The team is supplemented by volunteers and Armed Forces personnel and is assisted by the RAF Air Cadets.

All proceeds from RIAT go to RAFCT, a charity that supports the RAF and provides STEM engagement for children. This year we are hoping to reach 1,000,000 meaningful engagements with children from 4 to young adults. In line with this, RIAT offers all children under 18 free entries to the show throughout the event and hosts around 10,000 children from local schools and youth groups on the Friday of the show at Friday Futures. RAFCTE also offer all residents half-price tickets if they would like to attend the event. An invitation is also extended to residents of Marsten Meysey to join the range of entertainment offered in the campsite entertainment area.

3. Volunteers 1,400 volunteers, a mixture of experienced and new team members give up their own time, with many taking annual holiday from their jobs, to help deliver RIAT. The volunteer cadre has a range of backgrounds and skill sets, some of which are highly specialised. Team members are a diverse mix of those with a passion for aviation and the event, including military personnel, former military personnel, and specialist staff from aviation and emergency services (e.g., police and NHS).
4. The Armed Forces (principally the RAF) deploy personnel to fill positions at RIAT that require specific skills such as medical, security, firefighting, rescue and armed and unarmed guarding for the event. At the peak, approximately 500 military personnel support RIAT.

5. The RAF Air Cadets view RIAT as a significant opportunity to provide cadets with training and experience. The RAF Air Cadets detach, under military command, to RAF Fairford to support the event and undertake a wide range of tasks. Approximately 650 air cadets, plus 150 adult supervisory staff, attend RIAT and are accommodated in their own secure camp area.
6. **Participants** comprise the aircrew and ground crew from air arms and nations, and civilians who either fly or support the aircraft in the flying and static displays, as well as attending the various exhibits. Additionally, RAFCTE contracts external organisations (including the Police and Ambulance services) to provide supporting services to RIAT.
7. **Commercial.** RIAT provides a unique environment that attracts a wide range of commercial activity, from sponsor hospitality chalets to trade stands and exhibitions, and food and beverage outlets.
8. **Guests and Public Visitors.** Guests are visitors to RIAT26 who attend with complimentary tickets provided by sponsors or RAFCTE for hospitality purposes, or as friends and/or family of staff. Public visitors comprise those members of the public who have purchased entry to RIAT (Park & View, Friends of the Royal International RIAT (FRIAT) Membership or General Admission) or, if Under-18, are accompanied by a member of the public that has purchased a General Admission ticket.

There are a number of VIPs invited by RAFCTE and HMG who attend the event, and their participation is important to HMG and the Defence Chiefs.

Staff, participants and others attending RIAT26 are guests at RAF Fairford and are ambassadors of RIAT when visiting local towns and villages adjacent to RAF Fairford. As such, they are requested to respect the Base, Base personnel and local residents, and be mindful of the adverse impact of excessive noise and anti-social behaviour.

9. **EVENT CONTROL**

The control room for all RIAT Operations including the campsite operations is the Event Control (EC) located in building 1069 close to the Flight Centre. The following personnel/desks are located in the EC during the open hours of the event.

- a. RIAT Operations Directing Staff
- b. RIAT Event Control Operatives
- c. GlosPol Bronze Control
- d. RIAT Medical Control
- e. South Western Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust (SWAST) LO
- f. RIAT Fire Control
- g. Gloucestershire Fire & Rescue Service (GFRS) LO
- h. 420ABS/CEX Crisis Management LO
- i. Traffic Cell
- j. Event Admissions
- k. Media Officer
- l. RIAT Radio rep

ES personnel are also represented within the USAF BDOC:

- m. RIAT SF Control
- n. USAF Security Forces

Outside of normal show operating hours (between 9pm and 5am), the EC is represented by the Night Duty Officer (NDO) team, located in Douglas Bader House.

10. CAMPSITE OPERATIONS

The RIAT Campsite, located at the edge of Marston Meysey village, is being operated for the first time in 2026. There has been significant interest from potential campers who would like to book into the site, which is a positive development, reducing daily traffic to and from the site as visitors stay rather than travelling back and forth. All campers booking into the RIAT campsite must have at least a general admission ticket to RIAT to book, and this is verified at the time of booking. Pitches are being allocated, and customers will be assigned arrival and departure times and told they can't move their cars during certain times.

All customers receive an information pack with their booking confirmation, detailing the routes to and from the site. They are also advised that any additional vehicles brought to the site will be directed to our park-and-ride at South Cerney. Anyone failing to do that is advised that any vehicles that are not part of the booking will be towed away if parked in the surrounding area.

When campers arrive at the site for the first time they will be directed to the check in with the operations team. The Campsite Operations Team will check their booking, ensure they understand the site rules, advise them on the facilities, and direct them to their pitch. Customers who have booked general camping or a caravan pitch may park their vehicle on their pitch; there is no additional parking available. Customers who have booked Glamping will be directed to park in the designated parking area on site. The campsite team will comprise a manager, supervisors, and a team, and at busy times will be up to 20 members; during the day and at quiet times, it will be reduced to 5 or 6.

The campsite is predominantly tents, with most pitches brought by campers. There is also a glamping area where bell tents and yurts will be put up and furnished for the guests. The Caravans and Motorhomes will be in a separate area in the field on the other side of the road. Following concerns from local residents, a covered fence will be installed to mark the site boundary, and a 50m gap has been left between the residents' fenceline and the start of the campervans. There will be catering units on site in the main field that will be selling food for breakfast, lunch and dinner so that campers will not need to cook if they don't want to.

A bar is planned for the site in the main field with family-friendly opening times. A liquor licence will be obtained for this, and the bar will be operated by a licensee in accordance with normal licensing rules and regulations.

A pop-up campsite shop will be in a temporary unit on the main field, which will sell normal supplies, including milk, bread and eggs, so that campers do not need to leave the site to get supplies.

Lighting on the site will consist of festoon lighting around the campsite area, providing sufficient light to avoid trip hazards without causing bright light pollution for neighbours or campers. There will be additional lighting in the stage area on the northern main field, at the far side of the village, but it will be enclosed, and the stage entertainment will finish by 22:45 hours at the latest.

Generators will be provided for the site facilities and will be powered by HVO. They are modern units that run more quietly than small diesel generators. All the generators are being placed at the top of the campsite area away from the facilities and away from campers and local residents.

Although this site is a new venture for RIAT, the team have been running campsites in support of the event for many years, although not for the public, and have a good understanding of what needs to be provided and how to run the site.

Campsite Rules

- ❖ **No barb-b-ques or open fires to be used on the site**
- ❖ **No smoking or vaping in tents, there is a designated smoking area next to the entertainment area where customers can smoke or vape**
- ❖ **No dogs or pets unless they are assistance dogs**
- ❖ **All campers must have a general admission ticket to RIAT**
- ❖ **Only 1 car is allowed per booking, and this must be parked on their pitch area unless they are glamping, when they will be directed to the designated parking area**
- ❖ **No late-night noise or anti-social behaviour. This is a family-friendly site, and all campers are asked to respect everyone staying and the local community**
- ❖ **Car movements are restricted and all campers must adhere to their check-in and departure times**
- ❖ **No privately owned generators to be used on the site; anyone requiring power is to book a connection in advance with the organiser**
- ❖ **No FOD – campers are staying close to the end of the runway and are asked not to leave any rubbish lying around that could blow onto the airfield and become FOD. Please bin all rubbish in the bins provided**

If you have any questions, please ask the Campsite Operations Team who are here to help

11. SAFETY

The Chief Executive Officer and the Board of RAFCTE are committed to ensuring that, so far as is reasonably practicable, all activities associated with staging RIAT26 are carried out in a manner that safeguards the health, safety and welfare of its staff (whether full time or part time, permanent or temporary) and of all others (whether volunteers, visitors, participants, suppliers, contractors or members of the public) who may be affected by these activities. This commitment extends to both aviation and functional safety under the banner termed 'Total Safety'.

The RAFCTE Total Safety Policy and Arrangements, published in the RAFCTE Total Safety Manual, will apply to RIAT26. Where additions, omissions or variations to the RAFCTE Total Safety Manual are required to reflect specific aspects of RIAT operations, these changes are to be:

- Approved in advance by the RAFCTE Safety Management Committee or, by exception, RIAT Safety Management Group, which meets daily during show week in the EC
- Clearly detailed in the appropriate Operation Order or Delivery Instruction.

The RAFCTE Total Safety Policy will also apply to all personnel involved in the delivery of RIAT and the supporting areas.

12. SAFETY HOTLINE - HAZARD AND RISK REPORTING

To foster an open and honest safety culture, RAFCTE has implemented a hazard and risk reporting mechanism for everyone involved in delivering RIAT. The Safety Hotline is a number held in the Safety Team for individuals to report any hazards, risks or 'near misses' that they observe in a safe, quick and confidential (if required) way, whether through text, WhatsApp or direct call.

Local residents will be provided with a contact number to report incidents or file complaints. All reports will be dealt with as quickly as possible.

13. CAMPSITE HEALTH AND SAFETY PROVISIONS

Fire. The plans for the campsite have been shared during the development phase of the campsite to ensure that the placement of the pitches and the equipment are within best practise guidelines. A full fire risk assessment will be carried out before any customers arrive on site and fire extinguishers and fire call points will be placed in suitable areas around the site. As part of the check-in process, all visitors will be shown where the fire call points are and given a number to call to report any issues. Customers are advised that we do not permit open fires on the campsite, and anyone found violating this rule will be asked to leave the site. There are several fire appliances that are located on the airfield next to the campsite that will respond if there is a fire. The appliances maintain a 24hr response.

Safety. Before we allow any of our contractors or suppliers to build structures or tents within the campsite, or deliver any supporting units, we ask them to provide their Risk Assessments and method statements outlining how they will deliver or build on site. Once they have been assessed by our safety team and we are satisfied with their plans, that they adhere to best practice, and that they are safe, we allow them to build. Their build is monitored by the safety team, who will sign off on any structures as safe before they are used by teams and the public. The campsite area will also undergo a full risk assessment, and mitigation measures will be implemented to reduce all risks to ALARP levels.

Medical. The 20-strong campsite operations team will have at least 4 first aiders during busy periods, reducing to 2 during quiet occupancy. A paramedic will be on-site at the

campsite during any evening entertainment hours when there is a higher likelihood of a larger number of guests attending the site. The first aiders and paramedics are supported by the onsite RIAT medical team, comprising 120 RAF, Volunteer, and contracted medical staff, who operate a full medical centre with treatment facilities. There are also several ambulances on site 24 hours a day that can respond to any emergency medical calls.

Sanitation. RAFCTE has contracted external providers for the toilet and shower provision at the campsite. All water is in bowlers and is tested as fit for drinking. The sanitary provision includes handwashing and hand sanitiser facilities. RAFCTE ensures that sanitary provisions are suitable for individuals with health conditions/impairments.

Effluent Water. The removal of effluent and grey water is undertaken in accordance with the contractors' method statement and disposed of off-site, in line with the Discharge Consent. Wastewater will be bagged and removed from the site. It is expected that the waste bag will be emptied once or twice during the campsite opening times, or more frequently if required. This will be done during the day when there are less visitors at the site.

Noise. RIAT visitor information makes clear that airshows are noisy environments and that campers should ensure they make provision for this, especially for children. In addition, ear defenders are available for purchase from the campsite store if required. Evening entertainment has been planned for the campsite, including film, live music, and a quiz night. It is a family site, so music and noise will be limited to ensure they do not disturb campers or neighbours. A full entertainment programme will be available nearer the time, which will be shared with local residents and customers at the site. It is hoped that local residents in the village adjacent to the campsite may want to join some of the entertainment. Full details on managing noise on and off the airfield are available in the RIAT noise management plan.

Barriers and Fencing. Barriers and fencing will be installed in the campsite area to delineate the boundaries of the site and prevent access to areas that campers are not to go into for safety reasons. The barriers and fencing will be installed by our supplier and periodically inspected by the campsite operations team. Where it has been agreed for safeguarding reasons fabric 'scrim' will be installed on the barriers to ensure privacy for our neighbours.

Vehicle Movement. An excerpt of the full traffic management plan is attached which details the area around the campsite. On the campsite, trackway is laid on the field to allow vehicle access to the site. The arrival and departure times are restricted for campers as below.

The times campers can access the site will be restricted and their arrival and departure times will be confirmed with them on confirmation of their booking. If they are arriving on Friday or Saturday, they will not be able to access the area before 11am. On Friday they will be able to depart from 2pm to 4pm and then there will be no movement until after 8pm. On Saturday they can arrive between 11am and 2pm. There are no vehicle movements until after 8pm. On Sunday, if they are departing, they may leave the site between 2pm and 4pm and will need to wait until after 8pm. There will be no vehicle movements from the site after 10pm and all late departures will be sent away from the village.

Environmental Considerations. The campers are not permitted to bring BBQs into the campsite. Staff who are patrolling site have been briefed to inform and advise any campers who they see with BBQs or similar equipment. As we are using a farmer's field for the site, we are particularly aware of the dangers of discharging anything onto the field and waste being left and the team will be monitoring the site throughout the opening and build up and break down to ensure that nothing is discharged onto the site and waste is not left at the end of the event.

14. **Cleaning and Waste.** The campsite operations team will litter-pick the site, facilities, and surrounding area to ensure litter is not left by our visitors and campers. Grundons are the waste provider for RIAT and will provide lidded 240L bins for general waste and mixed dry recyclables to be placed around the site. We do not sell items in glass packaging or bottles at the site or at the bar and are asking our campers not to bring glass to the site. Grundons will empty the bins daily while the campsite is in operation, or more frequently if required. .
15. There is a cleaning team that will come to the site and clean the showers and the toilet facilities at least twice daily, and they will also litter pick and clean any communal areas of the site.
16. At the end of the event, the site must be returned to the owner within 10 days and must be free of all items and waste. RAFCTE engage a team to remove waste and walk the site to clear any leftover waste. The permanent staff team will also verify that this is done and clear any missed items before it is returned. It is not our intention to allow any build-up of rubbish or waste at any time, as it is not pleasant for our campers and our local residents.
17. **Animals.** The only animals permitted on site are assistance animals e.g. guide dogs and security dogs.
18. **Food Safety and Hygiene.** The Safety Team is the point of contact for liaison with the Local Authority on all RIAT26 food safety and hygiene matters and is responsible for ensuring pre-show assurance of Hazard Assessment Critical Control Point Plans and Food Safety Policies, as well as the organisation and arrangements for safe practices during food production. Together, the Catering Contractor, will check and monitor all mobile food traders on entry to the campsite, and subsequently during their operating periods. Spot checks will also be carried out by the Safety Team. This activity applies to all food providers at random.

19. **ALL STAFF ACTIONS IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY**

All Campsite staff will be provided with an aide-memoire (a Z-card) to assist them throughout the event. As a guiding principle, in the event of an emergency, all campsite personnel should consider how they can assist the public and await instructions.

Emergency response to the campsite is considered within our wider contingency and emergency planning which are shared with the emergency services and 'tested' at a tabletop exercise in advance of the show with representatives from all departments and agencies.

All campsite personnel should note that, in the event of an emergency, members of the public and guests may ask them what to do. Instructions on what to do in the event of an emergency will be communicated over the radio. Campsite personnel should reassure members of the public and guests to remain calm.

20. RIAT26 EMERGENCY SERVICES

RIAT26 is supported by a large and complex emergency services operation, which involves civilian and military emergency service provision and volunteer support. Full details of the emergency services provision, command and control and incident and emergency management are provided in the **Emergency Response Plan**.

Further information:

Access around the site

To ensure that our customers can easily access their pitches and that service vehicles, emergency response vehicles and deliveries can also easily access the site we install temporary trackway around the site. To all areas that large vehicles will need to transit.

The trackway is laid by our supplier, TPA, and in the campsite areas we lay a heavy-duty rubber track (Terraroad) that is suitable for vehicles up to 75 tonnes. The rubber panels give a multi-directional non-slip surface that spreads the load of the vehicle to minimise damage to the ground whilst also ensuring that vehicles are quiet whilst they transit the site.



Waste Management

We have a waste management contract for RIAT that we have extended to cover the campsite. The waste contractor awarded the contract is Grundons, which will provide lidded waste bins. 1 x bin for dry recyclables eg, cardboard, plastics and 1 x bin for normal rubbish. These pairs of bins will be situated next to the access trackway around the campsite. All waste is collected and sorted to maximise recycling. In the caravan section we are anticipating 4 sets of 2 bins.

The bins will be emptied daily during campsite operations. If they fill faster than anticipated, we can request additional collections, as a dustcart on the main site can respond.

A cleaning team will work on the campsite, cleaning the toilets and showers, and they will oversee the waste collections. These will be scheduled for collection times during the day whilst the campers are at the Air Show.

Not only is waste removal and management important to us from a health and hygiene perspective, as the campsite is so close to the runway we have a safety requirement to ensure that there is no loose FOD (foreign object damage). No items of waste that can blow onto the airfield and be sucked into an engine.





Example of the electric dustcart/compactor that is used to empty the bins



An example of a fire call point that are site around the camp site