

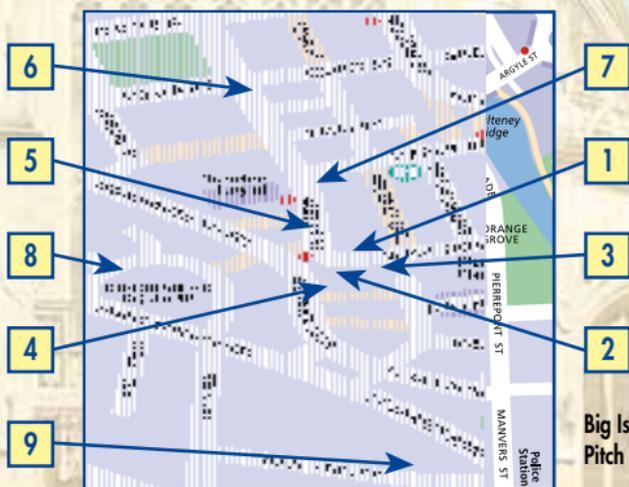
bath buskers guide

**Booking a pitch
two systems:**

- 1. Abbey Churchyard only** - strict protocol of a 10am daily meeting to allocate hourly performances on the hour. There must be an hour break between any busker's bookings. No performances before 1pm on Sundays and buskers performing here and in adjacent Kingston Parade should be especially aware of noise levels during services and funerals on any day.
- 2. All other pitches** - relaxed 'follow-on' system at any part of the hour. You just turn up and play if free or ask the person performing when you can follow. This system accommodates buskers who cannot make the 10am meeting and/or are from further afield and arrive on spec.

Main busking pitches (there are more):

- 1:** Abbey Churchyard (Pump Rooms) • **2:** Abbey Churchyard (large crowd circus acts only, opp cafe) • **3:** Kingston Parade ('The Square') • **4:** Stall Street (not by Pump Rooms) • **5:** Union Street (observe BI pitches) • **6:** Milsom Street (Russell & Bromley) • **7:** The Corridor (by Key shop) • **8:** Kingsmead Square (opp Boston Tea Party cafe) • **9:** SouthGate Bath (by private arrangement with its managers)



bath buskers guide

Freedom with
responsibility

This guide is based on the Buskers Code of Practice. The Council does not licence buskers but they do have an obligation to observe the Law regarding noise, obstruction and anti-social behaviour.

1. Noise (music & voice) should not be heard beyond 50 metres nor be a nuisance to nearby premises.
2. Responsible use of amplification is tolerated by the Council but if abused all equipment can be confiscated.
3. An entertainer can perform at a pitch for one hour (see pitches overleaf) but not return for two hours. Noisy entertainers (eg. drums, bagpipes) half an hour.
4. Entertainers should not obstruct the highway and ensure their audiences do not either. Circus acts must take great care not to put the public at risk of injury.
5. An entertainer should not perform within 50 metres of another entertainer. (Please observe Big Issue pitches).
6. Entertainment is permitted between 10am and 8pm (until 10pm in July & August).
7. Entertainers should not cause offence or distress to the public and are asked to show consideration to shops avoiding obstructing goods and fire exits. This also applies to constantly repeated repertoires.
8. Entertainers should not ask for money but can accept donations.

Noise is a major issue and the Council shows considerable tolerance. Ask another person (eg. Busker) to give you a sound check. Noise is not just about amplifiers - some vocalists and acoustic instruments are more penetrating.

Why not visit www.bathbuskers.co.uk and find out more about busking and even register. Busking is a diverse free community with responsibility. This leaflet is a buskers' initiative supported by Avon & Somerset Police, Bath Abbey, Bath and North East Somerset Council and the Bath Business Improvement District.