

EMBARGO NOTICE:

Publication from 21 December 2025, 12 noon

21 December 2025

Press Release

Five Days of Jazz and Camping in the Park

For the 55th anniversary: extensions and new features at the moers festival

Moers. The moers festival is announcing fairytale-like changes for its 55th anniversary edition in 2026. Following the announcement of the change of venue to Kastellplatz in Moers city centre, further innovations are now being revealed: for the first time in its history, the moers festival will take place over five days instead of the previous four. In addition, camping in the leisure park will once again be possible. The federally funded 55th moers festival will be held from 21 to 25 May 2026.

Festival opens on Thursday

On the shortest day of the year, 21 December 2025, the festival announces the longest edition in its history: “The festival will now start as early as Thursday,” reports Festival Director Tim Isfort. “We are taking the move to Kastellplatz and the opportunities it offers as a chance to make up, in a small way, for the 50th festival anniversary, which could only be celebrated to a limited extent in 2021 due to the coronavirus pandemic.”

The festival will open on 21 May with a special concert and many further acts. The festival village (traders’ market around Kastellplatz and the Castle Forecourt) will also open on Thursday. In addition, the festival and other cooperation partners will take part in the nationwide “Action Day for Cohesion in Diversity”, which will be held for the first time on 21 May.

“We have spent the past nine years talking extensively with the people of Moers, festival fans and supporters, repeatedly having to respond to external influences while trying to translate the original idea of the festival into the here and now. All of this is now being incorporated into the new concept,” says Isfort.

Camping in the Leisure Park

Long-standing festival fans will be delighted: camping for 2026 is planned on the *Ballonwiese* in the leisure park - within easy walking distance of the castle, Kastellplatz and all stages. “The connection between Kastellplatz, the surrounding venues, the castle park and the leisure park finally brings everything together,” says Isfort. “We invite everyone to dive into *Unimoersum* with us!”

Camping at the moers festival is only possible with a festival ticket and a camping ticket. For Early Bird and “Silent Heroes” ticket holders, the camping ticket is free of charge, but must be booked separately. From 1 February 2026, it will cost 30 euros and will only be available in combination with a festival ticket.

Tickets for the 55th moers festival 2026 are available at tickets.moers-festival.de. All tickets purchased so far (across all categories) remain valid and can now be used from the festival Thursday. No new or updated tickets are required.

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About the moers festival

The internationally renowned and federally funded moers festival has taken place annually at Whitsun since 1972 and has been organised by Moers Kultur GmbH since 2005. Over five decades, the festival has steadily evolved from a pure new-jazz event into a much broader platform; in 2025 it carried the subtitle “Jazz Festival for Music / Togetherness / Free Spirit and: Sound Peace!”. Additional formats, institutions and series such as the moers sessions (morning sessions and projects) by the improviser in residence (since 2008), the discussions (since 2017), various youth projects (since 2018) and hybrid formats (@the same time or VR moersland, since 2021) further expand the festival universe.