

The Ultimate Racing Post Cheltenham Festival Guide 2024: Everything You Need to Know

The Cheltenham Festival is the pinnacle of the jump racing calendar, and it's just around the corner! From Tuesday, March 12th to Friday, March 15th, 2024, the best horses and jockeys in the world will descend on Prestbury Park for four days of thrilling racing.



Racing Post Cheltenham Festival Guide 2024 by Nick Pulford

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

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If you're planning to attend the Festival, or even if you're just watching from home, our comprehensive Cheltenham Festival Guide 2024 has everything you need to know.

The Races

The Cheltenham Festival features 28 races over four days, including some of the most prestigious events in jump racing.

- **Champion Hurdle** (Tuesday, March 12th): The Champion Hurdle is the most valuable race of the Festival, and it's one of the most competitive too. The best hurdlers in the world will line up for this two-mile contest.
- **Queen Mother Champion Chase** (Wednesday, March 13th): The Queen Mother Champion Chase is another fiercely competitive race, and it's one of the most prestigious chases in the world. The best two-mile chasers will go head-to-head in this thrilling contest.
- **Coral Cup Handicap Chase** (Thursday, March 14th): The Coral Cup is a handicap chase over two miles and five furlongs. It's one of the most popular races of the Festival, and it's always a wide-open contest.
- **Cheltenham Gold Cup** (Friday, March 15th): The Cheltenham Gold Cup is the most prestigious race of the Festival, and it's one of the most challenging races in the world. The best three-mile chasers will line up for this gruelling contest.

The Horses

Some of the best horses in the world will be competing at the Cheltenham Festival, including:

- **Constitution Hill**: The reigning Champion Hurdle winner, Constitution Hill is one of the most exciting horses in training. He's unbeaten in his career over hurdles, and he'll be looking to add to his tally at the Festival.
- **Energumene**: The reigning Queen Mother Champion Chase winner, Energumene is another top-class chaser. He's won three of his four

starts over fences this season, and he'll be looking to defend his crown at the Festival.

- **L'Homme Presse:** L'Homme Presse is one of the most exciting young chasers in training. He won the Grade 1 Scilly Isles Novices' Chase at Sandown in January, and he'll be looking to make his mark at the Festival.
- **Galopin Des Champs:** Galopin Des Champs is another top-class chaser. He won the Grade 1 John Durkan Memorial Punchestown Chase in December, and he'll be looking to add to his tally at the Festival.

The Jockeys

The Cheltenham Festival is also a showcase for the world's best jockeys, including:

- **Nico de Boinville:** Nico de Boinville is one of the most successful jockeys in the world. He's won the Cheltenham Gold Cup three times, and he's always a contender in the big races.
- **Paul Townend:** Paul Townend is another top-class jockey. He's won the Cheltenham Gold Cup twice, and he's always a threat in the big races.
- **Rachael Blackmore:** Rachael Blackmore is one of the most successful female jockeys in the world. She won the Cheltenham Gold Cup in 2021, and she's always a contender in the big races.
- **Harry Cobden:** Harry Cobden is one of the most exciting young jockeys in the world. He's won the Champion Hurdle twice, and he's always a threat in the big races.

The Tips

If you're looking for some tips for the Cheltenham Festival, here are a few to consider:

- **Constitution Hill** is the banker of the Festival. He's unbeaten over hurdles, and he's the best horse in the world over two miles.
- **Energumene** is another solid bet. He's won three of his four starts over fences this season, and he's the best two-mile chaser in the world.
- **L'Homme Presse** is a good each-way bet. He's a young horse with a lot of potential, and he could surprise a few people at the Festival.
- **Galopin Des Champs** is another good each-way bet. He's a top-class chaser, and he could be a threat to Energumene in the Queen Mother Champion Chase.

The Odds

The odds for the Cheltenham Festival are already out, and here are a few of the favourites:

- **Champion Hurdle:** Constitution Hill (1/3), Honeysuckle (9/4), State Man (7/1)
- **Queen Mother Champion Chase:** Energumene (11/4), Shishkin (5/2), Edwardstone (7/2)
- **Coral Cup Handicap Chase:** Thyme Hill (8/1), Saint Roi (10/1), Gaillard Du Mesnil (12/1)

- **Cheltenham Gold Cup:** Galopin Des Champs (7/4),L'Homme Presse (9/2),A Plus Tard (11/2)

The Festival Atmosphere

The Cheltenham Festival is more than just a horse race. It's a four-day party, and the atmosphere is electric. There's something for everyone at the Festival, from live music to food and drink stalls. And of course, there's the racing. If you've never been to the Cheltenham Festival, I highly recommend it. It's an unforgettable experience.

How to Get Tickets

Tickets for the Cheltenham Festival are on sale now. You can buy tickets online, by phone, or in person at the Cheltenham Racecourse. Prices start at £30 for a one-day ticket, and £120 for a four-day ticket. Children under 18 go free.

Where to Stay

If you're planning to stay overnight during the Cheltenham Festival, there are a number of hotels and guesthouses in the area. You can also camp at the Cheltenham Racecourse. Prices for accommodation will vary depending on the type of accommodation and the time of year.

What to Wear

The Cheltenham Festival is a smart-casual event. You'll need to dress warmly, as the weather can be unpredictable in March. A coat, hat, and gloves are essential. You may also want to bring a brolly in case of rain.

Food and Drink

There are a number of food and drink stalls at the Cheltenham Festival. You can buy everything from burgers and chips to sandwiches and salads. There are also a number of bars serving alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks.

Getting to the Racecourse

The Cheltenham Racecourse is located in Prestbury, Gloucestershire. It's about a 2-hour drive from London. You can also get to the racecourse by train or bus. There is a regular train service from London Paddington to Cheltenham Spa station. From Cheltenham Spa station, you can take a bus or taxi to the racecourse.



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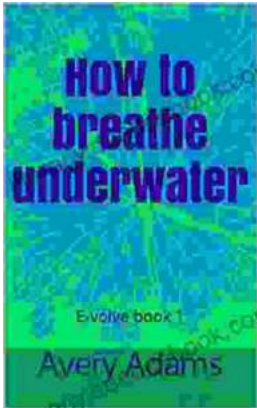
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