

Strawberry Field marks John Lennon's 85th birthday with once-in-a-lifetime tour

On 9 October, to mark what would have been John Lennon's 85th birthday, The Salvation Army's legendary Liverpool attraction Strawberry Field, will host an exclusive, one-day-only tour, inviting Beatles fans to explore the places that shaped one of music's greatest icons.

Limited to just 15 guests, this unique experience will journey beyond Strawberry Field itself to the pivotal places of Lennon's childhood, from the Salvation Army site that inspired his iconic song to the very streets, schools and classrooms where his story began, offering fans a rare chance to walk in his footsteps and come face-to-face with key figures from his early life and musical beginnings.

Fans will enjoy a carefully curated programme, featuring:

- **A guided bus tour** departing from Liverpool's Royal Albert Dock at 10am, stopping at key Lennon landmarks including Penny Lane, St Peter's Church in Woolton, and more.
- **A visit inside Mendips**, John Lennon's childhood home, preserved by the National Trust to reflect the house and garden just as it was when he lived there with his Aunt Mimi.
- **Exclusive first access to the "Calderstones John Lennon Tour"** – a new initiative not opening to the public until January 2026 at John's former Quarry Bank High School (now Calderstones School). Fans will see Lennon's original school desk, the classroom where The Quarrymen first formed, and other artefacts from his school years.
- **A private lunch with original members of The Quarrymen**, Lennon's first band, followed by a special live performance at Strawberry Field.
- **A visit to the Strawberry Field exhibition centre**, where ticketholders will be the first to witness the live press unveiling of a new artefact joining treasures such as John's iconic *Imagine* piano.

Throughout the day, Charlotte Martin, a qualified Beatles Green Badge tour guide from Livertours Liverpool, will bring Lennon's childhood stories to life.

Sue Harvey, Commercial Manager at Strawberry Field, said: ""This tour will be a once-in-a-lifetime chance to celebrate John - his roots, his music, and his enduring legacy. From the streets and schools that shaped his childhood to the home and spaces that inspired his creativity, every moment has been carefully curated to give fans an intimate and unforgettable experience. We can't wait to welcome Beatles fans from around the world to share in this very special day and to step into the world that helped make John Lennon the icon he remains today."

Strawberry Field members will receive priority access to tickets before sales open to the general public on Friday 26 September at 10a.m. via the Strawberry Field website. Tickets are priced at £120 and will be available at: <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/strawberryfield/> on a first-come, first-served basis.

All proceeds from the event will support Strawberry Field's Steps to Work programme, which empowers young adults with learning difficulties, those who are neurodivergent, or who face barriers to employment into paid work.

For more information about Strawberry Field, visit the [website](#), and on social media – [Facebook](#), [X](#) and [Instagram](#).

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Notes to Editors

Press release issued by Influential on behalf of Strawberry Field. For further information, please contact Katie – k.griffiths@thisisinfluential.com // 07906 423712.

Strawberry Field

Strawberry Field is an award-winning visitor attraction located in Woolton, south Liverpool, located at the iconic site immortalised by John Lennon in The Beatles' hit, 'Strawberry Fields Forever'.

Telling the story of John Lennon's childhood and the writing and recording of the iconic song 'Strawberry Fields Forever', the Strawberry Field attraction is home to an interactive visitor exhibition which includes the actual 'Imagine' piano, the original red gates, and the magical gardens where John played, climbed trees and dreamed as a child.

Through archival footage, photographs, timelines and specialist media guides, visitors to Strawberry Field can experience where John Lennon played and what happened behind the famous red gates.

Profits from the visitor experience and commercial operations go towards keeping the gates open for the good of the local community; and to help fund Steps at Strawberry Field, a series of programmes aimed at those with learning difficulties or other barriers to employment.

The Salvation Army

The Salvation Army is an international Christian church and registered charity which has been transforming lives for more than 150 years. Working in 134 countries worldwide, The Salvation Army offers friendship, practical help and support for people at all levels of need. In the UK and Republic of Ireland this work includes more than 600 community churches and social centres. Registered Charity Nos. 214779, 215174 and in Scotland SC009359, SC037691. For more information visit the website www.salvationarmy.org.uk

Strawberry Field was purchased by The Salvation Army in 1934. The organisation opened the site as a children's home in 1936 and for nearly 70 years the site supported some of Liverpool's most vulnerable children until it closed in 2005.

A young John Lennon lived nearby and played in the grounds, eventually inspiring him to write the song Strawberry Fields Forever. In 2019, The Salvation Army opened the gates of its newly developed visitor centre and learning hub.