



**Whitby Goth Weekend, often abbreviated to WGW or simply referred to by attendees as Whitby, is a twice-yearly music festival for goths, in Whitby, North Yorkshire, England, organised by Jo Hampshire who runs Top Mum Promotions.**

The origins of WGW lie in an ad hoc meeting of around forty pen-pals who Jo had met through NME and which was arranged in 1994. Jo states that Whitby was chosen for its Dracula connections. The festival was held yearly until 1997, when it became twice-yearly, now held in April and October. It has since grown into one of the most popular goth music events in the world, attracting attendees from across the UK and around the world. The main event is held at the town's largest venue Whitby Spa Pavilion (known just as ?The Spa?), and the popular Bizarre Bazaar 'Goth Market' is also held here along as well as at Whitby Leisure Centre and Whitby Brunswick Centre. Other venues such as RAW Nightclub and The Shambles are used for official fringe events, and various venues including The Resolution, The Rifle Club & The Metropole are used for unofficial events. Although referred to as a "weekend" it includes events during the day on Friday and Saturday as well as fringe events on the Thursday, Sunday and Monday. These events include additional club nights, markets, and a charity football match between visiting goth team Real Gothic, and local team Stokoemotiv Whitby led by Jon Stokoe the ex editor of local newspaper the Whitby Gazette on the Sunday. There are often unofficial day events that vary from year to year including sandcastle building competitions, picnics, photoshoots and boat trips. During the October/November event there is also an independent custom car show, 'Whitby Kustom', that takes place in the grounds of West Cliff School adjacent to Whitby Leisure Centre.

**This years October dates are 31st October to 2nd November**

Details and tickets can be obtained here - <http://www.whitbygothweekend.co.uk/tickets.php>