



St.Gallen, 4th July 2018

OpenAir St.Gallen: inspiring generations!

The 42th edition of the OpenAir St.Gallen in Switzerland was headlined by Depeche Mode, The Killers, Nine Inch Nails, First Aid Kit and Editors. The weather showed itself at its best and the traditional event was a euphoric but peaceful experience. One more time the festival has proven that it can gather and inspire generations!

The OpenAir St.Gallen has taken place for the 42nd time since 1977. After a rainy start the weather was mostly warm and sunny and the visitors were sitting on the green grass watching concerts and enjoying themselves. A total of 100'000 people over the four days (18'000 on Thursday, 27'000 from Friday to Sunday each) visited the festival in the Eastern part of Switzerland. Depeche Mode was surely a high light and while one was thinking Saturday night couldn't get any better young French DJ Kungs made the audience sing, dance and celebrate once again. One more time the festival has proven that it can gather and inspire generations!

In 2018, the OpenAir St.Gallen extended the tent stage "Sternenbühne" where 5000 people find space to dance and sing to their favourite acts. Also, the main stage has been updated and the sound quality has been improved.

The small stages and experiences like the campfire stage, which was presented for the second time, several food & bar experiences and the extension and improvement of the Plaza area with local design stalls, street artists, poetry slam, food & drinks are also an important part of the OpenAir St.Gallen experience.

For the first time ever, the festival has launched two panels within the context of [TAKE A STAND](#), a European awareness campaign. On Friday and Saturday morning, guest speakers and visitors were discussing very engaged about how the festival has a political and social responsibility but also about how people can celebrate peacefully and respectfully with each other and how a festival or a club can reduce sexual harassment and violence. The point was clear: The OpenAir St.Gallen has a responsibility and wants to continue those discussions in a next step.

The festival is known for its efforts in sustainability and partnered for the third time with the experts of "My climate" to improve the food section. Other efforts are already in place: due to a deposit system, 95% of the re-usable cups come back and with the tent deposit system, 91% of the people pack their tents and

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take them home again. For the sixth time the festival was completely cashless: Drinks, food and merchandising goods could only be paid with a chip on the festival wristband. The RFID-chip was also used for the access control.

Next edition: 27th June to 30th June 2019.

[Official festival gallery](#)

[Festival website](#)

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