

Beat: Arts

## THE GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH

### THE ROYAL EDINBURGH MILITARY TATTOO 2016

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**USPA NEWS** - The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo - Showcasing music, dance and display from around the world, the 2016 showpiece event is set to pay tribute to HM The Queen's 90th birthday while celebrating 'Tunes of Glory'.

With the unforgettable sight and sound of the Massed Pipes and Drums performing against the brooding backdrop of Edinburgh Castle, the spectacular production will include, amongst others, the New Zealand Army Band and Lochiel Marching Drill Team, in the company of His Majesty The King's Guard from Norway, the Imps Motorcycle Display Team alongside the Royal Jordanian Armed Forces Band and Drill Team.

From its early days, The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo has been an international favourite. Performers from over 48 countries have taken part in the Tattoo, and around 30 per cent of the 220,000 audience each year are from overseas. Each year's Tattoo is very much a 'global gathering' - showcasing the talents of musicians and performers from every corner of the globe.

In addition to this, the Tattoo has been televised in more than 40 countries. An annual television audience of 100 million watches the coverage worldwide. The international flavour of the Tattoo has been deliberately developed as a key element in its capacity to entertain a huge, cosmopolitan audience. The Tattoo's unique ability to bring together thousands of people for this annual celebration of music and entertainment continues and the public's appetite for pomp and ceremony shows no sign of diminishing.

Edinburgh Castle

A mighty fortress, the defender of the nation, and home of the famous Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo. Edinburgh Castle has dominated the skyline for centuries and is part of the Old and New Towns of Edinburgh's World Heritage Site.

The castle, in the care of Historic Scotland, is Scotland's most-visited paid tourist attraction, with over 1.4 million visitors in 2013. As the backdrop to the Edinburgh Military Tattoo during the annual Edinburgh International Festival the castle has become a recognisable symbol of Edinburgh and of Scotland and indeed, it is Edinburgh's most frequently visited visitor attraction - according to the Edinburgh Visitor Survey, more than 70% of leisure visitors to Edinburgh visited the castle.

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