

# Two-day rock festival ready for July 27 and 28

## Chemical Brothers will headline 20th Busan International Rock Festival

Are you ready to rock?

The 20th Busan International Rock Festival, the oldest festival of its kind in Korea, will be held on July 27 and 28 in Sasang-gu's (district) Samnak Ecological Park. With the 20th edition of the event in store, it's only natural that the festival wants to do something special. So, in order to draw bigger names to the stage, this year's festivities will require patrons to take out their wallets and pay fees for day passes.

While the festival is no longer free, the idea is that those in attendance will get what they pay for. This year, 28 bands and artists from nine countries will participate. The festival will be headlined by the Chemical Brothers, a world-famous English electronic duo. The Chemical Brothers have sold more than 12 million albums worldwide and continue to participate in or headline famous festivals around the globe. The band is a winner of five Grammy Awards and they will bring four tons of their own stage equipment for their usual eye-popping spectacles of colorful lights, projections, lasers and other special effects.

Australian rocker Courtney Barnett will also make her way to the main stage. Barnett has emerged as a global artist since the release of her critically-acclaimed debut album "Sometimes I Sit and Think, and Sometimes I Just Sit" in 2015. She released her latest effort, "Tell Me How You Real-



The Busan International Rock Festival uses sounds, lighting, water and anything else it can think of to wow its audience.

ly Feel," last year, which gained positive critical reviews.

The Chemical Brothers and Courtney Barnett are both quite different musically, and variety is a big part of what makes any rock festival fun. In addition to the groups already mentioned, Greek black metal outfit Nightrage will scream their way onto the stage, bringing their own flavor to a well-established genre. Bands from around Asia will also come to town, including Solidal, one of China's most notable acts, and Mocking Bullet from Hong Kong. Japan's

White Cats and Thailand's Paper Planes will also be taking the microphone in hand.

Of course, numerous Korean bands will get the audience screaming. Jannabi is set to participate, as is Groove Overdose (stylized and pronounced "g.o.d"). The event also invited a duo and former winner of TV series "K-pop Star" Akdong Musician, Korean indie rock bands Nell and Romantic Punch and Baek Yerin, who stays busy by maintaining a solo career while also being a member of 15& and JYP Nation.

### ■ Information

- **Tickets:** Day Pass: 66,000 won; Two-Day Pass: 88,000 won
- **Reservation:** [tkglobal.melon.com](http://tkglobal.melon.com), [ticket.yes24.com](http://ticket.yes24.com), [ticket.hanatour.com](http://ticket.hanatour.com)
- **How to get there:** Sasang Station (Metro line 2) exit 3. Pass through the tree-lined street and cross the Riverside Bridge. Go straight for 15 minutes.
- **Information:** [busanrockfestival.com](http://busanrockfestival.com)

## Haeundae Beach Cinema returns for a sequel

### "Mamma Mia!" screening July 20

Haeundae brought back its outdoor beach cinema earlier this month with the 2017 Disney/Pixar animated feature "Coco." The event will continue on July 20 with the 2008 jukebox musical "Mamma Mia!" Haeundae began outdoor movies last year, and it seems that it was successful enough to hold them once more.

"Mamma Mia!" is a fun jukebox musical that uses the music of Swedish phenomenon ABBA as a bride-to-be tries to discover the identity of her real father. The film features stars Meryl Streep, Pierce Brosnan, Amanda Seyfried and Colin Firth. Add a beautiful beach night to that, and you have yourself an evening to remember.

Haeundae-gu (district) made the right decision in bringing the outdoor movies for a second round; 100 spots sold out in 30 minutes online for the "Coco" screening.



Busan movie viewers settle down for a beautiful evening of sky, sea and cinema.

For "Mamma Mia!," those who register in advance will receive air sofas, mats and popcorn. If you don't pre-register, you can still watch the movie on the beach or the steps that lead down to it.

- **How to get there:** Haeundae Station (Metro line 2), exit 3 and 5. Go straight for 500 meters.
- **Information:** 051-749-761
- **Pre-registration:** [www.haeundae.go.kr](http://www.haeundae.go.kr)

## March 2020 will be start of Busan to Helsinki route

Gimhae International Airport is scheduled to open the first European route from Busan to Helsinki, Finland. Beginning March 2020, the airport plans to operate the route three times a week. It is expected to take 10 hours via the Arctic and it is to be operated by Finnish national airline Finnair.

Helsinki is the largest hub in Northern Europe, transferring passengers to cities across the continent. Now, through Busan, it will serve as a European gateway for Northeast Asia. Helsinki Airport has seen a steady increase in passenger traffic between Korea and Finland over the past three years, but has still only operated seven direct flights a week from Incheon. The new route is expected to benefit both those from Busan and Europe by giving Busan citizens and residents access to Europe and Finnish travelers a new gateway to Asia. Busanites are likely to be grateful for this new route, because they are no longer required to travel to Europe through Seoul.