

Nightlife in Liverpool

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Abstract

The city of Liverpool (population 450,000) in the North West of England has a long, historical association with music and nightlife and continues to be one of the most popular nightlife areas in the UK. Furthermore, as the origin of one of the world's first global dance brands (i.e. Cream) and the current base of Garlands (a predominantly gay dance venue which also operates globally) the city continues to influence nightlife locally, nationally and internationally. After over thirty years of recession, which has left Liverpool with some of the most deprived areas in England (Noble et al. 2004), the city is regenerating its economy and image with nightlife playing a major role in improving both. In 2008, Liverpool becomes the European Capital of Culture. Like many European cities, much of its focus remains on harnessing the considerable economic benefits that accompany expanding nightlife whilst trying to avoid increases, or even reduce, alcohol and drug related problems. Here we provide an overview of nightlife in Liverpool, the patterns of substance use adopted by its patrons and the public health and criminal justice interventions that are being implemented to provide safer night time environments.

Web Link

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