## REMINDER ABOUT SUMMER SOLSTICE 2019 STONEHENGE

English Heritage is pleased to welcome people to Stonehenge to celebrate Summer Solstice once again. As you know we work hard to minimise disruption to you, our neighbours, to protect Stonehenge, and to look after the people attending and keep Solstice special.

We are writing to you ahead of Summer Solstice this year to once again ask for your help in reminding the community of the changes to solstice arrangements that have taken place in recent years, and of security arrangements.

- 1. The monument field is an alcohol-free zone.
- 2. We are encouraging car sharing and the use of public transport. There is very limited parking and charges apply.
- 3. As in previous years, security measures will be in place at Summer Solstice. We are working closely with Wiltshire Police to ensure the safety of all visitors and, as a result, only small bags (30 x 25 x 15cm) will be allowed into the Monument Field and searches will be conducted. We are strongly advising visitors to only bring essential items with them and leave valuables at home.

We would also like to take the opportunity to remind people that under 16s are only allowed into the monument field during summer solstice if accompanied by a responsible adult.

Stonehenge is an ancient monument protected by law and also a World Heritage Site and as such drunken behaviour is not appropriate within or around the monument. We believe an alcohol-free Solstice has made it more enjoyable and peaceful for more people, including the increasing numbers of families and young people who attend.

We would be grateful if you could remind any young people you feel this will impact upon. We are delighted that more young people want to come to experience the stone circle up close at Summer Solstice but we think that it is important that they understand the significance of the monument, are aware of the Conditions of Entry, and that their expectations are managed.

And finally, we ask all those attending to please respect the stones by not sitting, standing or climbing on them.

Thank you very much for your help in getting these messages out. We believe the changes introduced in recent years have made Solstice more enjoyable and peaceful

for the majority of people attending, including the increasing numbers of families and young people.

For the Conditions of Entry and other useful information, <u>please check the English</u> <u>Heritage website.</u>

## Kind regards

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