



Dear Musicians and Bluegrass Acts from across Europe

We are opening applications to play at La Roche Bluegrass Festival 2018. *Deadline February 4th*

Please read the following information about the festival before deciding if you want to apply and which part of the festival you wish to play.

You are receiving this letter because, either you have played at the festival in the past, or you have applied to play in the past, or you have asked to be included this year.

If you do not wish to receive this letter again, please let us know and we will remove you from the list.

Contents

1. The musical components of the festival
2. Terms and conditions for playing
3. Application form

MUSICAL COMPONENTS OF THE FESTIVAL

Workshop – Monday July 30th (evening) thru Thursday August 2nd

Banjo, Mandolin, Guitar, Fiddle, Dobro, Bass, Vocals

Teachers are musicians of Rapidgrass (USA) and an experienced team of French teachers.

Street Festival – Wednesday August 1st (evening) and Friday August 3rd (lunchtime)

Bands play unplugged on café and bar terraces. The bars provide food and drinks for musicians.

Headline Acts – Thursday August 2nd thru Sunday August 5th

Bands from Europe and USA invited directly by La Roche Bluegrass Festival to play the main stage

Band Contest – Thursday August 2nd thru Sunday August 5th

8 bands selected by the jury in February from submitted MP3 tracks play in the final of the contest.

2 finalist bands will play each day of the festival from Thursday to Sunday.

Main Stage – Thursday August 2nd thru Sunday August 5th

European bands not in competition play the main stage.

Lunchtime Sessions – Saturday August 4th and Sunday August 5th

8 acts (including 2 US headliners) play the lunchtime stage in front of the food court.

One European act (at least) will be invited back in 2019 to play on the main stage.

Band Contest

8 bands are pre-selected by the jury between now and mid March.

The jury consists of one representative from each of EBMA, IBMA, Rapidgrass, La Roche, Northern Europe, Southern Europe, Central Europe and Eastern Europe. All members of the jury are musicians, event organisers or Bluegrass media specialists.

Selection Criteria are: *Band cohesion, Quality and originality of arrangements, Instrumental technique, Vocal qualities (lead and harmony).*

Stage Presence and Set Balance are also judged during the festival.

Prizes for winning bands

1st place: €2,000 cash prize offered by La Roche Bluegrass Festival and a headline concert slot in 2019 (with standard travel allowance), and an invitation to play at the [Rapidgrass Bluegrass festival](#) in Colorado in June 2019, with \$5,000 travel allowance (accommodation provided by festival).

With thanks to Rapidgrass for renewing this great prize.

2nd place: €1,000 cash prize

3rd place: €500 cash prize

PLAYING CONDITIONS AT LA ROCHE BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL 2018

La Roche Bluegrass Festival deals directly with acts that are invited to play the festival as headliners.

For other acts travelling from Europe, please be aware that no fees are paid to bands above the conditions stated below:

Travel allowance

Bands will be paid a travel allowance of 0.35 €/km (*up from 0.30 in 2017*) from home address of band leader to La Roche and back as calculated by google maps (2 ways). One car / band

School Accommodation

Performing bands can stay for free for up to 4 nights (Thursday thru Sunday) in one of our 2 partner schools (breakfast included).

Rooms sleep 2 – 5 people. Bathrooms are shared.

Sheets, pillows, towels and blankets are not provided.

*Bands may invite **one partner/spouse** per musician at the price of 12€ / night / guest, with breakfast included.*

Due to numbers attending the workshop, accommodation during the week before the festival is not possible except under certain circumstances, or if playing a Wednesday street gig.

The festival does not cover accommodation for musicians choosing other sleeping arrangements.

There is also a free festival campsite not far from the festival for those who prefer (from Monday to Monday).

Meal tickets

The festival offers a daily allowance of meal tickets for performing musicians and their registered guest for use on the festival site. The tickets can be used to purchase hot and cold meals prepared on the festival site (including vegetarian), beer, wine and soft drinks.

They are given out each day at band reception on the festival site.

Street Festival bands are offered a free meal (musicians only) by the host bar at time of set.

The table shows the full quota of terms and conditions

Playing Venue	Playing Time	Line Check	Travel Allowance	Meal tickets	School Sleeping
Main stage in competition	60 mins	15 mins	Yes	Yes	Yes
Main stage out of competition	60 mins	15 mins	Yes	Yes	Yes
Lunchtime sessions	45 mins	15 mins	Yes	Yes	Yes
Street Festival Wed & Fri	60 mins	unplugged	No	No	Yes

APPLICATION TO PLAY LA ROCHE BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL 2018

Please fill in this form and return it to christopherhw@mac.com **before February 4th**

Send with **4 good quality MP3** recordings and a **hi-res band photo** that represent the band today
(sound and musicians) - **internet links will not be followed!!**

Contest finalists will be selected (unseen) by the jury before March 9th according to stated criteria
and the final programme will be announced before March 31st

Band name					
Contact person					
Home address <i>(street, city, country)</i>					
Email					
Cell phone	<i>for contact during festival if necessary</i>				
Musicians & instruments					
Bio for programme notes <i>(please limit to 2 - 5 lines)</i>					
Web site					
YouTube link to live show	<i>(optional)</i>				
<u>We want to play the Main Festival</u>					Tick Boxes
<i>You may select 1, 2 or 3 options. If you select 1 option, you will be considered <u>only for that option</u> If you select 2 or 3 options, you will be considered for all in order of (1) the contest, (2) the main stage, (3) the lunchtime sessions</i>				Band contest	
				Main Stage	
				Lunchtime stage	
<u>We want to play the Street Festival</u>					Tick Boxes
<i>As well as main festival, if selected</i>		<i>If not selected for main festival</i>		<i>Only. Not applying for main festival</i>	
Wednesday	Friday	Wednesday	Friday	Wednesday	Friday

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS : FEBRUARY 4th