

North Shields Victorian Christmas Market

Frequently asked questions

Q. How much does a stall cost?

A. The basic charge for 2012 is £115. This is inclusive of a table and chair and lighting

Q. What size are the stalls?

A. Approx 10 ft wide x 6 ft deep. The stalls are made from a canvas style material and are enclosed on three sides. The front is completely open. See our gallery pages on the web site for photographs of the stalls.

Q. What size is the table?

A. Approx 6ft long x 2' 3" wide. They are wooden trestle tables.

Q. Can I rent additional tables?

A. Yes they are £6 each for the weekend. We don't advise renting more than one additional table as there's not enough space within the stall to accommodate more than two tables.

Q. Can I rent more than one stall?

A. Yes, you may rent as many stalls as you wish. If you rent a double stall we can erect it as one continuous stall – 20 ft wide.

Q. Can I bring my own tables or other display material?

A. Yes, you are welcome to bring whatever additional tables and/or display material you wish. However we do not allow external advertising so whatever you use must fit within the stall.

Q. Can I bring display lighting?

A. Yes, but there is a charge of £20 for the weekend to cover providing electricity for this. Any lighting must be PAT tested (if appropriate) and low voltage. We have a limited capacity for power within the Square and electricity can only be used for display lighting. No heaters or other high drain uses are permitted.

Q. Can I set up on the Friday night?

A. Yes, if you let us know that you are planning to do this we will make arrangements. Please do not arrive before 5.30 pm as we will still be setting up the Square and will not be able to allow you access before this time.

Q. Can I leave my stock in my stall overnight?

A. Yes, you can but at your own risk.

Q. What security is provided?

A. The Square is railed and gated and at the end of each day's trading is locked. We do employ overnight security but can accept no responsibility for any losses incurred.

Q. What are the trading hours?

A. 10 – 5 on Saturday and 10 – 4 on the Sunday.

Q. Can I request a stall in a particular location?

A. No, we have a policy of moving stallholders around each year as the fairest way to ensure that everyone is treated equally so you will not be allocated the same spot as the previous year.

Q. Do you offer any discounted prices for charities and other not-for-profit organisations?

A. Unfortunately we are not able to do this. The market aims to break even each year and we are not able to discount stall prices.

Q. Can I sell hot food and drinks?

A. No, because we tender the public catering franchise we do not allow stallholders to sell products which compete directly with the franchisee. You may offer tasting samples but not actually sell hot food and drinks. There is no problem with the likes of prepared pies, sold to be heated/cooked at home.

Q. Can I sell alcohol products?

A. Yes, the Square is a licensed premises and the Chair of the North Shields Victorian Christmas Partnership is the Designated Premises Supervisor. If you wish to sell alcohol you must make this clear on your application form and we require a Personal Licence holder to be present at your stall to oversee all sales.

Q. Do I need Public Liability Insurance?

A. We don't insist on it (yet) although clearly it's good practice to have it.