

***BCVA representation
and education***



BCVA Congress 2025

Delegate Information

9th - 11th October 2025

Edinburgh International Conference Centre, 150 Morrison St,
Edinburgh, EH3 8EE



**Early Bird discount until
25th August 2025**



BCVA Congress 2025

In a world of volatility, uncertainty, complexity and ambiguity I am pleased to invite you to the annual Autumn anchor in the cattle vet calendar, BCVA Congress. This year it will be held at the EICC in Edinburgh, 9-11th October, returning to the venue after nearly 30 years.

Thinking back to 1996;

- BCVA hosted the XIXth World Buiatrics Congress in Edinburgh in the newly opened EICC.
- The Cattle Passports Order came into force.
- The BSE crisis led to the EU banning exports of British beef with effect from March.
- Dolly the Sheep became the first mammal to be cloned successfully from an adult cell.
- Singer-songwriter Lewis Capaldi born in Glasgow.
- The Spice Girls were No 1 with their debut single, 'Wannabe'.
- Around 16% of households had a mobile phone.

Now fast forward to 2025;

- World Organisation for Animal Health downgraded the UK's BSE risk rating status to negligible.
- Debate on environmental impact of ruminants and parasiticides.
- Competition and Markets Authority investigation into veterinary services for pets.
- Debate on the pros and cons of artificial intelligence.
- New Veterinary Surgeons Act under active discussion by Defra and veterinary stakeholders.
- UK-EU Summit announcement of commitment to working towards a UK-EU Sanitary Phytosanitary (SPS) Agreement.

The only constant is change. Our world is in a dynamic state of flux so it is vital we take the opportunity to have some time out from our day jobs to look up and reflect on the bigger picture. One of BCVA's values is leadership which encompasses looking for long term opportunities and anticipating change. Our keynote speakers are well versed in change and lead by example. James Rebanks who runs a traditional upland farm in Cumbria with a herd of Belted Galloways and a flock of Herdwick sheep will talk about his focus on regenerative farming, education and social impact. Peter Cairns will present informative and inspiring stories that catalyse big picture thinking. A panel discussion with influential stakeholders will explore the keynote subjects in more detail. We have a diverse and inspiring programme of CPD for cattle vets whether in practice, government services, research, policy, the pharmaceutical industry or the wider industry - there really is something for everyone.

BCVA promotes lifelong learning through CPD and Congress is our showcase event, presenting evidence, science and inspiration for delegates. Congress offers multiple streams of learning, through lectures and workshops, plus numerous networking opportunities all in the interests of cattle health and welfare, and acknowledging the value of connections and support as we navigate complexity. Please do join us for our spectacular programme and join me at the fundraisers on Thursday and Friday to help raise vital funds for our charities; The Farming Community Network and Vetlife.

On behalf of the Board, I look forward to welcoming you to Edinburgh in October.

Kate Richards

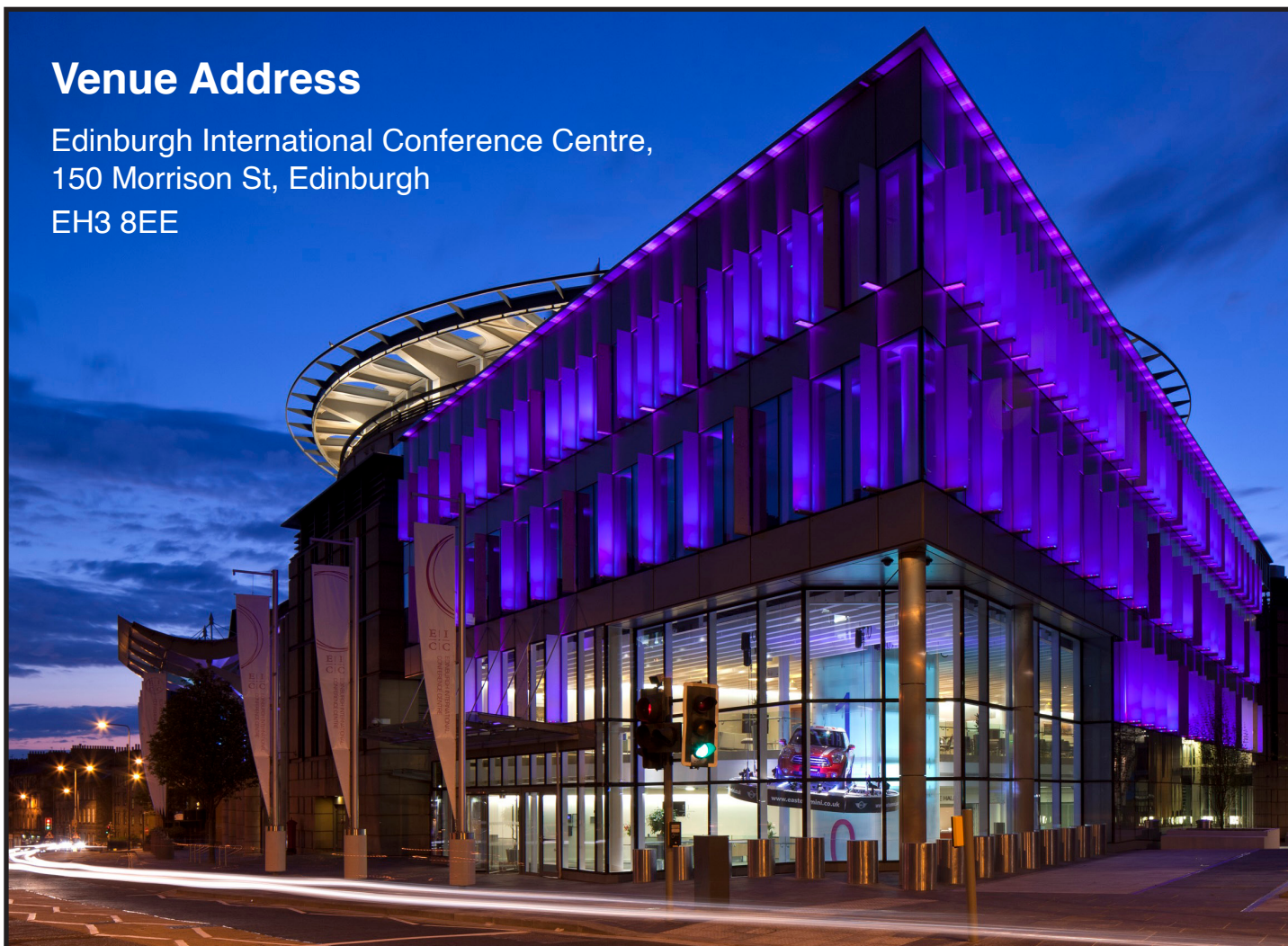
BCVA President



Venue Information

Venue Address

Edinburgh International Conference Centre,
150 Morrison St, Edinburgh
EH3 8EE



Travel

BCVA have put together some travel information to help you find the best way to get to Edinburgh. You can find this at <https://www.bcva.org.uk/content/accommodation>



Accommodation

We have secured an event discount for our delegates at a few hotels in the area. Information on these hotels can be found at <https://www.bcva.org.uk/content/accommodation>



AFTER THE SCIENCE COME THE SOCIALS

The chance to let our hair down, connect with old friends, and make new friends is an important part of BCVA Congress – knowledge is developed in the lectures, memories are made in the socials. Plus – it's a chance to raise vital funds for two brilliant charities ...

When you come to the Thursday Evening and the Friday Gala Dinner, you'll not only be treated to great food and entertainment, you'll also be helping to raise money for two crucial charities close to our profession – the Farming Community Network and Vetlife.

We hope to see you there – to say 'cheers' to each other and honour the vital work these organisations do to support us and our farm clients.

YOUR SOCIAL DIARY

WELCOME GET-TOGETHER



Wednesday
8th October, 2025



Time
19:30 - 23:00



Coming to Congress early is a good way to set yourself up for a great event – and we'd like to invite you to join BCVA Board on Wednesday evening for our drinks reception and three-course dinner. This is the perfect way to launch into Congress, and a good way to meet members of the BCVA team.

GAMES PARTY NIGHT



Thursday
9th October, 2025



Time
19:30 - 00:00



You'll be tempted to indulge in locally sourced street food style and a well-stocked bar.

This is the night we raise funds for The Farming Community Network (FCN), an important charity that supports farmers and families through difficult times.

FCN has a network of over 400 volunteers across England and Wales who provide free, confidential, pastoral and practical support to anyone who seeks help. In addition to local groups of volunteers, FCN runs a confidential national helpline (03000 111 999) and e-helpline (help@fcn.org.uk) which is open every day of the year from 7am-11pm.

GALA DINNER



Friday
10th October, 2025



Time
19:30 - 00:00



Friday is the night to really dress up and let your hair down, as President Kate Richards invites you to the Gala Dinner. We know to expect stunning local produce from Scotland, and of course – we are in the land of the Ceilidh – so come ready for some energetic dancing.

On this special night we'll once again be raising vital funds for Vetlife, the invaluable charity that provides emotional, financial, and mental health support to the veterinary community. BCVA delegates and exhibitors are always incredibly generous, and our raffles and auctions have raised tens of thousands of pounds over the years.

WORKSHOPS

BOOK EARLY TO GET YOUR CHOICE

Our workshops are always popular – it is where you'll benefit from both the expertise of the presenter and from the experience of your fellow delegates. Spaces are limited, and whilst the sessions are free, you must book in advance, so please add them when you register, if possible. Make your selection from the options here, and you'll leave Congress with your skills elevated and your confidence boosted.

Thursday 9th October

James Adams, Sophie Mahendran, George Lindley

Containing an outbreak and creating a disease free herd

More information coming soon

Peter May

Bovine reproductive manual and ultrasound examination

Fertility visits provide the kind of essential contact time for developing client relations and consultancy level advisory services. This workshop will consider combining rectal palpation and ultrasound examination to optimise diagnosis and demonstrate best practice is strongly recommended. We'll look at how all multiple births should be diagnosed and appropriate management advice given and how foetal abnormalities can and should be detected and dealt with appropriately. We hope everyone will come to appreciate that, if you have time, sharing what you are seeing with your client/student/work colleagues is recommended.

James Breen, Julia Moorhouse, Jude Roberts

Control of somatic cell count and clinical mastitis incidence rate: interactive case studies to challenge and help you!

Most milk contracts have a focus on udder health and mastitis infection control, and we are often asked for supporting advice. We understand our decisions need to consider herd infection patterns (mastitis is a great example of applied epidemiology), as well as available evidence around efficacy or likely impact. In this workshop, delegates will work on real (anonymised) herd examples, taking a population health and evidence-based approach. The workshop will challenge us to analyse data, organise thoughts and provide a brief but structured action plan using the AHDB Dairy "Quarter PRO" framework. We'll also be covering some 'hot topics'.

Andrew Bradley, Al Manning

Using the new Johne's Pattern Analysis Tool report – identifying routes of transmission and hidden high-risk cow

Through the National Johne's Management Plan, many farms have been able to reduce Johne's disease to a low level through improved farm management, testing and culling, but progress beyond this point is often difficult. The new Johne's Pattern Analysis Tool is free and available to any dairy farmer Johne's testing with CIS, NMR or QMMS. A report is emailed to farmers and their advisors each time they test. This report reveals patterns of Johne's transmission over several years and identifies hidden high-risk cows. This workshop will help vets make the most of these free reports, with case examples and discussion.

Tim Carter, Jay Tunstall, James Wilson

Supporting impactful hoof care as a practicing vet – developing practical skills to deliver positive mobility in cattle

These are what delegates will leave this workshop with an elevated ...

- Understanding of the requirements of the foot regarding functional trimming.
- Understanding of the principles of knife sharpening, and the safe use of basic hoof trimming equipment.
- Confidence in appraising hooves that have been trimmed in a variety of ways.
- Conscientious approach to decisions around block selection and application.

At the end of the workshop, participants will be more confident in delivering and supporting both routine, and therapeutic hoof care on farm.

Sarah Hewitt, Fiona Lovatt

Opportunities to engage with sheep and beef farmers over their data – KPIs, medicines and more

It can be difficult to engage with some farmer clients, yet there are currently plenty of easy-to-access opportunities that can be used to the benefit of the herd or flock and to drive that very engagement. This workshop will explore practical opportunities to engage with data on beef and sheep farms. We will use Farm Vet Champion and other resources available for the practice team to set realistic targets to engage with farmers and to upload medicine data where appropriate, whether in Scotland, Wales, England or Northern Ireland.

Debby Brown, James Hanks, Pete Orpin, Emma Taylor-Holt

Using Johne's Control to build strong vet: farmer relationships. What can we learn from a veterinary practice that has successfully reduced Johne's levels in over 90% of client herds?

This workshop will be asking these questions (and exploring the answers)

- What are your own practice's limitations to effective Johne's control and what needs to change?
- What tools are available both for risk assessment and data analysis?
- How to measure your practice current Johne's Control Index and use it to monitor past/future progress in Johne's control?
- What is the range of different potential methods to engage with the more 'hard to get' clients?

Andrew Duncan, Kate Lamont

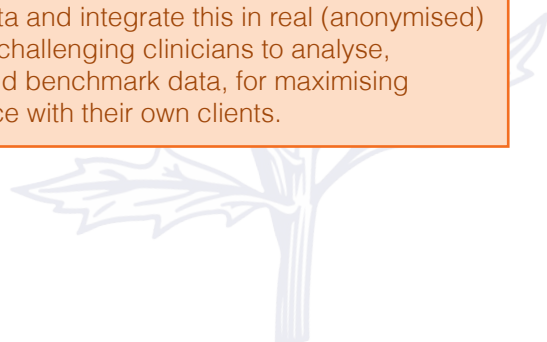
Bitesize Biosecurity: a farmer-centric approach to the communication of information and advice about animal biosecurity

This workshop will present vets with accessible, 'farmer friendly' tools which can be personalised to different contexts in order to help engage with farmers and farm workers about biosecurity.

Emily Payne, Jess Reynolds

Benchmarking the future of your dairy herds: post-weaning to first lactation

There's a wealth of new research on youngstock rearing, focussing on driving profitability and sustainability particularly during the post-weaned period. Large amounts of data can be collected on farm, although often not well utilised by the farm for decision management. In this workshop, we will review the practical use of evidence-based performance indicators from the weaning period to first lactation, with a focus on rearing efficiency and heifer effectiveness. In small groups, we'll demonstrate methods for using commonly recorded on-farm data and integrate this in real (anonymised) examples, challenging clinicians to analyse, interpret and benchmark data, for maximising performance with their own clients.



Tobias Hunter, Issa Robson

Active allyship in challenging situations

Equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) within the farm sector is more important than ever. The workshop will take participants through challenging scenarios involving discrimination and help us to think about how to display active allyship in these moments. Participants will be given active allyship tools and learn mitigating strategies they can use if they witness discrimination and to make their practice teams more inclusive.

Zoe Shepherd

Coaching skills for farm vets

Pre-weaning nutrition is key to calf resilience a part of calf health as well as growth.

Delegates in this workshop will be left feeling more confident to engage with calf nutrition and the whole team, understanding what's on the ticket but also questions you might need to ask, to get all the information you need. You will understand the next generation of milk powders and see what they can offer and which farms they are best suited too.



Delegate Registration Form

BCVA Congress 2025 - EICC, Edinburgh - 9th - 11th October

Please print clearly, in capital letters.

Title:	Name: (to appear on badge)		
Practice / Institution:			
Address:			Your name will be added to a Delegates List which will be distributed to other delegates on this course. Please tick here if you do NOT wish to be added to this list. ☐
Telephone:		Fax:	
Email:			

Registration - If registering daily, please circle which day(s) you wish to attend. Prices include registration and lunch.				Price before or on 25/08/2024	Price after 25/08/2024	(All prices include VAT)
BCVA member	Whole Congress			£ 660	£ 774	£
	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	£ 324 (per day)	£ 372 (per day)	£
Retired	Whole Congress			£ 504	£ 576	£
	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	£ 222 (per day)	£ 258 (per day)	£
Post-graduate Student	Whole Congress			£ 204	£ 234	£
	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	£ 84 (per day)	£ 96 (per day)	£
2024/2025 graduates	Whole Congress			£ 336	£ 390	£
	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	£ 132 (per day)	£ 150 (per day)	£
Undergraduates	Whole Congress			£ 180	£ 204	£
	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	£ 78 (per day)	£ 90 (per day)	£
Virtual Congress (deadline for registration is 26th September)	Whole Congress			£ 180	£ 204	£

BACK FOR 2025 - 2024/2025 Graduates Registration and Dinner Package - If registering for a day, please tick which day(s) you wish to attend. Prices include registration, lunch and 1 or 2 dinners.				(All prices include VAT)	
Whole Congress (includes lunches and Thursday and Friday Dinner)				£ 444	£ 504
Day Registration (includes lunch and one dinner. Please indicate which dinner you would like)	Thursday reg ☐	Friday reg ☐	Saturday reg ☐	£ 180 (per day)	£ 204 (per day)
	Thursday dinner ☐	Friday dinner ☐			

Non BCVA Member Supplement			
	Please tick below for 2023 / 2024 membership		
Full Membership	I wish to become a member for 2024 / 2025	☐	£ 194
Post Graduate (second year) 2024	I wish to become a member for 2024 / 2025	☐	£ 136
Post Graduate (first year) 2025	I wish to become a member for 2024 / 2025	☐	£ 93
Post Graduate Student (Full time)	I wish to become a member for 2024 / 2025	☐	£ 104
Undergraduate/retired	I wish to become a member for 2024 / 2025	☐	£ 35

Dinner / Social Events - Option to bring guests for evening events and lunches			
Welcome reception	Wednesday 8th at 19:30 hrs	£ 48	£
Additional guest(s)	Number of guests:	£ 48 pp	£
Thursday dinner	Thursday 9th at 19:30 hrs	£ 48	£
Additional guest(s)	Number of guests:	£ 48 pp	£
President's dinner (black tie)	Friday 10th at 19:30 hrs	£ 90	£
Additional guest(s)	Number of guests:	£ 90 pp	£
Lunches for additional guest(s)	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Number of guests:			£ 42 (per person per day)

Total £

Please tick boxes if you or your guest(s) require a vegetarian alternative:

Delegate(s) ☐

Guest(s) ☐

Please number if more than one guest is vegetarian

Details of any other dietary requirements:

Please note, Refunds will NOT be given on dinners

Special Workshops (limited spaces) – Please tick if you wish to attend				
A holistic approach to calf disease outbreaks	<i>James Adams, Sophie Mahendran and George Lindley</i>	14:00 - 15:30	Thursday 9th October	
Bull semen testing - how to avoid the bull's up's	<i>Rob Anderson, Iain McCormick and Colin Penny</i>	14:00 - 15:30	Thursday 9th October	
Control of somatic cell count and clinical mastitis incidence rate: interactive case studies to challenge and help you!	<i>James Breen, Julia Moorhouse and Jude Roberts</i>	16:00 - 17:30	Thursday 9th October	FULL
Bovine reproductive manual and ultrasound examination	<i>Peter May</i>	16:00 - 17:30	Thursday 9th October	
Supporting impactful hoof care as a practicing vet – developing practical skills to deliver positive mobility in cattle	<i>Tim Carter, Jay Tunstall and James Wilson</i>	09:00 - 10:30	Friday 10th October	
Opportunities to engage with sheep and beef farmers over their data – KPIs, medicines and more	<i>Chris Hudson and Fiona Lovatt</i>	09:00 - 10:30	Friday 10th October	
Improving delivery and engagement in the Healthy Feet Programme including demonstration of the new Healthy Feet App	<i>James Wilson</i>	12:00 - 13:00	Friday 10th October	
Using the new Johne's Pattern Analysis Tool report – identifying routes of transmission and hidden high-risk cows	<i>Andrew Bradley and Al Manning</i>	12:00 - 13:00	Friday 10th October	
Bitesize Biosecurity: a farmer-centric approach to the communication of information and advice about animal biosecurity	<i>Andrew Duncan and Kate Lamont</i>	14:00 - 15:30	Friday 10th October	
Benchmarking the future of your dairy herds: post-weaning to first lactation	<i>Emily Payne and Jess Reynolds</i>	14:00 - 15:30	Friday 10th October	FULL
Camelids for Cattle Vets	<i>Karin Mueller and Ami Sawran</i>	16:00 - 17:30	Friday 10th October	
Using Johne's Control to build strong vet: farmer relationships. What can we learn from a veterinary practice that has successfully reduced Johne's levels in over 90% of client herds?	<i>Debby Brown, James Hanks, Pete Orpin and Emma Taylor-Holt</i>	16:00 - 17:30	Friday 10th October	
A Bovine History of Veterinary Medicine (a walking tour)	<i>Nicole Bell and Andrew Gardiner</i>	09:00 - 11:00	Saturday 11th October	
Active allyship in challenging situations	<i>Tobias Hunter and Issa Robson</i>	09:00 - 10:30	Saturday 11th October	
What the milk powder labels don't tell you	<i>Kat Hart and Laura Tennant</i>	11:00 - 12:30	Saturday 11th October	
Coaching skills for farm vets	<i>Zoe Shepherd</i>	11:00 - 12:30	Saturday 11th October	

Our privacy statement can be found at <https://www.bcva.org.uk/privacy-policy-and-terms>

Payment details

METHOD OF PAYMENT

Please send completed forms with remittance (in £ sterling) to:

BCVA Office, 17 The Glenmore Centre, Waterwells Business Park, Quedgeley, Gloucestershire, GL2 2AP

Tel: 01452 725735

Email: congress2025@bcva.co.uk

DETAILS FOR PAYMENT BY BACS

Account name: **BCVA Ltd**

Sort code: **20-33-83**

Account number: **13495434**

Please send a remittance advice slip.

PAYMENT BY CHEQUE

Cheques should be made payable to: **BCVA Ltd**

PAYMENT BY CREDIT CARD

Credit card no:

.....

Issue no:

Expiry date:/.....

CSC (card security code):

Cardholder's name:

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Cardholder's address:

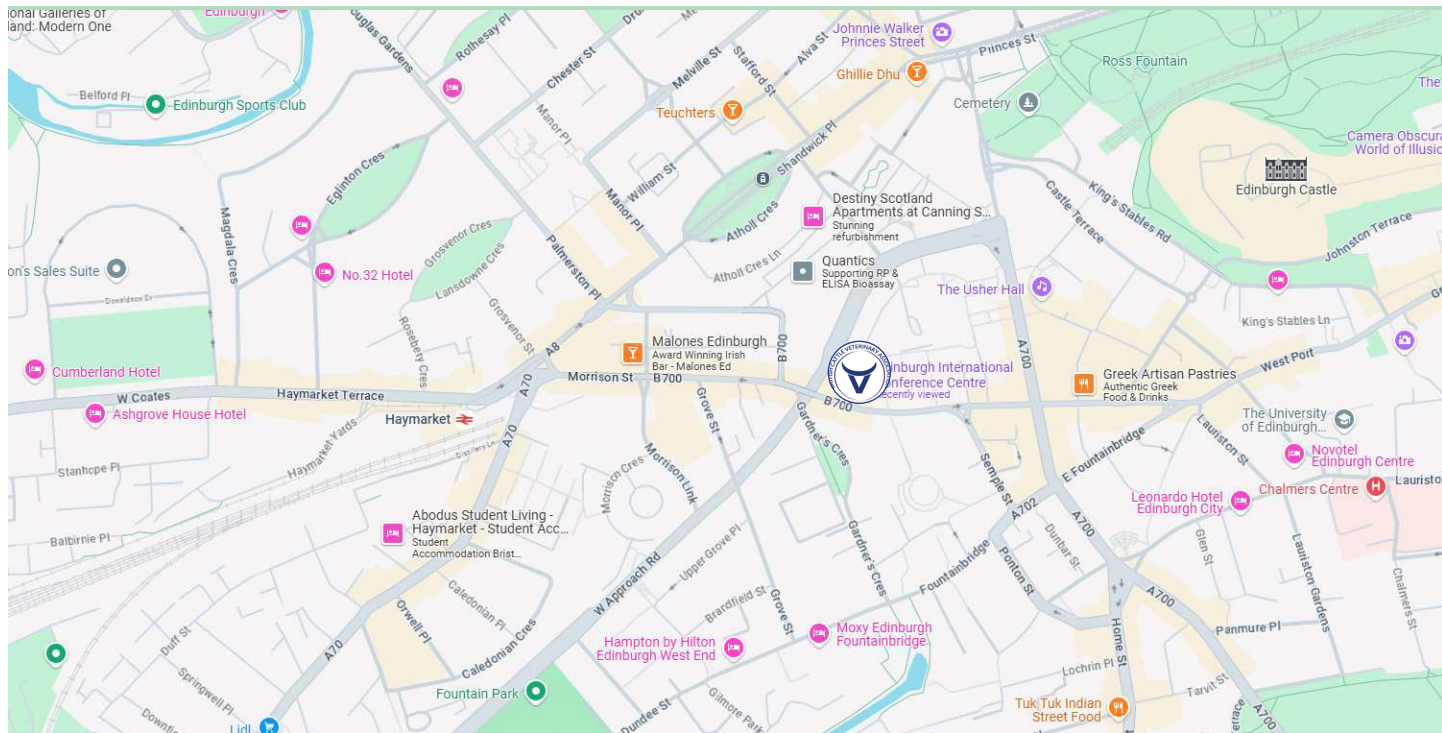
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Getting there



Edinburgh International Conference Centre

You can visit <https://www.eicc.co.uk/visiting/how-to-get-here/> to find your most sustainable way to travel.

By Road



The EICC falls in the Low Emission Zone. Please check if your is exempt before traveling <https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/lowemissionzone>

The EICC is right in the centre of Edinburgh. The main entrance is 150 Morrison Street. The venue postcode is EH3 8EE.

There are many car parks in close walking distance to the EICC.

Once you have registered you will receive more information on parking, including some codes to get discounted parking.

By Air



Edinburgh has one of the UK's fastest growing airports and new flights are always being added. At the EICC, we have the luxury of being located right in the heart of the city and within 10km (6 miles) of Edinburgh International Airport.

For more information on which airlines and destinations connect to Edinburgh visit www.edinburghairport.com.

Once you have registered you will receive more information on travel options to the venue from the airport.

By Rail



Edinburgh boasts two railway stations, Check Scot Rail or Trainline for more information:

- Waverley Station: 1.3 miles from EICC, with direct routes nationwide.
- Haymarket Station: Just 0.4 miles from EICC, serving commuter and UK routes. Check with your provider for stops.

EXPERIENCE THE EXHIBITION

Please make time to see all that's on offer from our exhibitors because the BCVA Congress exhibition is an invaluable opportunity to access industry expertise, discover new products or services, and connect with your suppliers.

Of course, it's also a great place to win prizes and pack your Congress bag full of treats!

We are grateful to the important contribution our commercial partners play in this event, and we encourage our delegates to engage with those colleagues on the stands to make the most of their specialist knowledge.

Special thanks to our sponsors, who help to make Congress possible.



Gold Sponsor

