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## Have a best-ival festival: don't let robbery ruin your rave

Last year, Halifax Home Insurance saw a 32% increase in claims for stolen phones and a 21% increase in claims for lost mobile phones.\*

There was also a 14% increase in claims for theft of cash.\*

With festival-goers due to be digging out their flower crowns and glitter make-up this summer, Halifax Home Insurance is reminding revellers of the importance of having the right level of cover in place for items outside the home.

### **Tim Downes, Senior Claims Manager, Halifax Home Insurance, said:**

“Glastonbury may be taking a break this year, but opportunistic pick-pockets will still be active, using festivals as the perfect place to pounce on party-goers.

“We're more reliant than ever on our phones now, from taking that all-important selfie, to finding friends, to making payments. So losing your mobile or having it stolen can really put a dampener on events.

“Staying vigilant, and having the right level of cover in place should the worst happen, means that festival-goers can focus on having fun instead of worrying about lost or stolen items.”

### **Halifax Home Insurance is offering top tips to festival-goers to stay safe this summer:**

1. **Go retro:** consider taking an old pay-as-you-go mobile instead of your smartphone. The battery will last longer, and will be less costly if lost or stolen.
2. **Back it up:** if you do have to take a smartphone, make sure it is insured and backed up, especially for things such as photos which are priceless if lost.
3. **Cash withdrawal:** only take as much cash as you need, and keep it close to you to avoid it getting stolen.
4. **Tag it:** mark up your belongings with your name and postcode. Some festivals also provide UV pens for tagging valuables. Avoid taking any unnecessary valuables with you, and don't leave them unattended in empty tents and cars.
5. **Snap it:** take pictures of your valuables and store them on a device that you'll be leaving at home. Immediately report anything lost or stolen to the police and ask for a crime reference number as your insurer will require this if you need to claim.
6. **Hide it:** store valuable belongings in the bottom of your sleeping bag when going to sleep.

**ENDS**

# PRESS RELEASE



## Editors' Notes:

**\*Based on in-house claims data between 2016 and 2017:** 113 and 149 claims in 2016 and 2017 for stolen phones. 187 and 226 claims in 2016 and 2017 for lost phones. 689 and 785 claims in 2016 and 2017 for theft of cash.

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Personal belongings away from home cover is an optional extra. Limits, terms and exclusions apply.

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