

## Piknic Electronik Montreal 2026: Schedule, Tickets & Guide

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### Executive Summary

Piknic Électronik returns to **Parc Jean-Drapeau** in Montreal for its 2026 season, running from **May 17 to October 18, 2026** (Source: [piknicelectronik.com](https://piknicelectronik.com)), with the Sunday series alone staging **over 30 events** across two redesigned outdoor stages (Source: [ra.co](https://ra.co)) (Source: [ra.co](https://ra.co)). Local outlet Cult MTL describes 2026 as the festival's "**23rd annual edition**" (Source: [cultmtl.com](https://cultmtl.com)), and the festival now operates under four formats: the free-flowing **Piknic** Sunday series, the headliner-driven **Off Piknic** Friday and Saturday evening concerts, the free family-oriented **Petit Piknic** afternoons, and the paid **PikNYX Terrace** upgrade tier. Regular Piknic general admission starts at **\$24**, with a Season Pass from **\$169** covering the Sunday series only, while Off Piknic general admission starts at **\$37** (Source: [piknicelectronik.com](https://piknicelectronik.com)) (Source: [piknicelectronik.com](https://piknicelectronik.com)).

The 2026 lineup, revealed in full on April 8, 2026, includes Eris Drew, Josh Baker, Daphni, Nia Archives, Jayda G, Egyptian Lover, Eli Brown and Martyn Bootyspoon on Sunday bills (Source: [ra.co](https://ra.co)), while Off Piknic headliners span Steve Aoki, Four Tet, Solomun, Eric Prydz, Chase & Status, Kaskade, Cloonee, Zeds Dead and Black Coffee, plus label takeovers from Defected Records and Anjunadeep (Source: [cultmtl.com](https://cultmtl.com)). Demand has already reshaped the calendar: Black Coffee's original June date sold out, prompting an additional show (Source: [piknicelectronik.com](https://piknicelectronik.com)), and Solomun's May 21 season opener was promoted with a direct reference to a 2024 sellout (Source: [piknicelectronik.com](https://piknicelectronik.com)).

Reaching the site is straightforward: the Jean-Drapeau métro station on the yellow Line 4 sits at the park's center, described by the park authority as giving "quick and easy access to the entire Parc" (Source: [parcjeandrapeau.com](https://parcjeandrapeau.com)). A single STM fare costs **\$3.75** (Source: [stm.info](https://stm.info)), and on-site parking runs from **\$9 per hour to \$23 to \$24 per day**, rising on major event days (Source: [parcjeandrapeau.com](https://parcjeandrapeau.com)). Piknic Électronik shares Parc Jean-Drapeau's summer calendar with [Osheaga](https://osheaga.com) (July 31 to August 2, 2026, general admission from **\$185 CAD**) (Source: [osheaga.com](https://osheaga.com)) and [îLESONIQ](https://ilesoniq.com) (August 8 to 9, 2026) (Source: [evenko.ca](https://evenko.ca)), while the [Festival International de Jazz de Montréal](https://montrealjazzfest.com) runs nearby in the Quartier des Spectacles from June 25 to July 4, 2026 with free outdoor programming (Source: [montrealjazzfest.com](https://montrealjazzfest.com)).

Founded in 2003 by four friends, Pascal Lefebvre, Nicolas Cournoyer, Michel Quintal and Louis-David Loyer, to move electronic dance music out of nightclubs and into a public park (Source: [piknicelectronik.com](https://piknicelectronik.com)), the festival had drawn close to 1.5 million attendees by 2023 (Source: [piknicelectronik.com](https://piknicelectronik.com)) and recorded single-year attendance of 178,000 in 2022 according to Wikipedia's sourced infobox (Source: [en.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org)).

One of the four founders later recalled that the original team "thought we would get 2000 to 3000 people max," a striking contrast with the six-figure attendance the festival now draws each season (Source: [vice.com](https://www.vice.com)). This report synthesizes the official 2026 schedule, pricing, transportation, site rules and comparative festival landscape into a single planning reference, and, given the audience of Montreal-based professionals and visiting business travelers, also notes that flexible day-use workspace, such as the [hot desks](https://www.hotdesks.com) and [meeting rooms](https://www.meetingrooms.com) offered by Montreal coworking operators like 2727 Coworking, is a practical complement for anyone extending a summer visit around a Piknic Électronik weekend (Source: [2727coworking.com](https://2727coworking.com)).

## Introduction and Background

Montreal's summer festival calendar is dense, but few entries have the longevity or the specific format of Piknic Électronik, the weekly outdoor electronic music series that has occupied Parc Jean-Drapeau every warm season since 2003 (Source: [en.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org)). One of the festival's co-founders described the original impulse behind the event this way in a 2014 interview: "in the late 1990s and beginning of the 2000s, Montreal's electronic music scene exploded," and the group wanted an alternative to the "after hours vibe in dark, smoky venues" that dominated the city's club circuit at the time (Source: [vice.com](https://www.vice.com)). The stated goal, in the founders' own words, was "a healthier option open for everybody, including families, to enjoy our too short of a summer" (Source: [vice.com](https://www.vice.com)).

Unlike a single-weekend festival such as Osheaga or ÎLESNIQ, Piknic Électronik unfolds across roughly five months, mixing free-form Sunday afternoon parties with ticketed evening concerts and free family programming, all inside the same island park in the Saint Lawrence River just east of downtown (Source: [piknicelectronik.com](https://piknicelectronik.com)). For 2026, Resident Advisor's coverage of the official season announcement confirmed a run "from May 17th to October 18th in Parc Jean-Drapeau," with the full artist roster unveiled on April 8, 2026, and reported that the Sunday series alone would stage more than 30 events across two stages "slightly redesigned this year to provide more shade and better sound quality" (Source: [ra.co](https://ra.co)) (Source: [ra.co](https://ra.co)).

This guide answers the practical questions a prospective attendee, whether a Montreal resident or a visitor timing a trip around the festival, is likely to have: what the 2026 schedule and lineup look like, how much tickets cost across the festival's several tiers, how to reach Parc Jean-Drapeau without a car, what the site rules and accessibility provisions are, and how Piknic Électronik compares to the other major events that share the same park later in the summer, including Osheaga and ÎLESNIQ. As of this report's July 15, 2026 publication date, the season is roughly two months into its run, with the bulk of the Off Piknic headliner calendar (Kaskade, Cloonee, Zeds Dead) still to come and several Sunday dates already passed.

For readers weighing whether to prioritize the free-flowing Sunday series or a specific Off Piknic headliner date, this report is organized so that the Format section below can be read as a standalone primer, while the Tickets and Getting to Parc Jean-Drapeau sections that follow are written to double as a checklist in the days immediately before a visit. Attendees planning multiple visits across the season, whether chasing a specific artist across several dates or simply making Piknic Électronik a recurring Sunday habit, should pay particular attention to the Season Pass economics laid out in Table 1, since the math only favors a pass over single tickets once an attendee plans to attend a meaningful number of regular-series dates in a given summer.

Because Montreal draws both festival tourists and business travelers during the summer months, this report also situates Piknic Électronik within the city's broader summer economy, including a brief look at flexible coworking options such as 2727 Coworking's Griffintown location, which offers day-rate hot desks and bookable conference rooms, a relevant detail for anyone stretching a Piknic Électronik weekend into a working week in Montreal (Source: [2727coworking.com](https://2727coworking.com)).

## Format, Site, and Season Structure

Piknic Électronik is not a single event but a family of related formats, all staged at Parc Jean-Drapeau and operated by the Montreal event company Multicolore, which also produces Igloofest, the MEG festival and Super Fête (Source: [piknicelectronik.com](https://piknicelectronik.com)). Distinguishing the formats matters because their pricing, audience and calendar rhythm differ substantially, and conflating them is the single most common source of confusion for first-time attendees comparing ticket prices online.

- **Piknic** (the "regular" or Sunday series): the original format, typically running Sunday afternoons and select holiday Mondays, with a lineup skewing toward house, techno and emerging local and international DJs across the **FIZZ Stage** and the **National Bank Stage**. General admission starts at **\$24** (full pricing detail in the Tickets section below).
- **Off Piknic**: a "concert spin-off of the regular Piknic Sunday gatherings," staged on Fridays and Saturdays "from late afternoon to dusk" and built around bigger, more headliner-driven bookings and label takeovers (Source: [piknicelectronik.com](https://piknicelectronik.com)). General admission starts at **\$37**.
- **Petit Piknic**: free, family-oriented programming on select afternoons, aimed at children with age-appropriate DJs, games and noise-cancelling headphones, generally scheduled around noon into the early afternoon, ahead of the regular Piknic start time on the same day (Source: [en.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org)). The July 5, 2026 edition, for example, opened with **DJ Hi Chew at 2:00 p.m.** on the National Bank Stage (Source: [piknicelectronik.com](https://piknicelectronik.com)).

- **PikNYX Terrace** and **Club Air Transat**: paid upgrade tiers layered onto either Piknic or Off Piknic admission, offering express entry, a dedicated terrace near the FIZZ Stage, and private washrooms; Club Air Transat is available "exclusively for specific Offs" rather than the full calendar, and is priced on request.

The 2026 season occupies **Jardin Le Petit Prince**, a section of Parc Jean-Drapeau the festival moved to for its 20th-anniversary edition in 2023, described in the organizers' own announcement as putting Piknic "closer to its original site... just a few steps from the metro station" (Source: [piknicelectronik.com](http://piknicelectronik.com)). Speaking about the choice of Parc Jean-Drapeau itself back in 2014, co-founder Nicolas Cournoyer said simply, "the park has a huge impact on Piknic's vibe," crediting a chance visit by co-founder Pascal Lefebvre with the original idea to hold an event there (Source: [vice.com](http://vice.com)). Wikipedia's independent description of the site notes "an area in the centre with picnic tables to eat, drink as well as an outdoor volleyball court near the smaller stage," a layout that has carried over into the current Jardin Le Petit Prince footprint, and adds that "while bicycles are not allowed on site, there are bike locking stations available outside the site" (Source: [en.wikipedia.org](http://en.wikipedia.org)) (Source: [en.wikipedia.org](http://en.wikipedia.org)). Corporate sponsorship has also evolved over the festival's run: Wikipedia notes that "in past years, Vidéotron and National Bank of Canada have sponsored the event," and National Bank remains a stage-naming sponsor in the 2026 season (Source: [en.wikipedia.org](http://en.wikipedia.org)).

Schedule times vary by month and by which of the four formats is running on a given date. The regular Sunday Piknic series most often runs from **4:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.**, though early- and late-season Sundays close at 8:00 or 9:00 p.m. and holiday Mondays extend to 10:00 p.m., according to Parc Jean-Drapeau's own event calendar (Source: [parcjeandrapeau.com](http://parcjeandrapeau.com)). Off Piknic evenings generally run from **5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.**, with some early-summer Fridays extending from 4:00 p.m. (Source: [parcjeandrapeau.com](http://parcjeandrapeau.com)).

## 2026 Schedule, Stages, and Lineup Highlights

The 2026 programming, revealed in full on April 8, 2026, spans more than five months and dozens of individual show dates. Resident Advisor's coverage of the announcement listed the Sunday-series headline names as **Eris Drew, Josh Baker, Daphni, Tali Rose, Nia Archives, DJ SWISHA, Prospa, Jayda G, Livwutang, Egyptian Lover, Eli Brown and Martyn Bootyspoon** (Source: [ra.co](http://ra.co)), while Cult MTL's independent report on the same drop added **Dombresky, Chus & Ceballos, Misstress Barbara, Worakls and Cloudy** to the list of confirmed Sunday acts (Source: [cultmtl.com](http://cultmtl.com)). The season's Sunday opener itself, on May 17, paired a back-to-back set from TDJ and MRD with a supporting bill of Jordan Gardner, Syana, Pria and Zac Martel, according to Resident Advisor's own event listing (Source: [ra.co](http://ra.co)). Resident Advisor's listings also independently confirm a May 31 bill headlined by Dombresky alongside Arielle Roberge, newfriend and CPR Annie (Source: [ra.co](http://ra.co)) and a June 28 bill built around Jayda G, Ash Lauryn, Bea Hardy, DJ SWISHA, Felix Patry and Teykirisi (Source: [ra.co](http://ra.co)). Tourism Montreal's own festival page singles out Misstress Barbara and Martyn Bootyspoon as "Montréal mainstays" on the 2026 bill, alongside rising local names Arielle Roberge and Priori and international bookings Prospa, Nia Archives, Jayda G and Dombresky (Source: [mtl.org](http://mtl.org)).

Off Piknic's Friday and Saturday bill is built around larger international headliners and full label takeovers. Cult MTL's report identified **Steve Aoki, Four Tet, Eric Prydz, Zeds Dead, Chase & Status and Solomun**, alongside takeovers from British label **Defected Records** and trance-adjacent imprint **Anjunadeep** (Source: [cultmtl.com](http://cultmtl.com)). Resident Advisor's own event listings independently confirm several of these dates, including Eric Prydz's May 29 show alongside Qrion and Laure, Chase & Status's June 12 date with Delta Heavy and Honeydrip, and the June 5 Defected takeover headlined by Purple Disco Machine alongside Arielle Free and Edd (Source: [ra.co](http://ra.co)) (Source: [ra.co](http://ra.co)) (Source: [ra.co](http://ra.co)). Later additions include Kaskade, who "joins the Off Piknic lineup" on July 18 alongside CID, Wes Mills and TIZI (Source: [piknicelectronik.com](http://piknicelectronik.com)), and Cloonee's "Hellbent"-branded July 11 show (Source: [piknicelectronik.com](http://piknicelectronik.com)). Homepage schedule data captured in mid-July 2026 also shows Steve Aoki's June 13 "Dim Mak 30" tour stop, part of the label's 30th-anniversary run, and confirms that Black Coffee's original June 23 FIZZ Stage date was marked "SOLD OUT" on the ticketing page before an additional date was added (Source: [piknicelectronik.com](http://piknicelectronik.com)).

Every show date carries a fixed running order across the two stages, typically starting local support around 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. and building toward a headline set between 7:30 and 8:30 p.m. This tiered, sponsor-branded showcase structure, in which each date is billed under a themed banner such as "Anjunadeep," "Journey of a Lifetime" or "Sweet Like Honey," repeats across the season and is a useful cue for attendees trying to match a specific sub-genre or crew to a given date. Tourism Montreal describes the overall booking philosophy as one that blends "classic electro beats with trending sounds," a mix reflected in each individual date's pairing of an established headliner with rising local support (Source: [mtl.org](http://mtl.org)). Co-founder Michel Quintal described the same philosophy in more operational terms back in 2014: "the diversity of the line-up reflects the diverse listening habits of our programming team," a booking approach he said was never organized strictly by genre (Source: [vice.com](http://vice.com)). Speaking in the same interview about the importance of local crews specifically, Quintal put it plainly: "these crews are the heart of Montreal. They make Montreal groove," a philosophy that still shows up in the National Bank Stage's local-leaning bookings in 2026 (Source: [vice.com](http://vice.com)).

Petit Piknic dates run in parallel with select Sunday Piknic shows, using the National Bank Stage earlier in the day, and Tourism Montreal's coverage confirms Petit Piknic includes "an activity zone just for kids," reinforcing that families are an explicit part of the festival's target audience rather than an afterthought (Source: [mtl.org](http://mtl.org)).

## Tickets, Passes, and Pricing

Piknic Électronik sells tickets through its own platform rather than a third-party marketplace, and prices vary meaningfully by format and tier. Wikipedia's summary of the ticketing process notes that "people may reserve seats ahead of time to avoid long lines," and that, once on site, "there will are also ATM machines nearby" for attendees who did not buy in advance (Source: [en.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org)) (Source: [en.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org)). Table 1 below summarizes the pass and ticket categories published on the official passes-and-tickets page, as captured in this report's research session.

| PASS / TICKET                       | FORMAT                       | WHAT IT INCLUDES                                                                                                                                                                                    | STARTING PRICE                                                                         |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Season Pass</b>                  | Piknic (regular series only) | Access to all regular Piknic Électronik 2026 series; explicitly excludes Off Piknic (Source: <a href="https://piknicelectronik.com">piknicelectronik.com</a> )                                      | From <b>\$169</b> , listed as a reduced price valid until the full lineup announcement |
| <b>General Admission</b>            | Piknic                       | Access to the event of your choice during the regular season, bar and food-truck access, entry to Jardin Le Petit Prince (Source: <a href="https://piknicelectronik.com">piknicelectronik.com</a> ) | From <b>\$24</b>                                                                       |
| <b>General Admission (5+)</b>       | Piknic                       | Group discount, 20 percent off, valid for the same day up to seven days ahead                                                                                                                       | From <b>\$19.20</b> per ticket                                                         |
| <b>PikNYX Terrace</b>               | Piknic                       | Express entry, exclusive terrace near the FIZZ Stage, private bathrooms and dedicated bars                                                                                                          | From <b>\$50</b>                                                                       |
| <b>Off Piknic General Admission</b> | Off Piknic                   | Access to the Off Piknic event of your choice, bars and food trucks (Source: <a href="https://piknicelectronik.com">piknicelectronik.com</a> )                                                      | From <b>\$37</b>                                                                       |
| <b>Off PikNYX Terrace</b>           | Off Piknic                   | Same terrace benefits as the regular-season tier, applied to Off Piknic dates                                                                                                                       | From <b>\$92</b>                                                                       |
| <b>Club Air Transat</b>             | Select Off Piknic dates only | Prime Fizz Stage views, express entry, dedicated bar, reserved washrooms                                                                                                                            | Price not published; contact required for bottle service                               |

Table 1 shows that the pricing structure rewards planning ahead in two distinct ways: the Season Pass locks in regular-series access at a rate the festival itself frames as temporary, and group tickets of five or more shave 20 percent off the per-ticket general admission price. It also shows the clearest single price gap in the system, the roughly \$13 to \$18 premium Off Piknic commands over the regular Piknic series at every comparable tier, which tracks with Off Piknic's more headliner-driven, marquee-artist booking strategy described in the format section above. Ticket prices are volatile in the way most live-event pricing is: individual Off Piknic dates can sell out and reopen at different price points, as happened with Black Coffee's June 2026 shows, so readers should verify current pricing before purchase, particularly for high-demand dates later in the season.

For context, Piknic Électronik's per-visit pricing sits well below the region's larger multi-day festivals: Osheaga's 2026 single-day general admission ticket starts at **\$185 CAD**, taxes and fees included, for one of its three festival days at the same park, sold under the same "rain or shine, the show must go on" policy that governs Piknic Électronik itself, and the festival also offers a Klarna installment option splitting the ticket cost into four interest-free payments for Canadian cardholders (Source: [osheaga.com](https://osheaga.com)) (Source: [osheaga.com](https://osheaga.com)) (Source: [osheaga.com](https://osheaga.com)). That comparison is developed further in the Data Analysis section below.

## Getting to Parc Jean-Drapeau

Parc Jean-Drapeau occupies **Sainte-Hélène and Notre-Dame islands** in the Saint Lawrence River, within Montreal's Ville-Marie borough, connected to the mainland by the Jacques-Cartier and Concorde bridges (Source: [parcjeandrapeau.com](https://parcjeandrapeau.com)). The park authority's own guidance is unambiguous about the preferred mode: "taking the subway is still the best way to come to Parc Jean-Drapeau" (Source: [parcjeandrapeau.com](https://parcjeandrapeau.com)). The event-specific page on the same authority's site repeats the point in its rates disclaimer: "the best way to come to the Parc: public transit and active transportation!" (Source: [parcjeandrapeau.com](https://parcjeandrapeau.com)). Wikipedia's independent summary of the site confirms the same point from the visitor's side: "the site is located within

walking distance of Metro Jean-Drapeau on the yellow line" (Source: [en.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org)). On the ground, the métro's subway exits open directly onto Espace 67, the central concourse from which the festival grounds are reached on foot, according to the park authority's own description of the station layout (Source: [parcjeandrapeau.com](https://parcjeandrapeau.com)).

- **Métro:** The **Jean-Drapeau station** sits on Line 4 (the Yellow Line) and "crosses the Saint Lawrence River between the island of Montréal and the City of Longueuil," placing riders steps from the festival entrance (Source: [parcjeandrapeau.com](https://parcjeandrapeau.com)). A single fare costs **\$3.75** regular, or **\$2.75** for riders aged 6 to 17 or 65 and older with a photo OPUS card (Source: [stm.info](https://stm.info)) (Source: [stm.info](https://stm.info)). Fare inspectors do patrol the system, and riders without proof of payment face "a fine of up to \$500 (plus costs)," so it is worth validating an OPUS card or ticket before boarding (Source: [stm.info](https://stm.info)).
- **STM shuttle bus 777:** Runs year-round between the métro station and the Casino de Montréal, and "since June 19, 2023, the 777 bus line is extended to downtown Montreal," making it a direct option for visitors staying centrally (Source: [parcjeandrapeau.com](https://parcjeandrapeau.com)). This bus is also the accessible route into the festival site itself, and is wheelchair accessible (Source: [piknicelectronik.com](https://piknicelectronik.com)). For visitors without an OPUS card, a reservable taxibus service is also available: "you can reserve a taxi for your travels at the Parc by using a valid STM transport fare" (Source: [parcjeandrapeau.com](https://parcjeandrapeau.com)).
- **River shuttle:** A seasonal boat service connects Old Montreal's Jacques-Cartier pier and the City of Longueuil to the park during the summer, with bicycle transport permitted (Source: [parcjeandrapeau.com](https://parcjeandrapeau.com)).
- **Bicycle and micromobility:** The park is one of the only places to cross the Saint Lawrence River on a bike, via the Jacques Cartier Bridge, the Concorde Bridge, or the Promenade fluviale du Grand Montréal (Source: [parcjeandrapeau.com](https://parcjeandrapeau.com)). Seasonal BIXI bike-share docks operate on site, with "several stations... located at the Parc during the summer season" (Source: [parcjeandrapeau.com](https://parcjeandrapeau.com)), and a self-serve electric scooter rental service is also offered for getting around once inside the park (Source: [parcjeandrapeau.com](https://parcjeandrapeau.com)).
- **Car:** Drivers reach the park via "the Jacques Cartier bridge or the Concorde bridge (Bonaventure Expressway, Pierre-Dupuy exit)" (Source: [parcjeandrapeau.com](https://parcjeandrapeau.com)). The parkwide speed limit is **30 km/h**, "even on Circuit Gilles-Villeneuve" (Source: [parcjeandrapeau.com](https://parcjeandrapeau.com)).

Table 2 below compares the main transportation options by approximate one-way or session cost, based on the fare and parking figures cited above.

| MODE                                         | APPROXIMATE COST                                                  | NOTES                                                                                                                                                              |
|----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>STM métro (regular fare)</b>              | \$3.75 one-way (Source: <a href="https://stm.info">stm.info</a> ) | Direct to Jean-Drapeau station, Line 4 (Yellow)                                                                                                                    |
| <b>STM métro (reduced fare, 6-17 or 65+)</b> | \$2.75 one-way                                                    | Requires photo OPUS card                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>777 bus from downtown</b>                 | Included in standard STM fare                                     | Extended to downtown Montreal since June 19, 2023                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Parking, 1 hour</b>                       | \$9 regular / \$11 on major event days                            | Rates include taxes (Source: <a href="https://parcjeandrapeau.com">parcjeandrapeau.com</a> )                                                                       |
| <b>Parking, daily (weekday)</b>              | \$23 regular / \$40 on major event days                           | Event rates apply to "sporting events... major events... [and] La Ronde operating period" (Source: <a href="https://parcjeandrapeau.com">parcjeandrapeau.com</a> ) |
| <b>Parking, daily (weekend)</b>              | \$24 regular / \$40 on major event days                           | Same source                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>BIXI bike-share</b>                       | Per-ride or membership pricing, seasonal docks on site            | Seasonal docks located at the Parc, as detailed in the bullet list above                                                                                           |

The comparison in Table 2 underscores why the park authority steers visitors toward transit: a round-trip métro fare (\$7.50 regular) undercuts even the cheapest one-hour parking session, and event-day parking surcharges (\$40 flat versus \$23 to \$24 on non-event days) apply specifically to major events and sporting events, a category that plausibly captures the busier Off Piknic headliner dates. For anyone extending a Piknic Électronik trip into a working week, it is also worth noting that Montreal coworking locations near transit, such as 2727 Coworking in Griffintown, market themselves as "steps from Charlevoix metro and the Canal Lachine," which is a comparable transit-first logic applied to daytime work rather than evening entertainment (Source: [2727coworking.com](https://2727coworking.com)).

## Site Rules, Accessibility, and What to Bring

Piknic Électronik publishes a standard set of site rules that apply across all four formats. Per Wikipedia's sourced summary of the festival's own rules and FAQ page, "bringing drugs or consuming narcotics is strictly prohibited," the event is open to all ages though "alcohol may not be served to anybody under the legal age," and "besides identified MIRA dogs, animals are forbidden from the venue" (Source: [en.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org)) (Source: [en.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org)). Attendees also may not bring their own instruments onto the site, and the festival "does not allow anybody to sell, sample or hand-out promotional items" without authorization (Source: [en.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org)).

On outside alcohol and food specifically, Tourism Montreal's own coverage confirms that "bringing your own alcohol isn't allowed on site," while packing personal snacks is explicitly encouraged, and food options on site range from healthy whole foods to casse-croûte classics such as burgers and poutine (Source: [mtl.org](https://mtl.org)).

**Accessibility.** The festival describes itself as "an event accessible to people with reduced mobility," and directs attendees who need accommodation to Customer Service at the site entrance to upgrade a General Admission pass to a PikNYX Terrace pass at no extra charge, which also grants free entry for a companion (Source: [piknicelectronik.com](https://piknicelectronik.com)). Wikipedia's independent summary adds that "there are accessible restrooms as well," though it also notes there is "no specifically reserved area" for wheelchair users within the general festival grounds (Source: [en.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org)). The recommended accessible route into the site is the 777 bus, which is wheelchair accessible, though the Jean-Drapeau métro station itself does not have an elevator, a genuine gap between the two access modes that attendees with mobility needs should plan around.

**Sustainability.** The festival has run sustainability commitments since its founding. Wikipedia's independent summary states that "Piknic Électronik is committed to acting in a green manner" and lists "a presence on sustainable development initiatives and social reintegration programs" among its stated commitments, alongside a reusable cup program and dishware that is "either recyclable or compostable" (Source: [en.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org)) (Source: [en.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org)) (Source: [en.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org)). Tourism Montreal's page adds that the site includes "reusable cups and recyclable or compostable dishes, a compost bin, and a water fountain for refilling (non-glass) water bottles," and that ticket buyers can direct a donation to an ecological project at checkout (Source: [mtl.org](https://mtl.org)). Speaking about the origins of that commitment, co-founder Nicolas Cournoyer said in 2014 that "it's part of the DNA and the philosophy of the organization," pointing to the festival's early adoption of a cup deposit-and-return system as proof the policy predates it becoming an industry norm (Source: [vice.com](https://vice.com)).

**What to pack.** Because the festival is outdoors and runs rain or shine, weather is a real planning variable. Montreal's July daily high temperatures "are around 78°F, rarely falling below 69°F or exceeding 87°F" (roughly 20.5°C to 30.5°C), and daily lows climb from about 62°F to 64°F over the month, according to long-run climate averages, meaning sun protection is generally more relevant than heavy rain gear for peak-summer dates, though evenings can turn cool enough to warrant a light layer (Source: [weatherspark.com](https://weatherspark.com)) (Source: [weatherspark.com](https://weatherspark.com)). Non-glass reusable water bottles are refillable on site, bicycles are welcome via designated locking stations outside the fenced festival area, and restrooms are available at multiple points including a sanitary block near the site entrance in addition to Terrace-tier private facilities. Asked for advice for a first-time attendee, co-founder Michel Quintal offered a characteristically simple answer: "come with an open mind. No high heels. Smile. Enjoy." (Source: [vice.com](https://vice.com)). Beyond clothing and footwear, attendees should also plan for the practical rhythms of a long outdoor day: lines at bars and restrooms tend to cluster in the twenty to thirty minutes before a marquee headliner's set time, and a portable phone charger is a common-sense addition for anyone planning to stay through a full FIZZ Stage closing set on an Off Piknic evening.

## Data Analysis and Evidence

Piknic Électronik's scale and pricing are best understood against the wider ecosystem of Montreal summer events at, and near, Parc Jean-Drapeau. *Table 3* compares the major festivals sharing the park's summer calendar in 2026, using each event's own published dates and entry-level pricing where available.

| FESTIVAL                                          | 2026 DATES                                                                                                                               | VENUE                                           | ENTRY-LEVEL PRICING                                                                                                                |
|---------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Piknic Électronik (regular series)</b>         | May 17 to October 18, 2026, weekly<br>Sundays plus select Mondays                                                                        | Jardin Le Petit Prince, Parc Jean-Drapeau       | GA from \$24; Season Pass from \$169                                                                                               |
| <b>Off Piknic</b>                                 | Fridays and Saturdays within the same window, dozens of dates (Source: <a href="https://piknicelectronik.com">piknicelectronik.com</a> ) | Same site                                       | GA from \$37                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Festival International de Jazz de Montréal</b> | June 25 to July 4, 2026 (Source: <a href="https://montrealjazzfest.com">montrealjazzfest.com</a> )                                       | Quartier des Spectacles (not Parc Jean-Drapeau) | Outdoor site and concerts free (Source: <a href="https://montrealjazzfest.com">montrealjazzfest.com</a> )                          |
| <b>Osheaga Music and Arts Festival</b>            | July 31 to August 2, 2026 (Source: <a href="https://mtl.org">mtl.org</a> )                                                               | Parc Jean-Drapeau                               | Single-day GA from \$185 CAD (Source: <a href="https://osheaga.com">osheaga.com</a> )                                              |
| <b>ÎLESONIQ</b>                                   | August 8 to 9, 2026 (August 7 city events) (Source: <a href="https://evenko.ca">evenko.ca</a> )                                          | Parc Jean-Drapeau                               | Single-day tickets on sale; regular ticket via evenko (Source: <a href="https://ilesoniq.com">ilesoniq.com</a> )                   |
| <b>L'International des Feux Loto-Québec</b>       | July 2 to August 6, 2026 (Source: <a href="https://mtl.org">mtl.org</a> )                                                                | La Ronde, Parc Jean-Drapeau                     | Included with La Ronde admission or viewable free from the Jacques-Cartier Bridge (Source: <a href="https://mtl.org">mtl.org</a> ) |
| <b>Festival International Nuits d'Afrique</b>     | July 7 to 19, 2026 (Source: <a href="https://festivalnuitsdafrique.com">festivalnuitsdafrique.com</a> )                                  | Quartier des Spectacles and Saint-Hubert        | Outdoor programming free; indoor concerts ticketed                                                                                 |
| <b>Fierté Montréal Festival</b>                   | July 31 to August 9, 2026, marking its 20th anniversary                                                                                  | Village and various venues                      | Free shows and community programming (Source: <a href="https://fiertemontreal.com">fiertemontreal.com</a> )                        |

The pattern in Table 3 is that Piknic Électronik and Off Piknic occupy the accessible, high-frequency end of the market, weekly or near-weekly events priced well under \$50 for standard entry, while Osheaga and ÎLESONIQ are single-weekend, higher-production festivals priced closer to \$185 and up per day. Jazz Fest, Nuits d'Afrique and Fierté Montréal, none of them staged inside Parc Jean-Drapeau, are the clearest counterpoint: their core outdoor programming is free, and the Jazz Festival specifically notes that "all food kiosks and boutiques are now equipped with a payment terminal that accepts credit cards and debit cards," a small operational detail that nonetheless signals its scale as a cashless, high-throughput event distinct from Piknic Électronik's smaller weekly footprint (Source: [montrealjazzfest.com](https://montrealjazzfest.com)). Tourism Montreal's guide frames this density of festivals as part of what makes Montreal's "summer festival season... hotter than ever" for 2026 in aggregate (Source: [mtl.org](https://mtl.org)). Nuits d'Afrique, marking its 40th anniversary in 2026, describes itself as having, "for four decades... made the heart of Montreal beat to the rhythm of Africa, the Caribbean and Latin America," a scale of institutional history matched among Montreal's summer events only by Piknic Électronik's own 23-plus seasons (Source: [festivalnuitsdafrique.com](https://festivalnuitsdafrique.com)). Fierté Montréal, similarly, is "committed to make its programming as accessible as possible so that everyone can fully enjoy the festival," an accessibility framing that parallels Piknic Électronik's own PikNYX Terrace accommodations described in the Site Rules section above (Source: [fiertemontreal.com](https://fiertemontreal.com)). Elsewhere on that same summer calendar, comedy institution Just For Laughs, running July 15 to 26, 2026, makes a similar claim to scale, with Tourism Montreal calling it "not just the world's biggest comedy festival," but "quite clearly also the best," illustrating how crowded and competitive Montreal's July and August festival slate has become around Piknic Électronik's steadier weekly rhythm (Source: [mtl.org](https://mtl.org)).

On attendance, the most recent independently sourced figure available is Wikipedia's cited infobox entry of **178,000 attendees in 2022** (Source: [en.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org)), up from **112,000 in 2017** and **129,243 in 2018**, the year the festival marked its one-millionth cumulative visitor since 2003 (Source: [en.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org)) (Source: [en.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org)). The organizers' own 2023 press release, marking the 20th anniversary, put cumulative lifetime attendance at close to 1.5 million festival-goers since 2003, a figure already introduced in the Executive Summary above and one this report has not seen updated for 2026. Both the 178,000 (2022) and 1.5 million (cumulative, 2023) figures should be read as the most recent verifiable data points rather than current-season counts.

Comparing this year's entry-level pricing to the festival's own history is difficult because Piknic Électronik does not publish a historical ticket-price archive, and none of the sources consulted for this report contained a multi-year price series; the \$24 general-admission figure and \$169 Season Pass figure captured here should therefore be treated strictly as the 2026 season's own numbers rather than as data points in a longer pricing trend. That is a genuine limitation worth flagging for readers who want to track whether Piknic Électronik has kept pace with, or fallen behind, the broader rise in Montreal festival ticket prices evident in Osheaga's and ÎLESONIQ's own pricing, which this report was likewise only able to verify for the current 2026 season rather than across multiple years.

One genuine discrepancy surfaced during research concerns the festival's international expansion timeline. The organizers' own "About" page states that "in 2012, the first Piknic Électronik kicked off in Barcelona, followed by Melbourne and Dubai in 2014 and Santiago Chile in 2015 and Paris in 2019" (Source: [piknicelectronik.com](http://piknicelectronik.com)), while Wikipedia's infobox and body text date the Barcelona expansion to 2013 and additionally list Austin, Texas as hosting an annual edition since 2018, a city the official About page does not currently mention (Source: [en.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org)). Vice's 2014 interview with two of the founders adds yet another layer of nuance, quoting co-founder Nicolas Cournoyer describing the expansion as still in motion at the time: "the idea to expand had been on our minds for a long time" before the Barcelona launch materialized through a personal connection (Source: [vice.com](http://www.vice.com)). Taken together, these sources agree that the Montreal original has spawned a genuine international franchise but disagree on the exact roster and launch years of individual cities, likely reflecting the fact that some international editions have since paused or changed operators; this report presents the discrepancy rather than resolving it in favor of any single source.

## Case Studies and Real-World Examples

**Solomon's May 21, 2026 Off Piknic season opener.** The Croatian-German DJ opened the 2026 Off Piknic calendar on Victoria Day weekend, with support from Molyneux, and the festival's own promotional copy explicitly referenced prior demand, urging fans to act "after a sold-out in 2024," the same warning quoted in the Executive Summary above (Source: [ra.co](http://ra.co)) (Source: [piknicelectronik.com](http://piknicelectronik.com)). The show used a staggered release: presale opened Thursday, March 19 at 11 a.m. ET, with general sale following the next morning (Source: [piknicelectronik.com](http://piknicelectronik.com)). This is a representative case of how the festival manages its highest-demand Off Piknic bookings: early presale windows tied to fan-registration platforms, timed months ahead of the actual show date.

**Black Coffee's June 2026 sellout and added date.** The South African DJ's original June 23, 2026 FIZZ Stage booking sold out, visible directly on the festival's homepage schedule where the date is marked "SOLD OUT" (Source: [piknicelectronik.com](http://piknicelectronik.com)). The organizers responded by adding a second date, announced through a dedicated news post titled "Black Coffee @ Off Piknic - Additional date" (Source: [piknicelectronik.com](http://piknicelectronik.com)). This is a concrete, dated example of the festival's capacity to expand its own calendar mid-season in response to real-time ticket demand, rather than fixing the full schedule at the April lineup announcement.

**Four Tet's return on June 26, 2026.** Cult MTL's lineup coverage flagged Four Tet among the marquee Off Piknic names for 2026 (Source: [cultmtl.com](http://cultmtl.com)), and Resident Advisor's independent event listing for the June 26 Friday date tracked a comparatively large audience relative to most other individual Off Piknic listings in the same dataset, a rough but useful signal of anticipated demand relative to other dates in the season (Source: [ra.co](http://ra.co)).

**The 2023 relocation to Jardin Le Petit Prince.** For its 20th-anniversary season, the festival moved its physical site within Parc Jean-Drapeau, describing the change in its own press materials as a return to a site "closer to its original site... just a few steps from the metro station," a quote already introduced in the Format section above (Source: [piknicelectronik.com](http://piknicelectronik.com)). Three years later, the 2026 season continues to run from that same location, and Resident Advisor's 2026 coverage reports stage redesign work aimed specifically at improving shade and sound at that site, evidence that the 2023 relocation was treated as a durable, multi-year site decision rather than a one-off anniversary gesture (Source: [ra.co](http://ra.co)).

**Rainy-day sets as a recurring festival tradition.** Multiple named editions illustrate that Piknic Électronik markets itself as a rain-or-shine event rather than one that cancels for weather. Asked in 2014 to name the top all-time Piknic moments, co-founder Michel Quintal cited a specific run of rain-soaked sets: "Tiga in 2014, Guy Gerber in 2013, Josh Wink in 2009, and Paul Kalkbrenner in 2010," describing how those rainy moments bring the crowd together in a way that has become part of festival lore (Source: [vice.com](http://www.vice.com)). The Site Rules section's packing guidance above reflects the fact that this policy has not changed in the current season: the festival is a rain-or-shine event, and attendees should plan accordingly regardless of the forecast on a given Sunday.

## Implications and Future Directions

Several trends in the 2026 season are likely to persist. First, the festival's demonstrated willingness to add dates in response to real-time demand, as with the Black Coffee case above, suggests that attendees planning around a specific headliner should monitor the official schedule for late additions rather than assuming the April lineup announcement is final. Second, the stage redesign work reported by Resident Advisor for 2026, aimed at shade

and sound improvements, signals continued capital investment in the Jardin Le Petit Prince site rather than a search for a new venue, which is a reasonable basis for expecting continuity of location into 2027 and beyond, though this report makes no claim about seasons beyond 2026 that is not directly sourced.

Third, Piknic Électronik's continued positioning as the lower-cost, higher-frequency alternative to single-weekend festivals like Osheaga and ÎLESNIQ appears structurally durable rather than incidental. All three events depend on the same public park and much of the same regional and international touring circuit of electronic and dance acts, yet Piknic Électronik's weekly cadence and sub-\$40 standard entry price keep it accessible to a broader, more locally weighted audience than a \$185-and-up single-day festival ticket allows, a gap the Data Analysis section documents directly. That accessibility is consistent with the founders' original stated intent, described in the Introduction above, to build a healthier, more inclusive alternative rather than a premium, scarcity-driven product.

A related planning implication concerns budget sequencing. Because the Season Pass price is explicitly flagged by the festival as temporary and tied to the lineup announcement cycle, and because Off Piknic tickets for marquee names have historically sold out and reopened at different price points, cost-conscious attendees are generally better served treating the \$24 general-admission Piknic tier as the reliable, predictable baseline for the season and budgeting the Off Piknic premium separately, rather than assuming a single average ticket price will hold across the full five-month calendar.

Finally, for the segment of readers who combine Montreal visits with remote or business work, the density of Parc Jean-Drapeau's summer calendar, Piknic Électronik running alongside Jazz Fest, the Grand Prix-adjacent events, Osheaga and ÎLESNIQ, means summer scheduling pressure on hotel and short-term rental supply is real, and flexible daytime workspace becomes a practical consideration independent of any single event. Coworking operators located outside the immediate festival district, such as 2727 Coworking in Griffintown, offer an alternative for visitors or locals who need a quiet, bookable meeting room or a day desk between evening festival commitments; 2727's own site lists a bookable conference room included at no extra charge and gigabit internet as standard amenities, which is the kind of first-party detail relevant to that specific use case rather than to festival attendance itself (Source: [2727coworking.com](https://2727coworking.com)) (Source: [2727coworking.com](https://2727coworking.com)).

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

**What are the exact 2026 Piknic Électronik dates?** The season runs from May 17 to October 18, 2026, with the regular Piknic series generally on Sundays and select Mondays, and Off Piknic on Fridays and Saturdays within that same window, per Resident Advisor's coverage of the official season announcement, cited in the Introduction above.

**How much do Piknic Électronik tickets cost in 2026?** Regular Piknic general admission starts at \$24, with a Season Pass (regular series only) from \$169; Off Piknic general admission starts at \$37, with a PikNYX Terrace upgrade from \$92, as detailed in Table 1 above.

**Is Piknic Électronik free?** The main Piknic and Off Piknic series are ticketed, but Petit Piknic family programming is free, and children under 12 generally enter the regular series at no charge, per Wikipedia's sourced summary of the ticketing policy (Source: [en.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org)).

**What should I bring to Piknic Électronik?** Comfortable, flat footwear for standing and dancing on grass, sun protection for daytime Sunday dates, a light layer for cooler evenings, a reusable non-glass water bottle for the on-site refill station, and valid photo ID for any alcohol purchase, since bars enforce Quebec's legal drinking age throughout the site.

**Are pets allowed at Piknic Électronik?** No, with the exception of identified MIRA service dogs; other animals are not permitted on the festival grounds (Source: [en.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org)).

**What time does Piknic Électronik start and end?** Regular Sunday shows most commonly run 4:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., with some dates ending at 8:00 or 9:00 p.m. and holiday Mondays extending to 10:00 p.m.; Off Piknic evenings typically run 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., per the Parc Jean-Drapeau event calendar cited in the Format section above.

**What is the difference between Piknic and Off Piknic?** Piknic is the original Sunday-afternoon series with a broader, more local-leaning lineup; Off Piknic is a Friday/Saturday evening spin-off built around bigger international headliners and label takeovers, priced roughly \$13 higher at the general-admission tier.

**How do I get to Parc Jean-Drapeau without a car?** Take the métro to Jean-Drapeau station on the yellow Line 4, or the STM 777 bus, which now runs from downtown Montreal as well as the Casino de Montréal, as detailed in the Getting to Parc Jean-Drapeau section above.

**Is there parking at Parc Jean-Drapeau?** Yes, with rates from \$9 per hour or \$23 to \$24 per day on regular days, rising to \$40 per day on event days, per Table 2 above.

**What other festivals happen at Parc Jean-Drapeau in 2026?** Osheaga (July 31 to August 2) and iLESONIQ (August 8 to 9) both use the same park later in the summer, alongside the ongoing L'International des Feux Loto-Québec fireworks competition at nearby La Ronde, as summarized in Table 3 above.

**Can minors attend Piknic Électronik?** Yes, the event is open to all ages, though alcohol service is restricted to attendees of legal drinking age (Source: [en.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org)).

## Conclusion

Piknic Électronik's 2026 season, running May 17 to October 18 at Parc Jean-Drapeau's Jardin Le Petit Prince site, extends a festival format that has run continuously since 2003 and now spans four distinct tiers: the original Sunday Piknic series, the headliner-driven OfF Piknic evenings, free Petit Piknic family programming, and paid PikNYX Terrace and Club Air Transat upgrades. Pricing remains accessible relative to Montreal's other major summer festivals, with regular Piknic general admission starting at \$24 and OfF Piknic at \$37, well under the \$185-and-up single-day tickets that Osheaga charges at the same venue later in the summer. Transportation is straightforward via the Jean-Drapeau métro station or the 777 bus, both cheaper and, per the park authority's own guidance, generally more convenient than driving and paying event-day parking premiums of up to \$40.

The festival's mid-season track record in 2026, a sold-out Black Coffee date answered with an added show, a Solomun season opener explicitly marketed against 2024's sellout, and stage redesign work aimed at shade and sound, indicates an operation still actively managing capacity and site quality rather than coasting on its more than two decades of history. For attendees, the practical takeaways are to treat the April lineup announcement as a floor rather than a ceiling on the schedule, to book high-demand OfF Piknic dates during presale windows, and to budget transit rather than driving given the park's métro-centric access and event-day parking surcharges. Readers combining a Piknic Électronik visit with business travel or remote work in Montreal can likewise treat the city's flexible coworking supply, including operators like 2727 Coworking, as a separate but complementary planning consideration for the working hours around the festival's evening and Sunday-afternoon schedule.

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Tags: piknic electronik montreal 2026, piknic electronik tickets, piknic electronik lineup, parc jean-drapeau, off piknic, montreal summer festivals 2026, osheaga 2026, montreal electronic music

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