

LGIL Guitar Retreat - May 2025 - Itinerary

This retreat is about playing guitar together and sharing our love of all things acoustic. By the end of this retreat I want you to be more inspired than ever to practice at home and share your playing with other people.

While I will do my best to stick with the itinerary below I may adjust times and workshops depending on our group.

The retreat comprises of **6 main activities:**

- 1:** = Guitar Workshops
- 2:** = Learning and Playing Short Songs in Groups (Shorter Duets)
- 3:** = Singing and playing songs in a round
- 4:** = One To One Lessons
- 5:** = Collaboration + Free Time
- 6:** = Open Mic Nights

Wednesday - 28th May

Check in to the hotel is after **3pm** however if you do get there early I've been assured the staff will do their best to have your room ready.

Parking is free if you are a Holiday Inn member, otherwise it will be £5 a day. The good news is it's free to become an IHG member. Just go here:
<https://www.ihg.com/rewardsclub/gb/en/enrollment/join>

Dave and I will be in the bar from **5.45pm** and I can't wait to meet you there.

I've booked dinner at the hotel restaurant for **6.45pm** This is for all retreat members and their partners.

8:30pm – 9.30pm – Dave and I will perform an acoustic set for you in the Darwin Room at The Academy

Thursday - 29th May

Breakfast is between **6.30am and 9.30am.**

10am - 10.45am – Getting To Know The Group – Q&A Session

I find this “get to know each other” time really helpful for the rest of the event. This will also be a great time to find out what you'd like to achieve at the retreat.

10.45am - 11am – Coffee and tea break

11am - 12.40pm – FULL GROUP WORKSHOP = All 4 finger Exercises + New Fingerstyle Warm Ups + Using a Metronome

We'll also start looking at the Acoustic Little Black Song Book (A copy will be provided for you)

12.45pm - 1.45pm = Lunch

2pm - 3.30pm = Sing Around Session + 1st Set Of Group Duets + Performances – Dandelion

4pm - 6pm = Free Time + Collaboration – Feel free to use the conference rooms to play

4pm - 6pm = One to one lessons with Drue + Dave

6.45pm – Evening Meal – I've booked a table for our group (including partners) for 6.45pm each night.

8.15pm - 10pm = Open Mic Night. Come along, listen, perform, get inspired in a relaxed and open forum for sharing songs. The perfect space to encourage others and test the waters for playing in front of other people. Performance is optional.

10pm Onwards = OPTIONAL - You can use the main room to play guitar and carry on sharing your guitar playing. This must be unplugged.

Friday - 30th May

6.30am – 9.30am - Breakfast

9.30am - 11am = FULL GROUP WORKSHOP = How To Add Bass Lines + Licks Into Your Strummed and Fingerpicked Songs

11am = Coffee and Tea break

11.30am - 1pm = WORKSHOP = Using Bass Lines And Licks In Groups of 4 With Songs or Chord Progressions

1pm - 2pm - Lunch

2.15pm – 3.30pm – Sing Around Session + The Blues Scale + 2nd Set Of Group Duets + Performances – Retreat Blues

4pm - Tea break

4pm - 6pm = (Free Time and Collaboration – Feel free to use the conference rooms to play.

4pm - 6pm = One to one lessons with Drue + Dave

6.45pm – Evening Meal

8.15pm - 10pm - 2nd Open Mic Night

10pm Onwards = OPTIONAL - You can use the main room to play guitar and carry on sharing your guitar playing. This must be unplugged.

Saturday - 31st May

7.30am – 9.30am - Breakfast

9.30am - 11am = FULL GROUP WORKSHOP = Making The Metronome Your Practice Friend With Strumming + Fingerstyle – Workshop On How Critical Timing Is To Your Playing

11am = Tea break

11.30am - 1pm = WORKSHOP = Creating A Cover In Groups of 4 Using The Little Black Song Book. (Metronome is optional for performance)

1pm – 2pm – Lunch

2.15pm – 4pm - Sing Around Session + 3rd Set Of Group Duets + Performances – Hallelujah

4pm tea break

4pm - 6pm = (Free Time and Collaboration)

4pm - 6pm = One to one lessons with Drue + Dave

6.45pm – Evening Meal

8.15pm - late - 3rd Open Mic Night – On this last open mic night we feature any duets. If you are in a duet you get to play one song only.

Sunday - 1st June

7.30am – 9.30am - Breakfast

10am – Room check out

10am – 11.30am = GROUP WORKSHOP = What Makes A Great Acoustic Cover?

11.30am - Retreat Feedback Session

12pm - Retreat finishes