

THE SPECTATOR

EST. 1828

Media kit

2026





A note from the editor

The Spectator is the most influential magazine in Britain. With over 100,000 subscribers, we reach the country's most important decision-makers, thought leaders and influencers and shape the national debate. We provide the best and most insightful writing on politics, global affairs, culture and lifestyle anywhere in the English-speaking world. Wit, insight, and elegance of expression are our hallmarks.

Our website, podcasts and newsletters reach more than four million people every week and make the weather in Westminster, Whitehall, the City and academia. We break the big political stories and provide the most authoritative analysis of current events.

The Spectator is growing – recruiting brilliant young writers, providing more news and more in-depth commentary, bringing news-making interviews to a wider audience and telling the truth fearlessly.

Michael Gove

EDITOR

Our story

Always at the heart of current affairs and Westminster

1828

The first issue is published.

Mission statement:

'The principal object of a newspaper is to convey intelligence. It is proposed in *The Spectator* to give this, the first and most prominent place, to a report of all the leading occurrences of the week. In this department, the reader may always expect a summary account of every public proceeding, or transaction of interest, whether the scene may lie at home or abroad.'

1861

The magazine becomes the only UK publication to **back the north** against the slave-owning south in the American Civil War. Almost goes bust as a result.



1957

Campaigns for the **decriminalisation of homosexuality** – again, against most of the British press (we're later dubbed 'The Bugger's Bugle' by the *Sunday Express*).



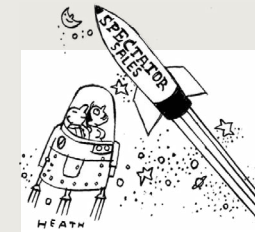
2013

Announces that the magazine will not sign up to **state press regulation**, even if this means breaking the law.



2016

Comes out in support of **Brexit** and publishes its butterfly cover – one of the most widely recognised images of the referendum.



2021

Sales overtake *The Guardian*.

2025

Acquired **spectator.com** and merged the UK and US online editions.

2024

Celebrates the 40th anniversary of *The Spectator* **Parliamentarian of the Year Awards**. The awards are regularly attended by sitting prime ministers, leaders of the opposition and MPs.

2025

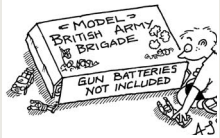
Launched **Quite right!** – a new podcast with Michael Gove and Madeline Grant. The first of 5 new broadcast shows for *The Spectator*.

2018

Hosts **sold out event** at the London Palladium, the only publication to do so.

1906

Forms its own 'army' – The Spectator Experimental Company, funded by readers' donations. The model was later used to set up the Territorial Army.



1831

Plays an active role in the 'great business' of reforming parliament, which led the next year to the Great Reform Act.

2012

The **Evening Blend** is launched. It is now the UK's most read politics newsletter, with more than 156,000 subscribers.

1975

Argues for a 'No' vote in the **referendum** on the European Community.



2007

22 Old Queen Street becomes home.



2020

Becomes the first magazine in the world to publish a **10,000th issue**.



2015

Coffee House Shots is launched. Originally meant to run just for the election, the daily podcast was so successful it was made permanent.

The term '**virtue-signalling**' is coined – one of the many terms invented by *Spectator* writers and now used across the world ('the Establishment' is another).

2024

OQS MEDIA

OQS Media, owner of UnHerd, acquires *The Spectator* and Apollo magazine in record-breaking sale.

2028

The Spectator will celebrate 200 years – the first magazine to do so.

2024

Leads the charge to prevent foreign state ownership of the British press – resulting in a new law.

Spectator TV is launched. It now has more than 440k+ subscribers.

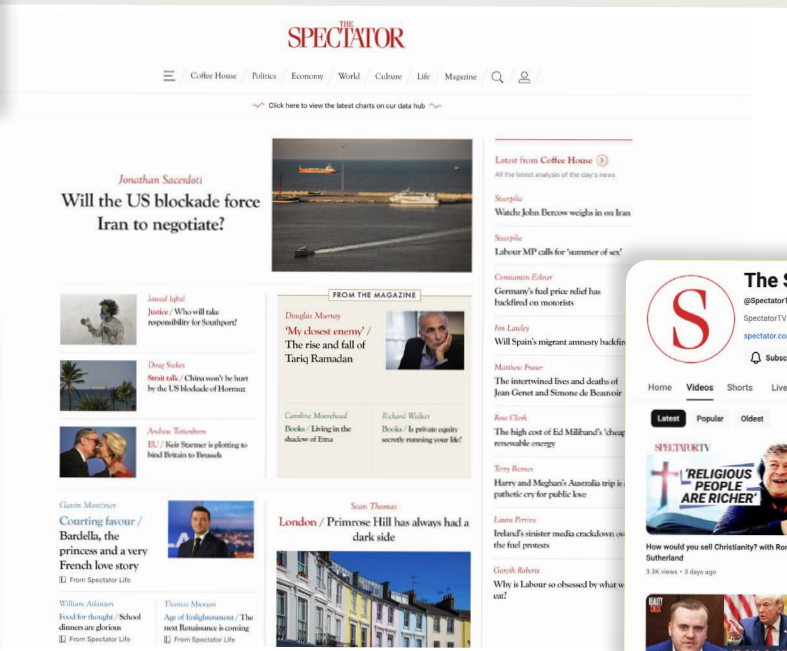
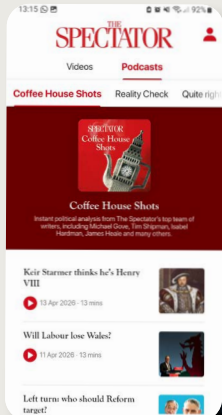
Our belief is always to innovate

Digital has transformed *The Spectator*

498k+
YouTube subscribers

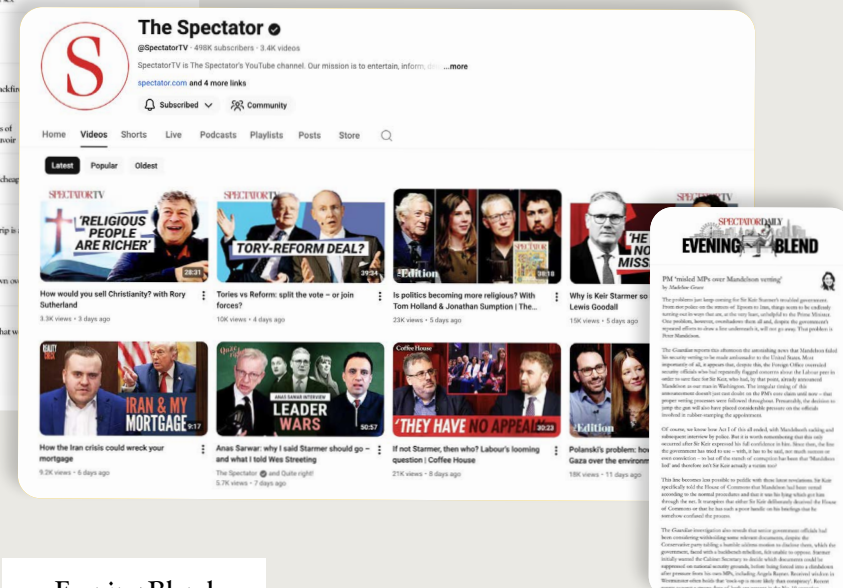
Podcasts

Coffee House Shots
70.3m
all-time downloads passed this year



Spectator TV

Daily shows including *Americano*, *The Edition*, *Coffee House Shots*, and exclusive interviews, hosted by *Spectator* writers.



Spectator.com

Updated throughout the day, 7 days a week. It is now the fastest website of any comparable publication.

2.4m
monthly users

Evening Blend
169k+
subscribers with a 44% open-rate. The UK's most-read politics email

Newsletters

Evening Blend launched in 2012. We now have 12 editorial emails covering politics, economics, food and drink, books, art and most recently, *Spectator Daily* – our 7am morning email.

*In 2025

72k
average monthly users

App
Used by more than half of our active subscribers.

How we reach our audience

One weekly magazine, several platforms

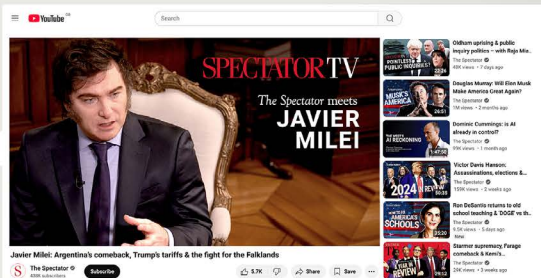


Social media
3.1m+
 video views /month
1.8m+
 followers across all social platforms



Podcasts
12.9m
 total downloads across 9 podcasts* including Quite right! and Reality Check

SPECTATOR TV
26.6m+
 YouTube views*



App
7.6m
 monthly page views



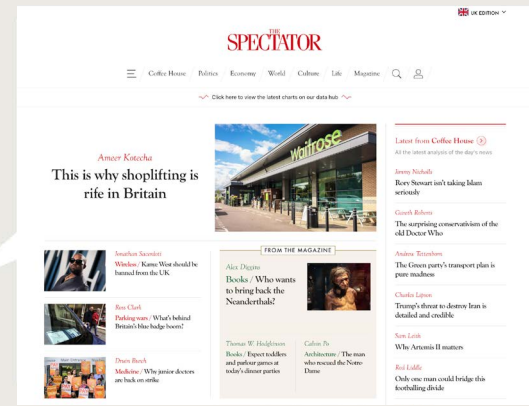
Subscriptions
97k
 across print and digital



Spectator.com
7.9m
 monthly page views



Events
13k+
 attendees*



Newsletters
1.1m+
 sign-ups across all editorial emails with an average open-rate of over 50%



*In 2025

Who are our readers?



33%
Spectator readers are more likely than the general population to have a **degree** or higher⁴

C-suite
Index 248³

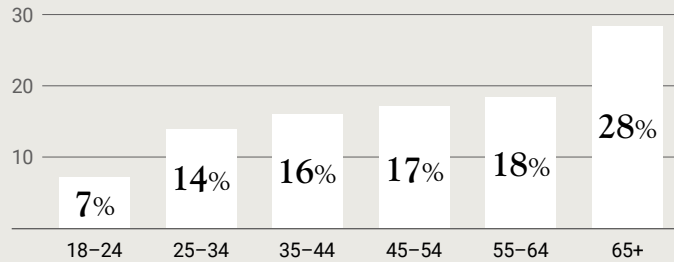
57%
are business decision makers³
Index 231

22%
live in the **highest-income areas** in the country⁵

£1m+
Our readers **have savings or investments** over £1m³
Index 359

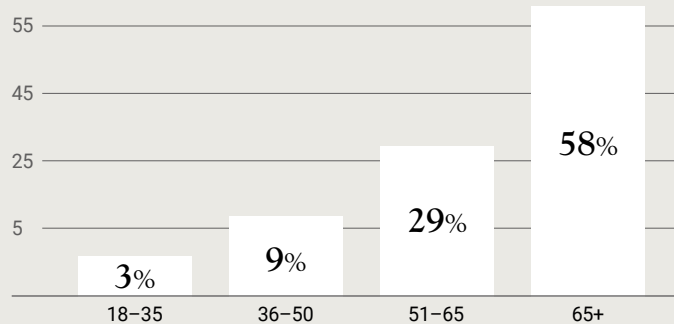
Age distribution of Spectator website users

Includes anonymous users, registered users and subscribers
Source: Google Analytics



Age distribution of Spectator print readers

Based on a survey of readers who subscribe to the magazine²



Reader quotes...

'It's still the best written and most amusing magazine that exists'

'Of the twelve (or so) periodicals I take, it's been my fave for 30 (or so) years'

'Stimulating, especially if I disagree with a columnist!'

Interests/lifestyle



Finance²
41% work with financial advisers, and/or would be open to learning about financial products or services through our magazine/website/app
20% actively seek out information on investments, property
29% are interested in financial planning or wealth management services



Entertainment²
72% prefer books for entertainment
While:
62% subscribe to Amazon Prime
58% subscribe to Netflix
27% subscribe to Apple TV



Watches¹
59% own a luxury watch
Of this, own:
16% Omega
11% Rolex
5% Cartier
11% own a smart watch



Tech²
72% purchase the latest technology twice a year
45% are willing to invest in technology products that enhance their lifestyle



Health³
40% index 249 have private health or medical insurance
52% index 233 belong to a sports club



Property³
30% index 252 own a property abroad
26% index 254 own two or more UK houses



Travel
17% index 724 have flown first class in 2024³
33% index 219 have been on a day trip to Europe³
70% take at least two holidays a year. Of those who do, **42%** stay in **boutique hotels**¹



Car²
25% are interested in luxury/high performance vehicles
Purchase frequency:
28% every five years
12% every two years
30% drive SUV



Drink³
63% index 232 drink champagne
55% index 216 drink Whisky
63% index 232 collect wine

1 Source based on a survey of 750+ readers
2 Source based on a survey of 1500+ readers
3 Source TGI, 2024
4 Based on subscriber postcode and the Census
5 Based on subscriber postcodes mapped to income data for England and Wales

Spectator events

Why work with *The Spectator*?

The Spectator has consistently organised the most insightful, interesting and in-demand events in Westminster and beyond. Our events draw on our writers and wider Rolodex to bring together the best people to the table.

We have worked closely with business leaders, corporates and other partners to elevate policy issues, convene exceptional audiences, spark new debates and – where necessary – ruffle some feathers.

From roundtables to awards ceremonies, our in-house events team prides itself on delivering exceptional quality events – no matter the size.

100+

Events /year

13k+

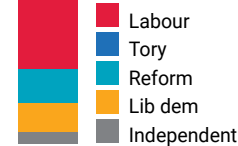
Attendees in 2025

800+

VIP contact details and relationships from the world of politics, business, industry and the arts

%

MP guests at *The Spectator* Parliamentarian of the year awards 2025



Signature projects

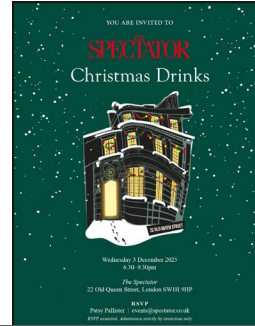
- *The Spectator* Summer Party
- *The Spectator* Winter Party
- Parliamentarian of the Year awards
- *The Spectator* subscriber tea party
- *The Spectator* at Conservative Party Conference
- *The Spectator* at Labour Party Conference
- 22 Old Queen Street evening salons
- *Spectator* Club wine tastings



Summer Party



Winter Party



PARLIAMENTARIAN OF THE YEAR AWARDS



Our networking events

Since our formation in the coffee houses of 18th-century London, *The Spectator* has always believed in the power of getting the right people together in the right room.

Nothing captures this better than our annual Summer Party, which brings together the movers and shakers in Westminster and beyond. Where else can you find Rachel Reeves alongside Piers Morgan and Nigel Farage? Jordan Peterson in the same room as Emily Maitlis? Or Wes Streeting and Angela Rayner hobnobbing with their Conservative predecessors?

Other high-calibre events in our calendar include our Parliamentarian of the Year Awards, which brings together the great and good of Westminster – and makes them squirm in their seats.

But perhaps the most fruitful discussions are those that take place in private, through the dozens of roundtables, high-level panel events, salons and drinks receptions we host each year.

‘An unmissable event on the social and political calendar’

New York Magazine, 2024

‘The great and the good now clear their diaries for twoparties every year’

Danielle Wall, Managing Director, *The Spectator*

‘It’s a brilliant event and there’s a proper range of politicians from across the political spectrum’

Politics at Jack and Sam’s Podcast, Sky News/Politico, 2024



Our consumer events

From our live podcasts and debates, to parties and wine clubs, our events bring together thousands of our friends, readers and subscribers each year.

Our live editions of the Coffee House Shots and Americano podcasts have hosted top-tier speakers, while our annual Budget Briefings combine the sharpest political and financial analysis with questions from our highly informed audience.

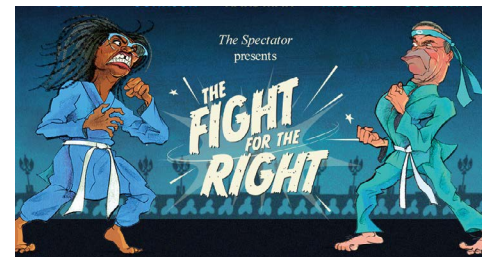
Our specialist policy summits – which have tackled topics including the NHS, the future of defence, and net zero – have brought together the highest calibre of speakers from Whitehall and the business world. We seek to hold discussions that are provocative but not polemical, with our guests chosen for their insight and intelligence, rather than their ability to toe the party line.

Beyond politics, our ‘In Conversation’ events have hosted some of the world’s most in-demand thinkers. Meanwhile, our annual carol service (at St Bride’s, Fleet Street) and wine clubs (at Old Queen Street) have become fixtures in the diaries of our readers.



The Spectator Post-Budget Briefing

The annual Post-Budget event invites readers to listen as the *Spectator* team dissect the chancellor’s budget. The discussion is followed by a Q&A and a G&T – or two. Sponsors have the opportunity to join the panel and benefit from a branded promotional campaign.



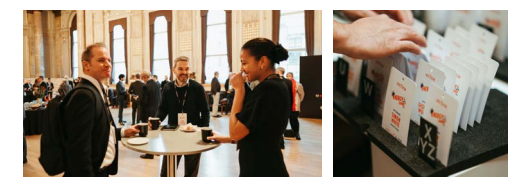
The Spectator’s Live Events

Our sell-out live events attract a highly engaged *Spectator* reader. Each event is promoted through an in-house marketing campaign using our print, digital and social channels. All shows are then uploaded to our YouTube channel with over 500k subscribers.



The Spectator Summits

Spectator summits bring together industry experts, academics and MPs to discuss the topics that matter to you. We offer partners co-branding opportunities on pre-and-post-event marketing, client representation on the panel and invitations for the sponsors staff and clients.



Spectator newsletters



283k+
Unique active email address
across editorial emails

42%
Average
open-rate

1m+
Sign-ups across
12 editorial emails

3.1%
Average
click-through rate



Morning press | 210k+

The essential morning briefing, taking you through the news that matters



Lunchtime espresso | 127k+

The day's must-read for politics, world news and current affairs in a digestible roundup



Evening blend | 164k+

Daily political analysis from Tim Shipman and our political team



Best of Coffee House | 205k+

Our website's top ten articles as chosen by our editors



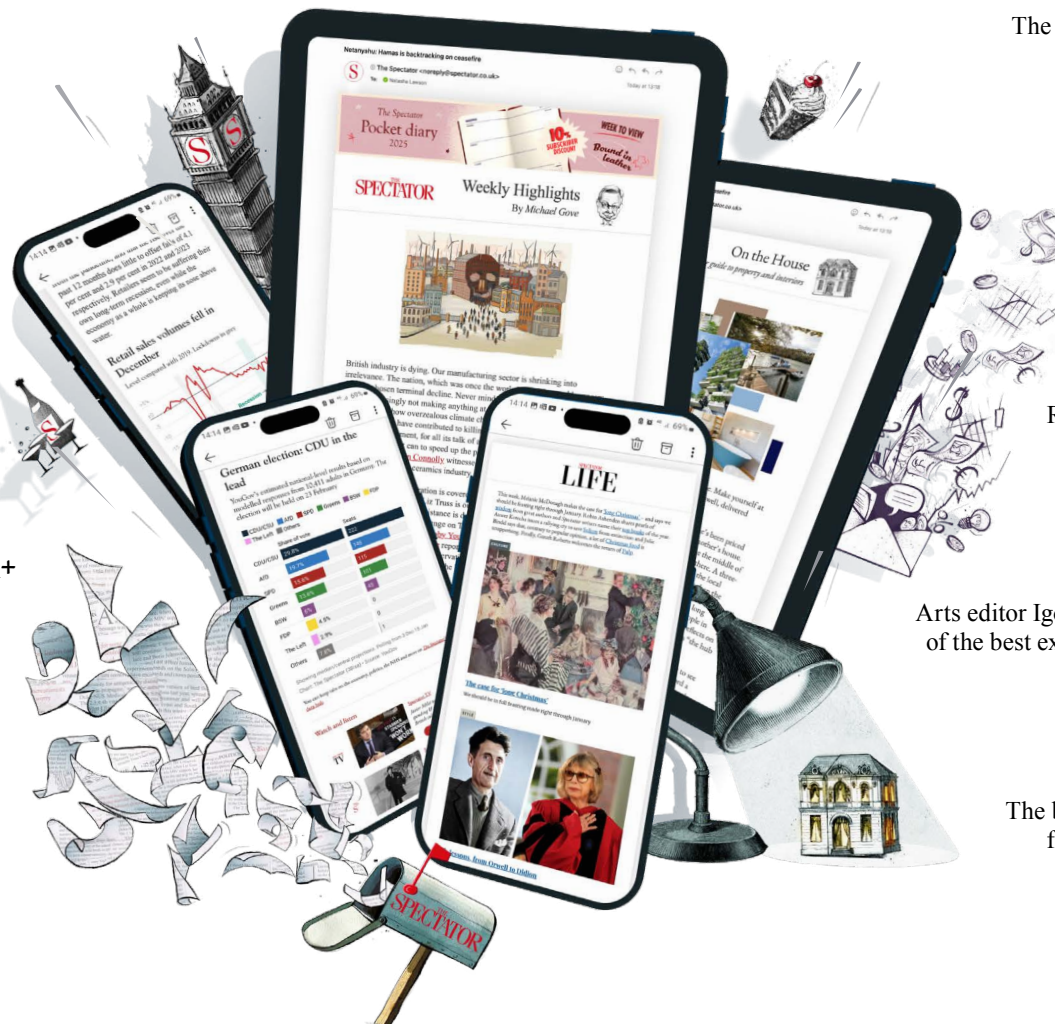
Americano | 75k+

Freddy Gray covers all the news and gossip from across the Atlantic



Reality Check | 62k+

Michael Simmons's weekly guide to money, investing and the economy



Weekly highlights | 220k+

The best of the current magazine issue, every Thursday morning



Life | 52k+

Culture news, food, drink, entertainment and travel



Books | 31k+

Reviews, interviews and more from our literary editor Sam Leith



Arts | 29k+

Arts editor Igor Toronyi-Lalic's weekly round-up of the best exhibitions, theatre, dance and music



The Take Away | 42k+

The best of food and drink, plus recipes from The Vintage Chef Olivia Potts



Ukraine in Focus | 25k+

Svitlana Morenets on the latest developments from Ukraine



Spectator broadcast



Podcasts & video

We publish one episode per day. We cover latest news, cultural commentary, economic analysis, and host exclusive interviews.

2.3m

Average views
/month in 2025

2.8m

Total watched
hours in 2025

498k

YouTube
subscribers

26.6m

Views
in 2025

4.5m

Viewers
in 2025

Quite right!
Join Michael Gove and
Madeline Grant for
a mixture of politics,
culture and mischief.



Coffee House
Tim Shipman and
James Heale bring
you the only analysis
you'll need to
understand what's
really going on in
Westminster.

The Edition
Lara Prendergast and
William Moore host
weekly conversations
with writers and friends
of the magazine over a
glass of sherry.



Americano
Freddy Gray keeps
listeners up-to-date
with American
politics and cultural
affairs.

Reality Check
In each episode,
economics editor
Michael Simmons and
in-the-know guests
will make a data-
driven case on a story
hogging the headlines.



Livestreams
The Spectator's
debates, panel
discussions, and
live podcasts are
streamed on *The
Spectator* website
and app, exclusively
for our subscribers

Podcasts only

The Spectator releases at least one podcast every day, seven days a week. Our shows cover topics from British and American politics to world affairs, religion and literature.

11.8m

Total
downloads
2025

1.1m

Average monthly
listens across
x9 podcasts

6.3m

Coffee House
Shots listens
in 2025

70m

Coffee House
Shots all-time
listens

1m

Americano
listens
in 2025

Coffee House Shots
Daily show from *The
Spectator's* politics team
covering Westminster
and the biggest
international stories.
Hosted by Tim Shipman
and James Heale.



The Book Club
Sam Leith interviews
authors and literary
figures. Previous guests
include Jonathan Coe,
David Baddiel, Ariane
Banks, Hadley Freeman,
Caitlin Moran and Lee
Child.

Best of The Spectator
A new podcast every
day from writers worth
listening to.



Holy Smoke
The most important
and controversial
topics in world religion.
Presented by Damian
Thompson.

Sponsorships, partnerships and bespoke opportunities



All our regular shows are available for sponsorship and in-broadcast messaging. We also offer the opportunity to work together to create bespoke content that covers topics important to you – and to us.

Previous partners include **Drax, Lloyds, Charles Stanley, McDonald's, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Smart Energy GB, National Gas and Fujitsu.**

Partner with us

You'll be in good company



Rates All open-rate % average from 2025

Print

Full page	210x276mm	£5,078
Full page ROM	210x276mm	£4,850
OBC	210x276mm	£6,222
IFC DPS	420x276mm	£12,431
IFC Full page	420x276mm	£6,000
DPS	420x276mm	£10,054
DPS ROM	420x276mm	£9,459
Half page	185x125mm	£3,047
Half double column	122x125mm	£2,350
Half single column	125x59mm	£1,698
Full single column	59x250mm	£2,350
Advertorial	--	POA

Special issues

Available for sponsorship and display ads

Spectator Schools	32-page bi-annual guide to schools and universities. March and September
Christmas Triple	132-page issue, perfect bound, with gloss cover

Digital display

MPU	£21 CPM
Leaderboard	£25 CPM
Billboard	£25 CPM
24-hour homepage takeover (MPU, Billboard, and Leaderboard)	From £4,000

Newsletters

	Sign ups	Open rate	Monthly tenancy
Morning Blend	118k+	44%	£2,100
Lunchtime Espresso	127k+	45%	£2,100
Evening Blend	164k+	42%	£2,100
The Best of Coffee House	205k+	38%	£2,100
Arts	29k+	46%	£1,000
Life	52k+	48%	£1,500
Books	31k+	44%	£1,200
Reality Check	62k+	42%	£1,650
The Take Away	42k+	48%	£1,250
Americano	75k+	43%	£1,250
Weekly Highlights	220k+	37%	£2,500

Podcasts

	Monthly download	Frequency	Monthly tenancy
Coffee House Shots	620k+	Daily	£14,650
Americano	161k+	2/week	£4,185
The Edition	80k+	1/week	£4,185
Quite right!	128k+	1/week	£10,350
Reality Check	9k+	1/week	£5,520
The Book Club	53k+	1/week	£3,250
Holy Smoke	22k+	1/fortnight	£3,450
Bespoke podcast	--	--	£23,750

Prices are for pre and post roll pre-recorded message up to 30 seconds and subject to editorial approval

SpectatorTV – host read subject to editorial approval

Spectator originals	318k average views /month	£14,950 rate /month
The View from 22	180k average views /month	£9,150 rate /month

Events

Private curated events	Starting from £20k
Events supported by cross-platform marketing campaign	Starting from £25k

What makes us different

Heritage

The world's longest consciously running weekly, influential for almost 200 years, going against the grain to stand by its beliefs; from playing active roles in reforming parliament in 1831 to leading the charge to ensure British press could never fall into the hands of foreign state owners in 2024.

Brand consistency

The Spectator stands for intelligence, humour, irreverence, originality and diversity of opinion. Our values are projected throughout the magazine, broadcast shows and our sell-out events.

Innovation

A culture of journalistic entrepreneurs at the centre of a nimble organisation driving new ways to serve our subscribers.

Unrivalled growth

The Spectator saw subscriptions double in a magazine market that fell by two-thirds. We overtook *The Guardian* in 2021.

Collaboration

Our business model is unique and is based on close collaboration between commercial, events and editorial, ensuring brand cohesion with our partners.

Integrity

Our research team applies the most robust pre-publications scrutiny on Fleet Street – mindful that it matters more than ever that readers can trust the facts they read.

Relevance

Britain's most influential magazine, with analysis read, and listened to by those who run the country and those who advise them. Found in Buckingham Palace and Wetherspoons.

Digital success

A renowned print magazine taken by 55% of subscribers. However, 80% of our subscribers read our digital daily, non-magazine content.



The Spectator has had a unique influence among our countrymen: an influence won by no catchpenny arts but by moral and intellectual candour. Esto perpetua.

JOHN BUCHAN, *novelist and former assistant editor of The Spectator*, July 1928



Get in touch

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Further information

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The Spectator app

Scan to download

THE
SPECTATOR