

**BCVA representation  
and education**



# **BCVA Congress 2024**

## **Delegate Information**

**17th - 19th October 2024**

The Celtic Manor Resort, Coldra Woods, The Usk Valley, Newport,  
South Wales, NP18 1HQ



**Early Bird discount until  
26th August 2024**



# BCVA Congress 2024

Your Invitation from BCVA President, Kate Richards.

“It feels like coming home in this role as President of BCVA. I served on the Board previously – we called it ‘Council’ back then, and as someone who graduated with the singular ambition of being a farm vet, I’m delighted to be back in ‘my herd’! So, it is my great pleasure to invite you to the 2024 annual BCVA Congress at Celtic Manor this October.

When I graduated from Edinburgh in the 1980s I went straight into farm practice and worked ‘my patch’ for 15 years. Since then, I have had a varied career, working in both industry and government jobs, always keeping at least one foot in the veterinary world, with roles with BCVA and RCVS. It is the possibility of a varied career that makes a veterinary degree so rewarding, and it is this broad community of farm vets that BCVA works hard to serve – throughout the year, and at Congress.

On the topic of variety, that’s what this year’s programme is offering us all, of course opportunities for those at each stage of our careers to level up our skills and understanding, but also the opportunity to really engage with our expert speakers up-close in the workshops – which remain free with our registration (we just have to remember to book early because they are small group sessions).

I will be looking to get a front row seat for both of our brilliant keynote speakers; Minette Batters, a British farmer best known to us all in her former role as President of the National Farmers’ Union of England and Wales, and also Baron Trees of the Ross in Perth and Kinross – known as ‘Sandy’ to his friends and colleagues in the veterinary profession. I know that both will bring their wealth of experience to inspire us all.

And finally – the crucial part of Congress that can’t go without mention – those moments outside the lecture halls and workshops when we connect and reconnect with one another – I urge everyone coming to Celtic Manor to join me at the fundraisers on Thursday and Friday to help raise vital funds for our charities; The Farming Community Network and Vetlife.”

*Kate Richards*  
BCVA President





# Venue Information



## Hotel Address

The Celtic Manor Resort  
Coldra Woods  
The Usk Valley  
Newport  
South Wales  
NP18 1HQ

## Parking

The Celtic Manor Resort has extensive parking facilities available to guests and visitors.

There are around 1500 car parking spaces across the Resort.

Parking is complimentary at the Catsash Car Park and the Roman Road Car Park. Charges apply for valet parking and the Underground Car Park.



## Accommodation

The Congress Hotel is the venue itself – Celtic Manor. We have rooms on hold, so once you've booked your registration you can use the reference **BRI171024** to get our preferred rates. You can book online <https://bit.ly/4bdfauo> or call **01633 410262**. If booking online select 'block booking' to use the code.

Any accommodation queries must be taken up directly with the Celtic Manor.



# LET'S GET TOGETHER

Letting our hair down and getting together is as important as filling our minds and gaining new skills – and BCVA Congress is an opportunity to do all that, plus, give something back to those who make life on and off farm a better experience.

When you come to the Thursday Games Party and the Friday Gala Dinner fundraisers, you'll not only be treated to great food and entertainment, you'll also be helping to raise money for two very important 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  
16th October, 2024



Time  
19:30 - 23:00



Coming to Celtic Manor 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, where you'll see old friends and no doubt make new ones.



# GAMES PARTY NIGHT



Thursday  
17th October, 2024



Time  
19:30 - 00:00



Thursday's informal social is all about having fun and raising money. There will be games, and a tempting locally sourced street food style menu 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. We see how some of our clients can face a variety of challenges – often beyond their control. It can also be an isolating life.

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, regardless of whether the issue is personal or business-related. In addition to local groups of volunteers, FCN runs a confidential national helpline (03000 111 999) and e-helpline ([help@fcn.org.uk](mailto:help@fcn.org.uk)) which is open every day of the year from 7am-11pm. BCVA is working with FCN as one of its current featured charity partners.

# GALA DINNER



Friday  
18th October, 2024



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 from experience that the food at Celtic Manor offers unmatched flavours of Wales, and we will be treated to a locally sourced menu from this award-winning catering team. Then, the incredible ceilidh band The Sassenachs will be performing Celtic music in a fresh, contemporary style for Scottish ceilidh 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 & auctions have raised tens of thousands of pounds over the years.



**Glyn Hewinson**

**Bovine TB: knowledge gaps and research needs**

The Sêr Cymru Centre of Excellence for Bovine Tuberculosis (CBTB) at Aberystwyth University aims to provide an evidence base to support the eradication of bovine TB and to grow and develop academic research expertise in Wales. The work of the CBTB is interdisciplinary in nature, and in this interactive session delegates will be invited to share their experience, and we'll explore potential knowledge gaps and training needs that would improve the ability and confidence to advise farmers on the best ways to control TB, illustrating the benefit of a bottom-up collaborative approach to local TB control between vets, scientists and research scientists.

**Sarah Hewitt and Fiona Lovatt**

**Opportunities to engage with sheep and beef farmers over their data**

Although it can be difficult to engage with sheep and beef and sheep farmer clients, there are currently plenty of easy-to-access opportunities that can be used to the benefit of the practice and to drive that very engagement. This workshop will explore practical opportunities to engage with data on beef and sheep farms. You will make use of Farm Vet Champion and AHDB resources available for the practice team to set realistic targets to engage with farmers and upload farm data to the Medicine Hub.

**Rose Jackson**

**Sustainable feeding starts with genetics**

Feed and enteric methane accounts for up to 70% of a dairy farm's carbon footprint; both can be influenced by genetics. The genetics of feed efficiency is complex; this workshop will discuss the main genetic traits that are involved and how these could be used in a breeding program on farm. The theory will be illustrated using the results of a 3-year genomic project on four dairy farms. This will also include a discussion on how high yielding dairy farms can be part of the solution for achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2050.

**Ifan Lloyd**

**The Pembrokeshire Project: giving back control of bovine TB to farmers and vets**

This workshop will offer a useful background and practical examples, using real farm data, that we will use in small, facilitated break out groups, considering the risk rate data analysis, and to recommend measured improvements to biosecurity on these farms using the biosecurity App scoring tool. This workshop will demonstrate the key role of the farm veterinarian in managing bTB risks on their clients' farms, focus on managing risks that are under the farmers control using objective, outcome focused tools, and illustrate the benefit of integrating on farm bTB preventative measures with other infectious disease control programmes.

**Peter May**

**Bovine reproductive manual and ultrasound examination**

We need to have the relevant skills and confidence when undertaking our routine fertility visits to develop client relations and consultancy level advisory services. In this workshop the practical skills of rectal palpation, including uterine flexion, will be discussed and demonstrated. We'll also be sharing ultrasound images. We'll cover how combining gentle palpation with ultrasound will help accurate placement of the sound enabling improved accuracy of timing. We'll cover how to improve fertility treatment efficacies, aging the bovine foetus, understanding abnormal foetuses, how to easily find twins, gender determination, subclinical endometritis, follicular counting, persistent follicular structures, plus Ovum Pick Up techniques.

**Jo Moore**

**Abortion investigations: I've taken the samples, now what?**

Abortion is a significant cause of reproductive wastage and economic loss. The increasing scrutiny of greenhouse gas emissions from livestock is another motivator to reduce inefficiency in production. Infectious causes of abortion tend to receive the most attention but, non-infectious causes probably account for many undiagnosed abortions. In this workshop participants will work through real life abortion investigations from the SRUC Veterinary Services and AHPA archive. The focus will be on developing a systematic and holistic approach to abortion investigation to identify infectious agents when present, but also to consider non-infectious factors that may have played a role.

**James Breen, James Husband and Jude Roberts**

**Bactoscan breakdown – a practical on-farm approach**

Bactoscan breakdowns can occur on an individual farm on a temporary or longer-term basis. Identifying the reasons that a bactoscan problem can occur enables vets to investigate bactoscan problems proactively and preventatively and create an action plan to address the issue based on the underlying cause. The aim is to give vets the confidence and information required to investigate a bactoscan breakdown and then be able to plan an approach to tackling the problem based on the underlying cause by producing a practical, on-farm action plan to address the issue.



**Amy Cox, Fiona Lovatt and Jude Roberts**

**Let's get started - supporting our dairy farms in understanding and reducing antibiotic use using a SMART approach**

This workshop will cover how to identify and support farms that have high antibiotic use using a proactive SMART approach. There will be several practical topics covered using real case examples of farms with high antibiotic use, including what high antibiotic use looks like, which areas of antibiotic use are more commonly high and some of the reasons why, evidence from the published literature on antibiotic treatments in some real-life situations. The workshop will then discuss how to use a SMART approach to work with farmers to tackle high antibiotic use in an achievable way.

**Ami Sawran**

**Camelids for cattle vets**

The rising camelid population requires herd and individualised care. Education in this can be inconsistent, therefore their differing physiology and presentations can cause anxiety. Camelid welfare suffers because of disengagement and poor owner education. Vet welfare suffers in the absence of confidence! These sessions are aimed at farm practitioners, demonstrating how to adapt current knowledge, medicine stocks and surgical skills to the care of camelids. Farm vets are capable of catering to camelid (and client) needs if they are aware of some clinical quirks that camelids can present, and how the camelid calendar fits into the seasonality of farm practice.

**James Adams and Latifa Khenissi**

**You've scored the pain, now alleviate the pain, whilst be aware of the cascade...**

All vets are aware that cattle feel pain, and recent studies show that we are evolving our understanding of what might be painful. This lecture will present and discuss current methods of scoring pain in cattle, and the workshop will continue that theme in discussing how pain can be alleviated with treatments on the cascade and by management changes that can be made by both vets and farmers.

**James Husband**

**Nitrogen Use Efficiency - what do vets need to know?**

The Nitrogen Use Efficiency (NUE) of a dairy farm calculates the percentage of the main N inputs to a dairy system that are utilised in the production of milk and livestock. NUE is a good measure of resource efficiency and is strongly linked with financial performance. As vets we need to understand how NUE is calculated and what can affect it as clients will be increasingly asked to make improvements. This workshop will broaden understanding of the issues to see how Nitrogen usage is environmentally damaging and can also be damaging to milk production and reproductive performance.

**Hannah Fitzsimmonds and Stuart Patterson**

**Rewilding for cattle practitioners; what's that all about?**

In this workshop we will hear from both vets and a rewilding practitioner, sharing some of the challenges and opportunities (and possibly frustrations) to gain a greater understanding of what rewilding ecologists need from the veterinary profession to build successful working relationships. In addition to sharing that knowledge and experience, we hope to establish a network of UK practitioners who work with rewilding projects, to be able to disseminate information to the vets on the ground, in some cases to collect data from the field, and to be able to support individual practitioners so that they are not all re-inventing the wheel.

**Peter Siviter**

**"While you're here, we've got this pig..."**

In this workshop, we aim to equip general practice farm vets with an approach to overseeing singular pig clinical cases. This session will include handling and restraint videos, clinical scenarios and practical demonstration. The aim is to instil confidence in approaching the 'incidental' sick pig, give farm vets a 'handrail' to assist them when encountered with a lethargic pig in practice, and provide farm vets with methods to confidently restrain pigs of all ages for examination or basic procedures, and ensure that farm vets are aware of notifiable diseases which may affect pigs and the signs which are typical for these.

**Jim Green**

**BARTA Workshop**

*Watch this space for more details.*



# Delegate Registration Form

## BCVA Congress 2024 - Celtic Manor Resort - 17th - 19th October

Please print clearly, in capital letters.

<b>Title:</b>	<b>Name:</b> (to appear on badge)		
<b>Practice / Institution:</b>			
<b>Address:</b>			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 <b>NOT</b> wish to be added to this list. <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Telephone:</b>		<b>Fax:</b>	
<b>Email:</b>			

Registration - If registering daily, please circle which day(s) you wish to attend. Prices include registration and lunch.				Price before or on 26/08/2024	Price after 26/08/2024	(All prices include VAT)
BCVA member	Whole Congress			£ 630	£ 738	£
	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	£ 309 (per day)	£ 354 (per day)	£
Retired	Whole Congress			£ 480	£ 549	£
	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	£ 213 (per day)	£ 246 (per day)	£
Post-graduate Student	Whole Congress			£ 192	£ 222	£
	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	£ 81 (per day)	£ 90 (per day)	£
2023/2024 graduates	Whole Congress			£ 324	£ 372	£
	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	£ 129 (per day)	£ 144 (per day)	£
Undergraduates	Whole Congress			£ 168	£ 192	£
	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	£ 72 (per day)	£ 84 (per day)	£
Virtual Congress (deadline for registration is 4th October)	Whole Congress			£ 174	£ 198	£

BACK FOR 2024 - 2023/2024 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)				£ 426	£ 480	£
Day Registration (includes lunch and one dinner. Please indicate which dinner you would like)	Thursday reg <input type="checkbox"/>	Friday reg <input type="checkbox"/>	Saturday reg <input type="checkbox"/>	£ 168 (per day)	£ 192 (per day)	£
	Thursday dinner <input type="checkbox"/>	Friday dinner <input type="checkbox"/>				

Non BCVA Member Supplement		
	Please tick below for 2023 / 2024 membership	
Full Membership	I wish to become a member for 2024 / 2025 <input type="checkbox"/>	£ 184
Post Graduate (second year) 2023	I wish to become a member for 2024 / 2025 <input type="checkbox"/>	£ 129
Post Graduate (first year) 2024	I wish to become a member for 2024 / 2025 <input type="checkbox"/>	£ 88
Post Graduate Student (Full time)	I wish to become a member for 2024 / 2025 <input type="checkbox"/>	£ 98
Undergraduate/retired	I wish to become a member for 2024 / 2025 <input type="checkbox"/>	£ 33

Dinner / Social Events - Option to bring guests for evening events and lunches			
Welcome reception	Wednesday 16th at 19:30 hrs	£ 42	£
Additional guest(s)	Number of guests:	£ 42 pp	£
Thursday dinner	Thursday 17th at 19:30 hrs	£ 40	£
Additional guest(s)	Number of guests:	£ 40 pp	£
President's dinner (black tie)	Friday 18th at 19:30 hrs	£ 72	£
Additional guest(s)	Number of guests:	£ 72 pp	£
Lunches for additional guest(s)	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Number of guests:			£ 33 (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				
Dairy herd health: what's YOUR action plan?	<i>James Breen, Richard Cooper and Jude Roberts</i>	14:00 – 15:30	Thursday 17th October	<b>FULL</b>
Can we monitor health and welfare 24/7? Computer vision for the practical farm vet	<i>Robert Hyde</i>	14:00 – 15:30	Thursday 17th October	<b>FULL</b>
BVA Good Workplace Voluntary Code Workshop	<i>Elizabeth Mullineaux</i>	16:00 - 17:30	Thursday 17th October	
The management of Johne's disease: improving farmer engagement	<i>Pete Orpin</i>	16:00 – 17:30	Thursday 17th October	<b>FULL</b>
Bovine reproductive manual and ultrasound examination	<i>Peter May</i>	09:00 – 10:30	Friday 18th October	<b>FULL</b>
Abortion investigations: I've taken the samples, now what?	<i>Jo Moore</i>	09:00 - 10:30	Friday 18th October	
Bactoscan breakdown – a practical on-farm approach to investigating and then creating an action plan to tackle the issue	<i>James Breen, James Husband and Jude Roberts</i>	09:00 – 10:30	Friday 18th October	<b>FULL</b>
Tell Me Why... how vets in practice can support student development of clinical reasoning skills	<i>Hannah Davies</i>	11:00 - 12:30	Friday 18th October	
Sustainable feeding starts with genetics	<i>Rose Jackson</i>	11:00 - 12:30	Friday 18th October	
Opportunities to engage with sheep and beef farmers over their data	<i>Sarah Hewitt and Fiona Lovatt</i>	14:00 – 15:30	Friday 18th October	<b>FULL</b>
The Pembrokeshire Project: giving back control of bovine TB to farmers and vets	<i>Ifan Lloyd</i>	14:00 - 15:30	Friday 18th October	
Practical genetics for cattle vets	<i>Matthew Barden</i>	14:00 - 15:30	Friday 18th October	
Camelids for cattle vets	<i>Ami Sawran</i>	16:00 - 17:30	Friday 18th October	
Bovine TB: knowledge gaps and research needs	<i>Glyn Hewinson</i>	16:00 - 17:30	Friday 18th October	
Let's get started - supporting our dairy farms in understanding and reducing antibiotic use using a SMART approach	<i>Amy Cox, Fiona Lovatt and Jude Roberts</i>	16:00 - 17:30	Friday 18th October	
"While you're here, we've got this pig...":	<i>Peter Siviter</i>	09:00 - 10:30	Saturday 19th October	
Nitrogen Use Efficiency - what do vets need to know?	<i>James Husband</i>	09:00 - 10:30	Saturday 19th October	
BARTA Workshop	<i>Jim Green</i>	09:00 - 10:30	Saturday 19th October	
You've scored the pain, now alleviate the pain, whilst be aware of the cascade ...	<i>James Adams and Latifa Khenissi</i>	11:00 - 12:30	Saturday 19th October	
Rewilding for cattle practitioners; what's that all about?	<i>Hannah Fitzsimmonds and Stuart Patterson</i>	11:00 - 12:30	Saturday 19th 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: [congress2024@bcva.co.uk](mailto:congress2024@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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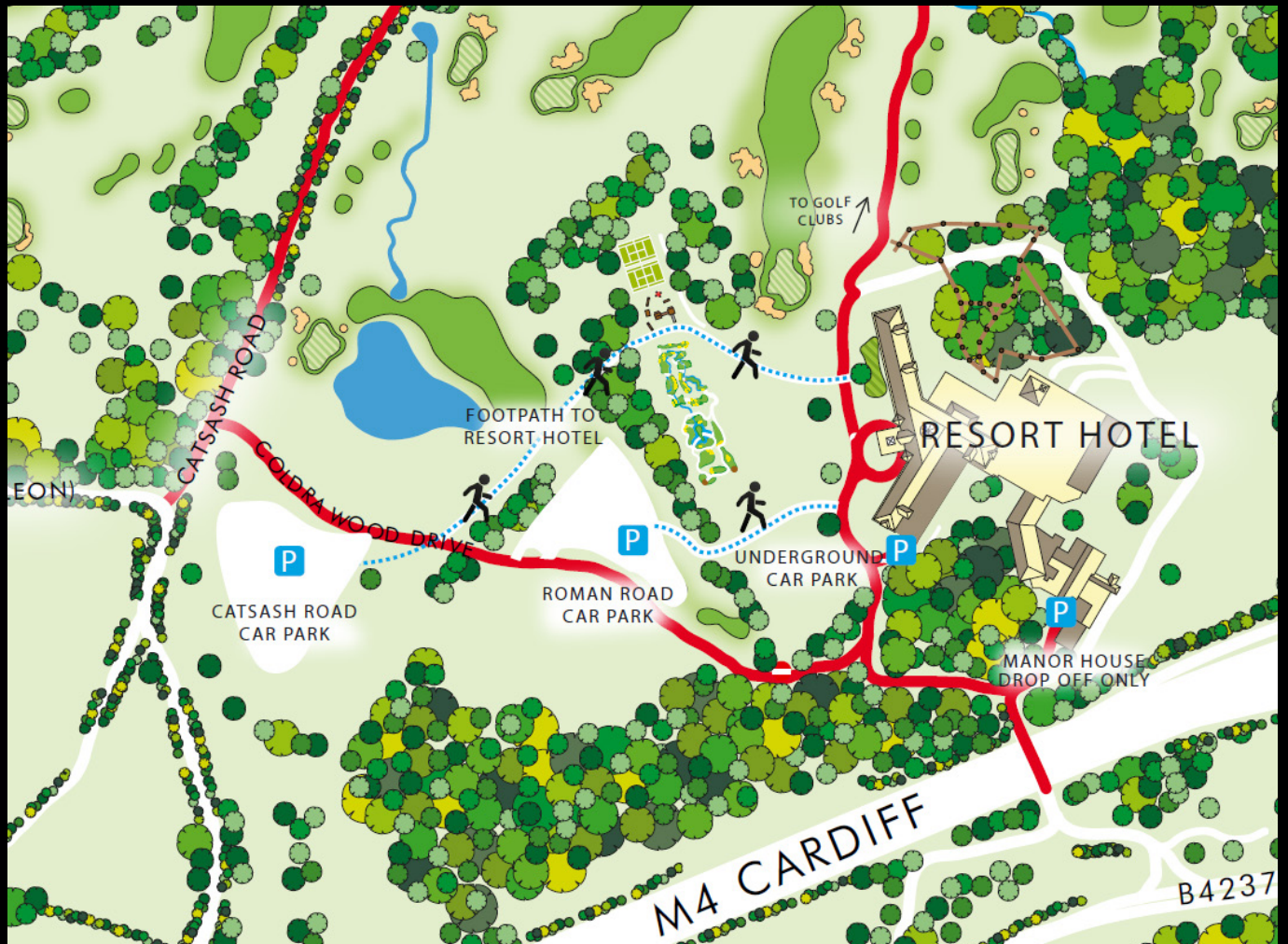
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# Getting there



## By Road



Our Sat Nav post code is NP18 1HQ.

As you are approaching on the M4, exit at Junction 24. At the roundabout take the B4237 towards Newport. You will see a large Celtic Manor sign after 100 metres, turn right. You will drive across an overpass (crossing over the M4) and then hit a fork in the road (goes left and right). You are now at The Celtic Manor Resort. Follow the directions on the signposts to take you to your destination within the Resort.

## By Air



Cardiff Airport is the gateway to Wales, with over 50 direct destinations and more than 900 available with connections via hubs in Amsterdam, Barcelona, Dublin, Dusseldorf, Milan, Munich and Paris.

The Airport is located just 13 miles from J33 of the M4, just half an hour from Cardiff city centre, with good public transport links, taxi and hire car facilities.

## By Rail



The Celtic Manor Resort is ideally situated and just a short ride from Newport train station. Great Western Railway operate fast and frequent services into Newport station from London Paddington, Reading, Swindon, Bristol & Avon, Portsmouth Harbour, Southampton, Weymouth and South West Wales. Connecting services also operate from the Cotswolds, Thames Valley, Somerset, Devon, Cornwall and the South West.



# EXPERIENCE THE EXHIBITION

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 goes to our sponsors, who help to make Congress possible.

**FARM VETS**  
PART OF IVC EVIDENSIA



Gold Sponsor



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Silver Sponsors

