

***VIEWING ROOM AND WORK-IN-PROGRESS LAB 2026**

Waves DOC FILM BAZAAR | MIFF

FAQs

Q. Is Waves Doc Film Bazaar the same as Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF)? If my film is selected for NFDC Doc Film Bazaar, will it screen at MIFF?

A. Waves Doc Film Bazaar is a film market organised by NFDC with the aim to promote South Asian Cinema and film talent to worldwide film professionals. Waves Doc Film Bazaar is purely a B2B (Business to Business) platform. It is not the same as MIFF which is a B2C (Business to Consumer) platform. Waves Doc Film Bazaar is a market that showcases films with a focus on international film professionals as well as Indian film professionals. The second edition of Waves Doc Film Bazaar at MIFF will be held from June 16-18, 2026 in Mumbai.

Waves Doc Film Bazaar is not to be confused with MIFF which is a film festival.

Q. What are the dates of Waves Doc Film Bazaar?

The second edition of Waves Doc Film Bazaar at MIFF will be held from June 16-18, 2026 in Mumbai, alongside MIFF.

Q. How do I decide which section to apply to in Waves Doc Film Bazaar?

A. If you are a filmmaker or an aspiring filmmaker, here is the rough guide to Waves Doc Film Bazaar at MIFF 2026.

If you have a film at the development stage and haven't started shooting the film, you may want to apply for the Co-Production Market.

If you have a documentary and animation film above 30 minutes that is in post-production but not complete, the Work-in-Progress Lab as well as the Viewing Room could be an option for you.

Short films that are complete or in post-production stages and are looking for film festivals, film distribution, world sales and gap financing can apply (only) to the Viewing Room.

You can also attend Waves Doc Film Bazaar 2026 just as a delegate, even if you do not have a project in hand and experience the physical film market, as an investor or a producer looking for new projects/films. Registration for delegates will open shortly.

Q. What is the Viewing Room at the Waves Doc Film Bazaar?

A. The objective of the Viewing Room is to present a selection of latest films, complete or in progress, from India and South Asia to festival programmers / world sales agents / buyers / distributors / VOD platforms. The films that are looking for finishing funds, and are in the final stages of production can also apply to Viewing Room. Viewing Room is a restricted zone and hence, film clips (or entire films*) can be viewed only by selected delegates on the computer terminal at Doc Film Bazaar in Mumbai. The films are stored on our secured server and played on a piracy-free platform.

Q. What are the kinds of films suitable for Viewing Room?

A. Films that have just been completed, that have not yet travelled to festivals abroad, or have done so in a limited way. Films in the post-production stage looking for finishing funds are also eligible to apply. Films looking for distribution deals can also apply. There is no restriction on the completion date of the film. Applicants can also send older films that are still available for distribution.

Q. How do I apply for Viewing Room and / or Work-in-Progress Lab?

A. The application process for Viewing Room and Work-in-Progress Lab is an online process and a common one. Please visit our [website](#) for more details.

For any queries regarding VR and WIP Lab, please contact miffdocfilms@filmbazaarindia.com.

Q. What are the submission deadlines and what are the application fees for all three sections?

A. The submission fee for VR, WIP and VR & WIP is INR 5000. Please note that all application fees are non-refundable.

Q. What is the selection process for the Viewing Room?

A. No film that has completed the application is rejected from the Viewing Room. A completed application form along with the mandatory application fee paid before the stipulated deadline, a signed *Undertaking* and the timely submission of the film / film clip will ensure that the film will be showcased in the Viewing Room. However, in specific cases, Waves Doc Film Bazaar has the right to reject applications if guidelines and regulations are not adhered to and/or submissions are incomplete/ in wrong format/ past due date, or any other reasons specific to the film submitted. The decision of Waves Doc Film Bazaar is final.

There will be a curated selection of films from the VR library called Waves Doc Bazaar Recommends (WDBR). All feature-length documentary and animation films at any stage of post-production that submit to the Viewing Room are in consideration for this section. The

WDBR section is curated for purposes of highlighting contemporary styles of filmmaking. This curation is made at the sole discretion of the programmer.

Q. What will happen if my Film is not in Waves Doc Bazaar Recommends (WDBR)?

A. If your film is not in the Waves Doc Bazaar Recommends (WDBR), it will still be a part of Film Library section in Viewing Room, as you have paid the fees. For any film to gain visibility the presence of filmmaker personally networking at the Film Bazaar helps immensely.

Q. If my film is rejected for the Viewing Room, will my application fee be returned?

A. The fee for the Viewing Room is an application fee that is mandatory and shall not be refunded under any circumstances.

Q. In which format will the films be shown to the delegates? What is the exact design of the event?

A. Entire films will be shown in digital format. They will be stored in a remote server owned by NFDC and made available via the secure Viewing Room software. The Viewing Room is modelled on similar platforms available in other film markets across the world. Registered delegates who are given VR Access will be able to login to view the films and a report will be sent to the filmmaker of these viewings.

Q. What steps will be taken to ensure that our film will be free from piracy?

A. Access to films showcased in the Viewing Room will be highly restricted. Only verified and vetted film professionals will be granted VR access by Waves Doc Film Bazaar to the Viewing Room. This will be based on information provided by the delegate at the time of registration. A filmmaker can also choose who will have access to his/her film. The submitted film files will only be available to the core team and stored on a secure server in an encrypted format. When the film plays, the name of the viewer will appear as a watermark on the film image, hence deterring the viewer from possibly taking a screenshot / recording. In any case, delegates entering the Viewing Room are not allowed to carry any devices having a camera which includes a mobile phone or a tablet. These are the precautions NFDC has taken to avoid potential piracy.

Please note that Waves Doc Film Bazaar will not be held responsible for any claims arising due to piracy of the film clip or the film. The filmmaker will have to sign an *Undertaking* on submission of the film clip / film to Waves Doc Film Bazaar 2024. Kindly note that without the minimum requirement of a ten minute film clip, the film will not be eligible for the Viewing Room.

Q. In which format do I need to submit the film?

A. Applicants are not expected to upload their films at the time of application. However, they need to submit a password protected, downloadable preview screener link (Vimeo or Google Drive) of their entire rough-cut or the completed film along with the application form, so that our programmer can view the film. This file will not be shared publicly with anyone and will be for internal reference of the programmer only.

For Viewing Room, the filmmaker will be expected to submit at least a minimum of ten minutes of their film. However, we recommend that a filmmaker submits the entire film which will be shown in the highly restricted and safe environment of Viewing Room to the selected delegates who have access. The Viewing Room team will contact the filmmaker in May 2026 requesting them to upload the final film file / film clip onto the Viewing Room server. This uploaded film file will undergo the process of digitalization and encryption, and will be stored in the server. This is the film file that will be viewed by the selected delegates of Doc Film Bazaar 2026. Please refer to the [Rules & Regulations](#) to understand the two stage submission process of film files. The filmmaker will have to sign an [Undertaking](#) at the time of application.

Q. Can I update my film file in the Viewing Room?

A. The programmer will watch the preview link sent via the application form only once. Please make sure that the link is correct. Regarding film files to be showcased in the Viewing Room, the team shall get in touch with applicants in early May.

Q. Can I have my film in the Viewing Room but not attend NFDC Doc Film Bazaar 2026?

A. The application fee is only for the submission of the film to VR or WIP Lab. If you do not register and are unable to attend Waves Doc Bazaar between June 16-18, 2026, you can still choose to have your film in the Viewing Room. The programmer/ sales agent/ distributor/ investor viewing your film/ film clip can get in touch with you via the email provided by you in the application form through the VR software. Alternatively, the email address of the producer will also be printed in the catalogue. At the end of Waves Doc Film Bazaar, the applicant will receive a detailed report of how many views the film has had at the Viewing Room and names of the viewers.

Q. Does a submission to the Viewing Room guarantee that my Film will be watched at Waves Doc Bazaar?

A. Waves Doc Film Bazaar does not offer any guarantees with regards to business opportunities for the film. It is a market that showcases the submitted films in the best possible way to attract as many views as possible. However, every applicant should be aware that their film is competing for attention among a large number of films from India and South Asia. Hence, the onus to attract views lies on the Director and the Producer of the film. A well chosen image for

the catalogue and a well written synopsis is a great tool to increase curiosity about the film. But the best marketing strategy is to be personally present at Waves Doc Bazaar and network for your film.

Q. Who are the festival programmers, world sales agents and financiers visiting the Film Bazaar this year?

A. Waves Doc Film Bazaar will reach out to top film professionals worldwide, which include film festival directors and programmers from prestigious film festivals, buyers, sales representatives, distributors and investors. While confirmations can only be indicated towards the end of May, on registering for Waves Doc Film Bazaar 2026, you shall be given access to the complete list of invitees in your Doc Film Bazaar Account. You will be able to interact and book meetings before WavesNFDC Doc Film Bazaar 2026.

Q. What is the difference between 'Work-in-Progress Lab' and 'Viewing Room'?

A. Work-in-Progress Lab is a lab designed to help the Director of a film achieve an accomplished final cut of the film. The film is viewed at a rough-cut stage by a panel of international experts who guide the filmmaker towards a final edit. The objective is to view a film from an international perspective and obtain feedback on the same. It is however not incumbent for the Director to implement the feedback that the mentors give. Alternatively, the Viewing Room looks at presenting the latest in South Asian cinema that is seeking film festivals / world sales / distribution / gap financing.

Q. Is there a selection process for Work-in-Progress (WIP) Lab?

A. Yes, a maximum of five feature-length films will be selected for Work-in-Progress Lab. The final selection of the films will be done by Waves Doc Film Bazaar.

Q. Is the WIP Lab open to Documentary feature films?

A. Yes. The WIP Lab is open to documentary and animation films above 30 minutes. Shorts are not eligible for WIP Lab.

Q. I am interested in both the Viewing Room and Work-in-Progress Lab. Can I apply for both the sections and how much is the fee for both?

A. Yes. You can apply for both sections provided you have a documentary and animation film above 30 minutes that is in the rough-cut stage. Short films, and feature-length feature films are not eligible. Additionally, films which are completed i.e. films which have locked their edit, cannot apply for the Work-in-Progress Lab. Please refer to the *Rules & Regulations* for better understanding of the constraints of both the programs. To make the application easier, Waves

Doc Bazaar has generated one form for both the sections. Please choose the option **VR+WIP** to apply to both the sections simultaneously.

Q. Am I allowed to embed a watermark on the screener?

A. A large watermark on the film image hampers the viewing experience. If at all you wish to add a watermark, please make sure that it is small in size, at the corner of the frame and not across it.

Q. I received a reference number at the end of my application. What is this?

A. The reference number provided to you is the number of your application. Please save this number for reference to your form and correspondence pertaining to your application.

Q. Will a screening at Waves Doc Film Bazaar be counted as an official screening / premiere of the film?

A. A screening at Waves Doc Film Bazaar 2026 is purely a screening for the Industry and is a preview. The information of the film will be included in the market documentation that is given out to all market delegates. As it is a market screening, it is not considered as a premiere of the film and hence, does not affect the chances of the film being selected for World Premiere in international film festivals. The filmmaker cannot claim that the film has premiered at Waves Doc Film Bazaar even if it is the first screening of the film.

Q. Will NFDC be involved in the deals that happen at Waves Doc Bazaar or help to get the funding for our film?

A. Waves Doc Film Bazaar is a film market open to film professionals from around the world. This platform enables networking between the filmmaker and the prospective investors / financiers / co-producers. The terms at which the filmmaker decides to collaborate with another individual / company will have to be mutually negotiated. Waves Doc Film Bazaar doesn't involve itself in such negotiations. NFDC as a company does not invest in any film financially at the Bazaar. Waves Doc Film Bazaar hence invites filmmakers to make use of the platform designed for this purpose without being directly involved in the potential transactions that will take place between a filmmaker and an investor / producer.

For any specific query not covered in the above FAQs and Rules and Regulations kindly write to us at miffdocfilms@filmbazaarindia.com. You should receive a reply within 48 hours.