



A VISUAL STORY FOR YOUR VISIT TO THE MARKET PLACE THEATRE, ARMAGH



This visual story is designed for visitors to The Market Place Theatre to help prepare you if you are curious or anxious about your visit.

The Market Place Theatre in Armagh opens at 9.30am each day. On the day you come to see your show, the doors to the performance space (which will be the Main Auditorium or the Studio Theatre) will be open approximately 20 minutes before the show begins. This may vary slightly depending on the performance being staged.



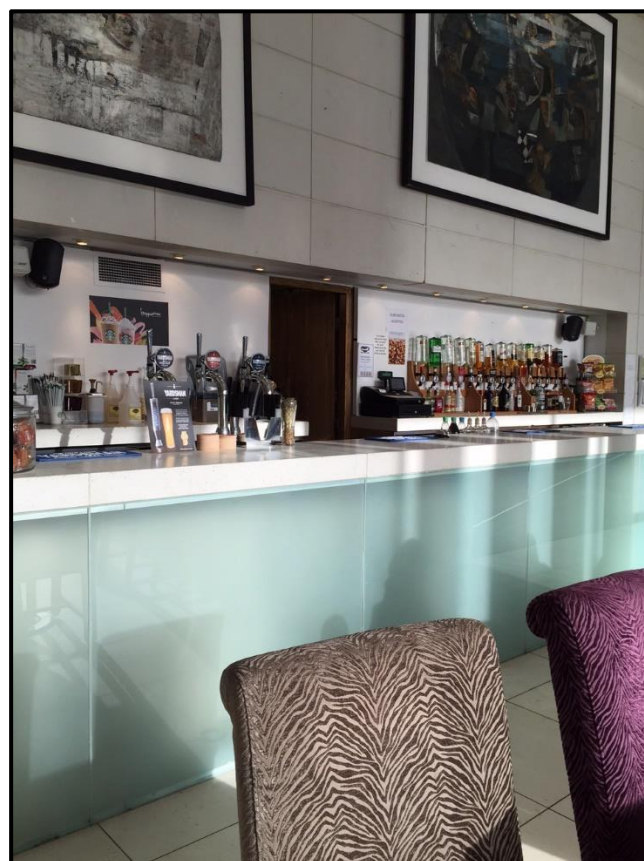
When you enter the building, you will go into the foyer. This is a large area where you can wait before going into the Auditorium or Studio. This can be quite busy and noisy before the performance as everyone waits to go in and see the show. There will also be announcements made through the tannoy (a sort of loudspeaker) to let you know when to go to your seats.



Also in the foyer is the Box Office. The Box Office is a place where you can pick up your tickets from a member of staff. If your tickets have already been sent to you in the post you won't need to go to the Box Office.



As you go through the foyer and into the Auditorium or Studio, you will see refreshments areas where you can purchase drinks. For some performances, there will also be merchandise area where you can buy souvenirs.



If your performance is in the Auditorium and you are sitting in the Stalls, you will walk downstairs and then through here:



If you are sitting in the Mid Gallery you will walk along here:



If you are sitting in the Upper Gallery you will walk upstairs and then along here:



There are toilets at the theatre on two different levels. If you need to use the toilet that's fine, just ask a Front of House Attendant to show you where they are. There are also signs to show you where the toilets are.



When you reach the Auditorium or Studio you will need to show your tickets to a Front of House Attendant. This is someone who works for the Theatre. They will be wearing a name badge. They will tell you where your seats are. The numbers on your tickets tell you where you have to sit. It is not a choice.

The inside of the theatre where the seats are is called the Auditorium. It is big and there are lots of seats. There are three different levels in the Auditorium. You might be sitting close to the stage or you may be high up and looking down on the stage. The Studio Theatre is a much smaller room, with seating in rows which are raised one behind the other.



When you get to your seats you can sit down and relax. There will be lots of other people sitting near you and it will be quite noisy.



When it is time for the show to start you will hear a voice asking everyone to turn off their mobile phones. This voice is coming through a speaker. The theatre will get a little darker and everyone will be quiet. You will need to be as quiet as you can during the show so that you can hear everything.



When the show starts, actors will come onto the stage and start to sing and talk to the audience. Seeing a show is like watching television, or a film, but the people in a show are on a stage and they are called actors.



You will have a lot of fun during the performance. There may be many different characters or performers, who will wear bright and colourful a variety of costumes. They will tell their story by talking, singing and dancing. There may be lights and loud noises right from the very start of the performance. There will also be some characters who might appear a little frightening, but don't worry, as the actors are only trying to tell the story in a funny way, and nothing is going to hurt you. Sometimes it might be loud but don't worry, nothing will hurt you. You can put your hands over your ears, or wear your headphones (if you brought some with you).



After each song, some people will clap. Clapping is nice because it tells the actors you liked their song. If you want to clap, you can. You don't have to clap if you don't want to.

In the middle of most shows, there is a break. This break is called an interval. During the interval you can use the toilet and have a drink or a snack.

After the interval, everyone will come back and sit down in their seats again. It will get a little darker and quieter again just like at the beginning of the show. The actors will come back on the stage and finish their performance.

At the end of the show, all of the performers will come out on stage. Many people will clap a lot so the actors know how much they liked the show. They may also stand up to show they liked the show



After the show is over, you will leave the theatre. You might not leave the same way that you came into the theatre.

USEFUL INFORMATION ON THE DAY

Chill-Out Area: If you want to leave the Auditorium or Studio at any time during the performance, there is a chill-out area that you can visit. You can go to this area to relax if you need a break before going back in to the performance. If you need to, you can ask the Front Of House staff where the chill-out area is and they will show you the way.



Performance Times: You can check with the staff at the Box Office before your performance begins, to find out how long the show will last, and when the interval will be.

Food and Drink: Food and drink is not allowed in the Auditorium.



Show Changes: For relaxed performances, the sound and lighting and some other small aspects of the show will be altered to reduce anxiety and to provide a less stressful experience. Also, if you need to talk during the show or to take a break, that's fine. Just ask the Front Of House staff to show you the way to the chill-out area.

Online Theatre Tour: Our website www.marketplacearmagh.com has a 360 degree venue tour. This can be accessed from bottom of the Homepage and allows you to see the Auditorium, Studio and other areas of the building online before your visit.

**We hope you have a lovely time at
The Market Place Theatre.**