



King's Theatre

Visual Guide to The King's Theatre

Introduction

This Visual Story will help you prepare for your visit to the King's Theatre.



This guide has been made for anyone who would like to know what to expect before they arrive. This might include first-time visitors, autistic people, people with disabilities or sensory differences, or anyone who finds pictures and information helpful before visiting a new place.

This guide includes photos of the theatre, information about what will happen during your visit, and details about how our staff can help you.

If you have any questions, please contact enquiries@capitaltheatres.com

Exterior

The King's Theatre is situated on Leven Street in Tollcross, Edinburgh.

This is what the theatre looks like from the outside. It is a red sandstone building with large arched windows.



The front doors are in the middle, and there is a cafe to the right.

Arriving at the theatre

You can enter the theatre through the middle doors. There is a wheelchair ramp if you need it, or you can use the steps and handrails at the front door.



You might see a line of people also waiting to enter the theatre. This line will get smaller as people go inside.

If you want, you can wait until it is quieter before going in.

Entering the theatre

When you are ready, you can go to the door. You will see the theatre staff, who wear black t-shirts. They will ask to see your ticket.



Finding your way around the theatre

When you first arrive, you will come into a space called the Foyer. It has marble floors and a central staircase.



Sometimes the Foyer can be busy when people first arrive.

There are lots of places you can visit from the Foyer which will have more space. We'll tell you more about these places in the next few pages.

Lifts

The King's has two lifts, one on either side of the building.

In the main foyer, you can find doors on the right and on the left that will take you to a lift.



The café

To the right of the Foyer, you'll see a cafe. It has tiled walls, a large circle window, and a bar where you can order food and drink.



There are lots of tables and chairs where you can have a rest.

The Box Office

To the left of the Foyer, you'll see our new Box Office. It has a ticket desk and a heritage display, telling you about the history of the King's Theatre.



This is where you can collect or buy tickets for shows and events.

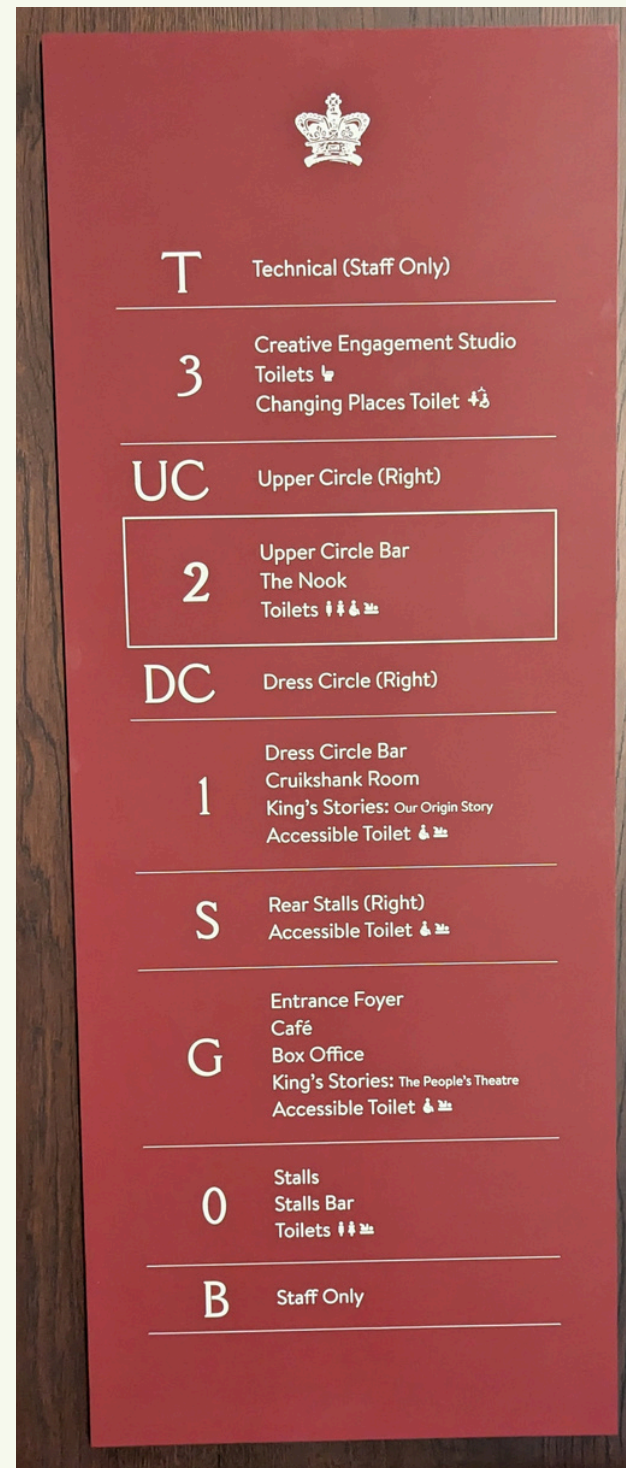
There will be signs showing you the way, and our staff will be happy to help.

If you want to visit a different level of the theatre, you can take the stairs or one of the lifts.



Throughout the building you will see this sign which tells you what is on each level.

The level you are currently on is shown inside a rectangle.



Toilets

There are lots of toilets throughout the building. You can check the signs or ask our staff to find out where the nearest toilets are.



Toilets

There are unisex accessible toilets on all levels of the theatre on the cafe side. All have emergency call buttons.



Changing Places

There is a Changing Places facility on level 3.



Baby Changing

There are baby changing areas in all accessible toilets, in the female toilets on levels 0 and 2, and in the male toilets on level 2.



Single Occupancy Toilets

We have 6 unisex single occupancy toilets on level 3.



The Auditorium

In theatres, the main hall where audiences sit to watch shows is called the auditorium. This is what it looks like inside.



There are comfortable red seats facing the stage, where performances take place.

There are three levels to the auditorium: the Stalls, the Dress Circle and the Upper Circle.

You can visit each level by taking the stairs or the lift and following the signs. You can also ask the theatre staff, if you're not sure where to go.

This is the **Stalls**, the lowest level and closest to the stage.



There are no steps inside the Stalls, and you might notice some spaces for wheelchairs.

This is the **Dress Circle**, which is the middle level of the Auditorium.

It is a little higher up and has a step between each row of seats.



There are wheelchair spaces in the centre of row H.

This is the **Upper Circle**, which is the top level of the Auditorium.

Like the Dress Circle, there is a step between each row of seats.



It is a little steeper in the Upper Circle, but still very safe if you take your time and hold the handrails. If you don't like heights, let the theatre staff know and they'll be happy to help.

Places you can visit: The Bars

There are three bars in the theatre. This is where audiences might buy a drink, sit and chat before a show begins, or during the interval.

On Level 0 outside the Stalls you find the Stalls Bar.



Stalls Bar

Dress Circle Bar

On Level 1 you will find the Dress Circle Bar



Upper Circle Bar

Located on Level 2, the Upper Circle Bar is our biggest bar, with lots of chairs and tables, both low and high, to sit at.



All of our bars can get quite busy, especially just before a show, or during the interval.

Creative Engagement Studio

On Level 3, you'll find the Creative Engagement Studio. It has a tall ceiling and yellow walls.

This is a space for workshops and creative activities to take place.



Quiet Room

We know that visiting new and busy spaces can be overwhelming. If you need a quiet place for any reason, let our staff know.

There is a Quiet Room in the Creative Engagement Studio that you can visit.



Our staff will be very happy to sit with you, if you like.

The show

When the performance is about to begin, the auditorium will go quiet and the lights will go darker. You'll still be able to see around you.



The story will be told by people called performers. They might be actors, dancers or musicians. Sometimes they will wear special costumes, or wear make up, to show the character that they are playing.



Watching a show might make you, or the people around you, feel different things. There might be moments which make the people around you laugh. There might also be parts of the story which make you feel sad, surprised or unsure. That's okay.



Remember: You can leave the auditorium at any time you want.

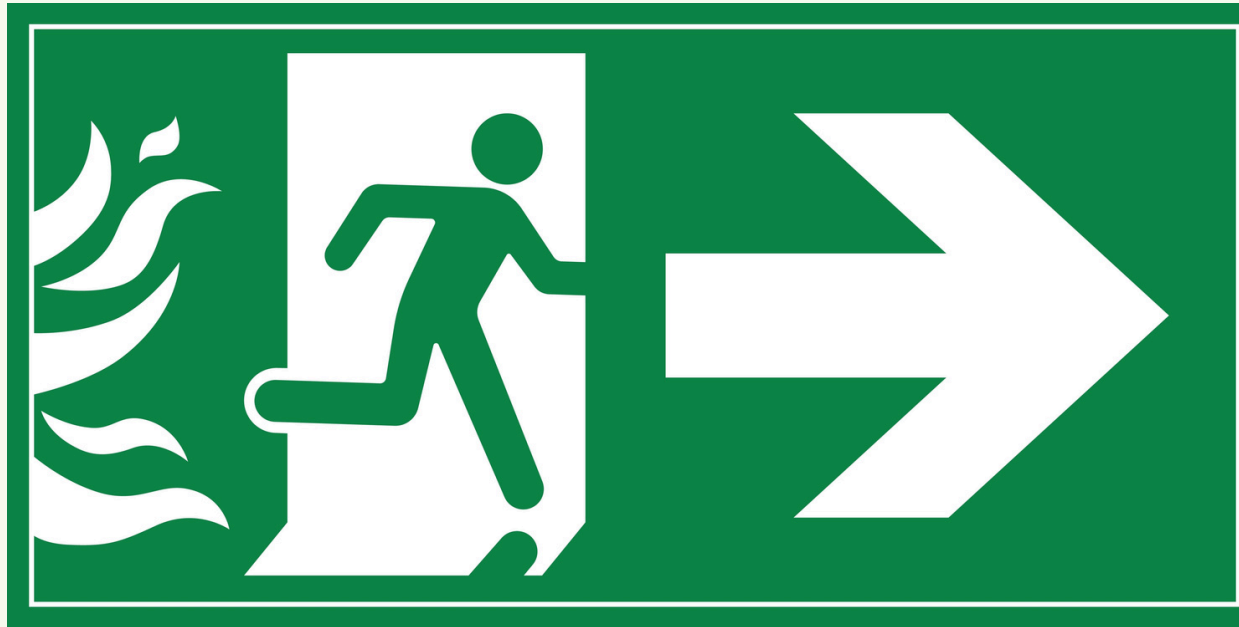
If you're watching a long show, there might be a break in the middle. This is called The Interval, and it's a great time to go to the toilet if you need, or to get a drink. The lights will go brighter and the auditorium doors will open.



Shorter shows don't always have intervals. If you're not sure if your show has an interval, you can ask our staff.

Emergencies

Although it's unlikely, if there is an emergency, you will hear a loud alarm.



Our staff will look after you and tell you how to leave the theatre. It's important to do as they say.

The noise will be much quieter outside and our staff will keep you safe.

If you need any help leaving the building, tell our staff. They will be able to help you leave safely.

When the performance has finished, the performers will bow and leave the stage. Some people around you might clap, cheer or stand up to show that they have enjoyed the performance. You can join in if you'd like to.



When it's time to go, the lights in the auditorium will get brighter, so you can leave safely. People might start to move around and leave the auditorium.



You can always stay sitting until it's less busy if you prefer. When you're ready to leave, our staff will show you the way out.

When it's time to go, please exit out the central doors from the main foyer.



Additional services

Our staff can provide:

- Enhanced hearing headsets
- Personal hearing aid loops
- Ear defenders

Just ask any of the staff in the foyer and they'll be happy to help.



Assistance Dogs

Assistance dogs are very welcome, and our staff are happy to look after them for you during the show.



For more information on shows which offer Captioning, BSL, Audio Description or Touch Tours, visit: capitaltheatres.com/access

We hope you enjoy your visit to The Festival Theatre!

You can tell us all about it if you'd like to by emailing engage@capitaltheatres.com

