



ROYAL
OPERA
HOUSE

Linbury Theatre

Visual Story

Information about visiting the Linbury Theatre
Access at the Royal Opera House



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ENGLAND**

Attending a performance at the Royal Opera House Linbury Theatre



We are going to see a performance in the Linbury Theatre at the Royal Opera House.

We can get into the building using two different entrances.



Bow Street Entrance



Piazza Entrance

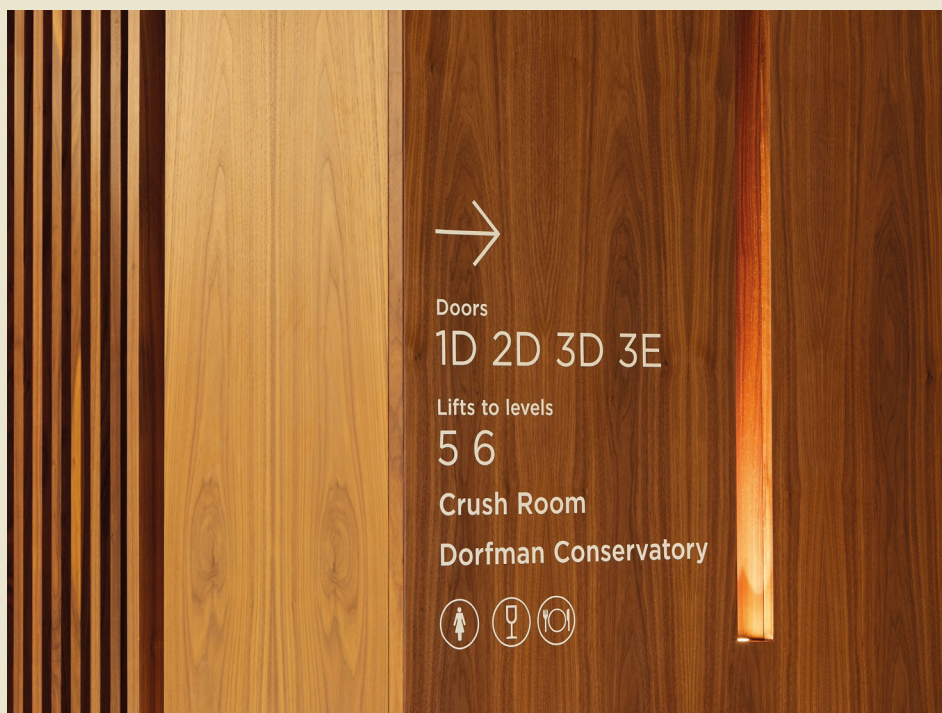
A performance is like watching a movie on the TV at home, except it's a lot bigger.

There is a big stage, with people called actors, singers and dancers. They are wearing costumes. There are bright lights and loud music. There are lots of other people who are also watching the performance, called the audience.

When we are going into the Royal Opera House, we will see a security guard. They may ask to look inside our bags.



The Royal Opera House has signs on the walls and pillars to help us find where we need to go. We can look out for these signs.



If we have any questions or are unsure what to do or where to go, we can ask the people who work at the theatre. They are called ushers.

Different members of staff wear different uniforms, but they all wear green lanyards with name tags around their necks.



We may already have our tickets, as paper tickets or e-tickets, or we may want to collect them at the Box Office in the Ground Floor Foyer. If we are collecting our tickets from the Box Office, we may have to wait in line for our turn.



Before we go to see the performance, we can buy a programme from an usher that will tell us all about the show.

It will tell us which actors, musicians, singers and dancers are in the performance, and show us some pictures of the rehearsals and some more interesting information about the story.



The performance we are seeing is in the Linbury Theatre.

The Linbury Theatre is downstairs. We can get there using these stairs from the Ground Floor Foyer or by going in the lift.



Before going into the theatre, we can leave our bags and coats at the cloakroom in the Linbury Foyer.



At the cloakroom a member of staff will take our bags and coats and give us a ticket. When we want to get them back again, we give them back the ticket and they will give us back our bags and coats.



At the cloakroom, we can borrow some things to help us enjoy the performance.

If we have a hearing impairment, we can borrow an Assisted Hearing Facility to help us hear the performance.

If we cannot see the stage because there are people sitting in front of us, we can ask for a booster cushion.

We can also borrow ear defenders and fidget toys or sensory devices.



We might have to wait for the door to the theatre to open. While we are waiting there will be other people waiting too and the room might be very busy. People may be sitting at tables or buying food or drink at the bar. We will hear an announcement or a bell telling us it is time to go and find our seats.



As we are going into the theatre an usher will ask to see our tickets. They will scan our tickets with a machine. The machine will shine a light on our tickets, and it will make a beeping sound.



Inside the theatre there will be lots of seats on different levels. We can go to these levels using the stairs or the lift on the right hand side of the theatre. The levels are called the Upper Circle, Circle, and Stalls.

We cannot choose our own seats. The writing and numbers on our tickets tell us where we must sit. If we need help to find our seats, we can ask an usher and they will show us.

There will be people we don't know sitting in seats around us. They are here to see the show too.



When the performance is about to start, we will hear another bell. Then the lights in the theatre will be turned down and the room will become darker.



If we look at the stage, we may see musicians getting ready. They will all play a note on their instruments together to make sure they are in tune. Sometimes a person will come onto the stage to introduce the performance. If there is a conductor, they will come out and join the musicians. When this happens, people in the seats around us will clap their hands to welcome them. If we don't like this noise we can cover our ears or wear ear defenders.



When we are sitting in our seats, we need to keep our feet down and our hands to ourselves.

During the performance we need to sit quietly so that we don't disturb the people around us, and everyone can enjoy the show. We may see or hear something on stage that makes us feel happy or sad. We can laugh or feel sad if we want to.

We must turn off our mobile phones and leave them off during the performance. We can use a fidget toy or sensory device as long as it doesn't have lights or sound.



If we need take a break or go to the toilet, we can leave the theatre quietly. We can use the Linbury bar or foyer to take a break from the performance. We can move around this space if we need to and we can talk to each other. We can also see what is happening in the performance on the TV screen on the wall. If the TV screen is not on, we can ask the usher to turn it on for us.



We can follow signs or ask an usher to help us find the nearest bathrooms. There are accessible bathrooms available if we need to use them.

The bathrooms can get very busy. There is one door to go into the bathroom and another door to come out.



When we have finished our break we can tell an usher. The usher will tell us when we can go back into the performance. We must go back in quietly.

During the performance there will be an interval. This is a little break where people can go to the bathroom and have a move around. During this time, we can talk to each other.

We can choose to stay in our seats or have a break and a move around. During this time the bathrooms and the Linbury bar will be busy. If it's too busy, we can go to the terrace upstairs where it is quieter.



During the break we can buy a drink or a snack at the bar, get a free cup of water at the water station beside the bar, or buy some ice cream from the vendors.

We cannot bring any food or drinks into the theatre with us.



There will be an announcement to tell us the break is nearly over and that we need to go back into the theatre for the second part of the performance. Sometimes if it's a very long performance there will be more than one interval.

At the end of the performance and sometimes during it the people sitting around us will clap their hands, shout and cheer to show that they have enjoyed the performance. They might even stand up to show that they really enjoyed it. If we want to, we can join in and clap our hands and cheer too.

At the end of the performance the actors will all come out on stage and take a bow. If the noise is too loud, we can cover our ears or wear ear defenders.



When the performance is finished the lights will be turned back up and the room will become brighter again. Everyone will be leaving the theatre at the same time and they will be talking to each other. It might be loud and busy. We will have to wait our turn to get out of our seats and leave the theatre. This will take a few minutes.



Access at the Royal Opera House

The Royal Opera House offers lots of seating options including wheelchair spaces. There is step-free access around the building including to the restaurants and bars. We can sign up for an Access Membership that gives us assistance and discounts. We can find out more by visiting the page on the Royal Opera House website **www.roh.org.uk/visit/access**

If we need more information or have any questions before our visit to the Royal Opera House, we can contact the box office by email **boxoffice@roh.org.uk** or telephone **+44 (0)20 7304 4000**

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