

THE SWALLOW THEATRE - YOUR VISIT



We've written a few notes and tips about your visit to The Swallow Theatre. If there's anything we've missed please don't hesitate to contact us on 01988 850368

or info@swallowtheatre.co.uk.

From about two hours before the show we are usually busy with the performers and getting ready so we often cannot answer the phone or pick up messages, so it's best to contact as early as you can.

Our aim is to make The Swallow Theatre a magical unique destination for everyone to enjoy.

Arriving

The theatre is tucked away down some narrow lanes – we are sending separate directions. Please allow plenty of time to find us. Some satnavs take you down a farm track - this is not necessary and really not a good idea unless you have a 4x4. You can get to the theatre on proper roads!

There is no public transport to the theatre, and the nearest bus stop is about 3 miles away.

If you are local to the area and are a Friend of the Swallow Theatre, we are trialling a car-share scheme whereby if you ask us in good time we will try to find a lift for you with someone who is coming to see the same show.

Parking

Audience car parking is in the field opposite the theatre. If the weather has been wet for several days before the show the field can get quite muddy. In some cases areas will be closed off - the rest of the field should be fine especially the higher parts. In January 2017 we put down a large area of grass mesh which will be ready to park on by spring/summer 2017 and this should make the field much more stable throughout the whole year and in all weathers.

It is then a short walk along the lane to the theatre site. The lane can also get muddy so we recommend stout and waterproof footwear.

In the dark you may wish to bring a torch as there are no street lights near the theatre – but there are excellent stars on a clear night!

Disabled parking

We have a small area of hardstanding disabled parking on the main theatre site, and you can also drop off people here who are not able to walk from the field. It helps us if you email or phone us in advance to let us know you need to park in the disabled spaces so that we can co-ordinate requirements.

The Sumner Room (Foyer / Bar / Box Office)

Our ground-floor foyer/bar/box office is called the Sumner Room in honour of the theatre's founders David and Jill Sumner. This is open from one hour before each performance, during the interval and after the show. We serve a small selection of wines and beers, plus luxury soft drinks, Fairtrade filter coffee and tea, biscuits and Cream o' Galloway ice cream.

You are welcome to take drinks into the auditorium - just ask us for a plastic or paper cup. These are fully compostable so are very eco-friendly! We don't allow china mugs, glasses or beer bottles into the theatre because we have a concrete floor, and sometimes our performers work in bare feet.

In the Sumner Room you can also order tickets for future shows, buy Swallow Theatre gift vouchers and browse our selection of books which relate to this season's shows, as well as catch up with friends or meet new people.

If there are spare tickets for the show we will sell these in the Sumner Room on a first-come, first-served basis. We recommend arriving early so as not to have a wasted trip. About 90 minutes before the show we try to put up a note on our ticket website about the availability of on the door tickets.

Please note that we can only take payment by cash (our internet and mobile signal is non-existent in the Sumner Room so at the moment so unfortunately we cannot take card payments).

The garden

You are welcome to enjoy the theatre garden. Please note there is a large pond so young children and vulnerable people should be looked after. You are welcome to bring a picnic into the garden but we ask that only drinks purchased from us are consumed on the site - by buying a drink from us you are helping support the theatre.

Our address is 'Moss Park' and in Scots the word 'moss' means bog. We are surrounded by cattle fields. And we have a nature pond. So we do tend to have a few midges flying around on warm still nights. We recommend you put on some of your favourite anti-insect repellent before visiting. We also try to deter them with citronella products, anti-midge plants and electric fans.

The theatre

The theatre is a converted byre. We think the seats are quite comfortable but some people like to bring a cushion. We provide some rugs on cooler evenings and you are welcome to bring your own.

Seating is unreserved and (for most shows) is on tiered levels so everyone gets a good view. There are at least six seats on the ground floor and if you have mobility problems and so require seats without steps please email or telephone us in advance and we will reserve them for you.

The auditorium is opened about 10 minutes before the show.

Please note that the only entrance to the theatre is directly onto the stage area, and due to the intimate nature of the space some of our performers request that latecomers are not admitted, as it would disrupt their concentration and be a distraction to audience members. So we urge you to arrive early. Whilst you wait you can enjoy the rest of our beautiful space.

We hope you enjoy the show!