

Dunstan Playhouse Social Story



I am going to see a performance in the Dunstan Playhouse at Adelaide Festival Centre.

When I arrive, I will enter through glass doors into a foyer.



This is the box office.

This is where I can pick up my tickets, leave my coat or my bag, borrow a hearing assistance pack and ask staff for help.



The foyer is a space where we wait to enter the theatre. It can be crowded and noisy.

I may have to wait in line until the theatre is open. If I need to sit down, there will be some seating around the foyer that I can use.



I will see Front of House staff working behind the box office, and at the entrance of the theatre.

They wear a uniform. They are friendly and I can ask them for help.



It is a good time to go to the toilet when we are waiting for the performance to start.

There are signs in the foyer that show me where the toilets are. The toilets have different lighting to the foyer and can be a cramped space.

→ FEMALE TOILETS



→ MALE TOILETS



When it is time for the performance to begin, there will be a bell chime sound. This tells everyone to make their way into the auditorium.

There are four doors to get into the Dunstan Playhouse – Door **1**, **2**, **3** and **4**.

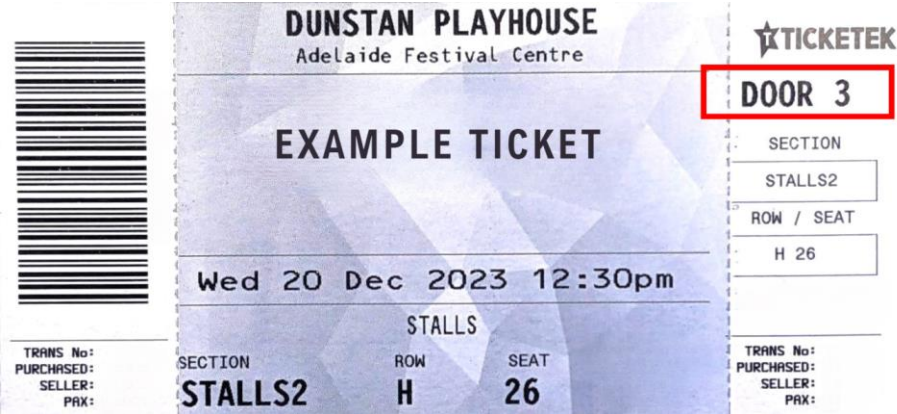
Each door's number is displayed above the door.



→ EXAMPLE TICKET

To know which door to go through, I can check my ticket for the word '**DOOR**' and the door number printed on it.

If I can't find my door, I can always ask a front of house staff member for help.



→ LIFT 2A



If I need to use a lift to get into the theatre, I can use Lift **2a** or **3a**.

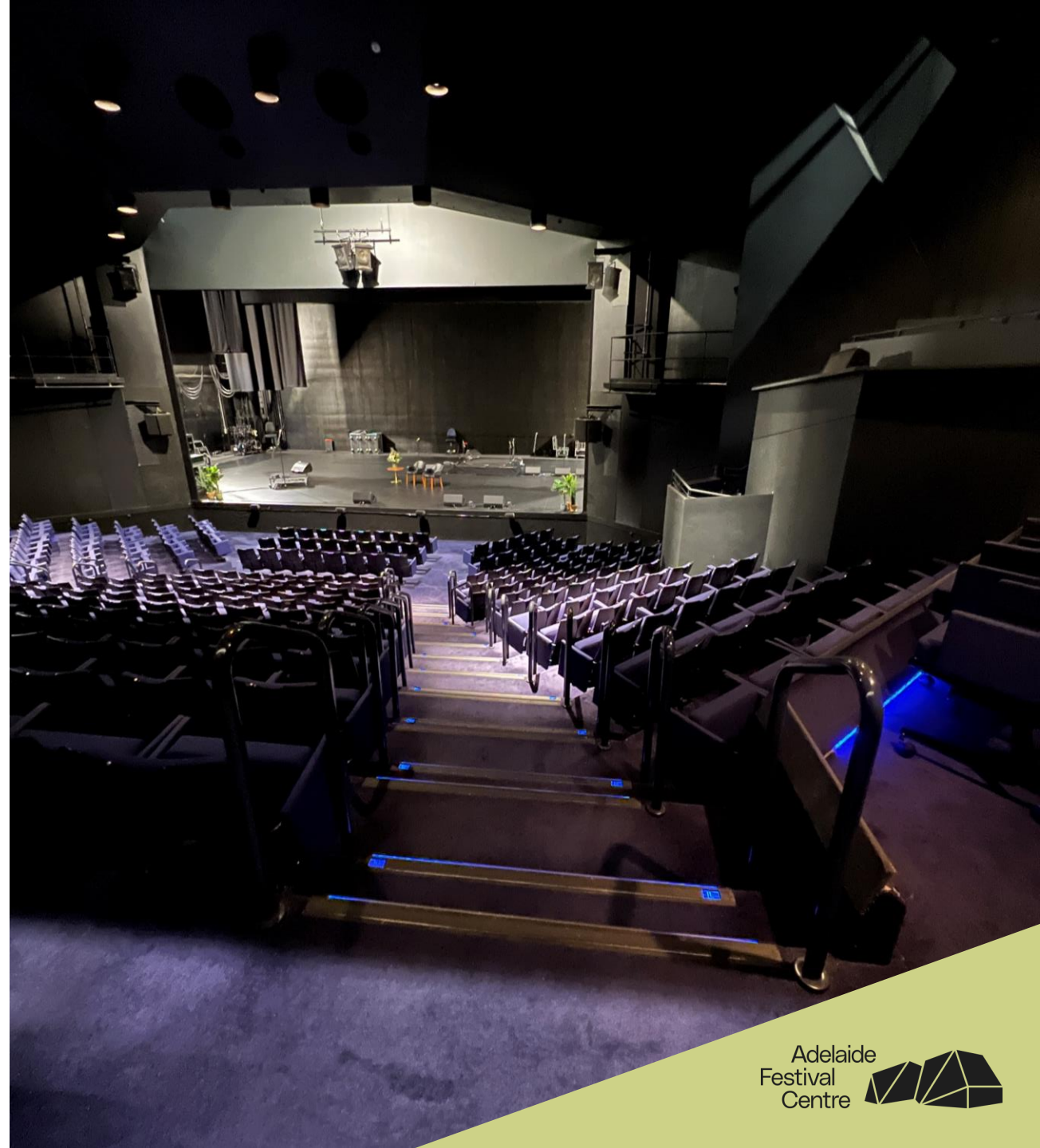
Front of House staff can help me access the lift.

→ LIFT 3A



Inside the theatre, there are lots of seats. All of the seats are facing towards the stage.

Everyone who is sitting watching the stage is called the audience. Everyone in the audience has their own seat.



To get to my seat, I may have to walk down some stairs. If I have trouble walking down the stairs, the Front of House staff member will find me a seat where I don't have to.

I may have to move past people who are already sitting. I may have to wait while other people sit down to get to my seat.

Once I am sitting down, I will wait a few minutes for everyone else to sit down so the show can start.



When the show is about to start, the theatre will get dark. This tells me and the rest of the audience to be quiet.

There may also be an announcement.
Then the performance will begin, and
the performers will come on stage.

I might be going to see a theatre
performance, a dance performance,
music performance or a circus
performance. In all these performances,
there will be people on stage called
performers. They will wear a costume
and sing, dance or act to tell us a story.



During the performance, the audience mostly stays quiet to watch the show.

If I see something that I like, or something I think is funny, I can clap my hands or laugh. Other people around me may laugh or clap.

If the clapping is too loud, I can cover my ears, wear earplugs or headphones.

The performers might ask me to do something, like call out an answer or give them a high five. I don't have to do this if I don't want to.



During the performance, there may be things that make me nervous, like loud sounds and bright or flashing lights.

If I get nervous during the show, I can cover my eyes and ears, or wear headphones.



If I feel uncomfortable, I can leave the theatre. A Front of House staff member or my parent or guardian will help me exit quietly and safely. They will have a torch to help me see in the dark theatre.

If I leave in the middle of the performance, I might not be able to go back into the theatre, but the Front of House staff will tell me if I can.

If I leave the theatre, and don't want to go back in, I can sit or stand in the foyer until the show is over.

When the show is finished, the stage lights might go dark.

Then the performers will come on stage and take a bow. The audience will clap to say thank you to the performers. Then, the lights will come up.

A Front of House staff member will help me find my way to the theatre's exit, and back into the foyer.



Image credits

Slide 14: DreamBIG Children's Festival 2023 - Big Family Weekend Opening Performance

Slide 16: Mary Poppins Australian production 2022 – Photo Credit Daniel Boud

Slide 18: OzAsia Festival 2023 – tiaen tiamen Episode 1 Opening night performance – Photo Credit Xplorer Media (Tyr)

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