**Theatres and Arts Venues in Norwich**

**Theatres**

**Norwich Theatre Royal & Stage Two**

As the largest stage in the East of England, Norwich Theatre presents a vibrant programme of live performance and creative engagement activities to entertain, enrich and inspire audiences of all ages and backgrounds.

With its restaurant Prelude, café Cafe Royal and bars accompanying a wide range of productions including opera, plays, musicals and dance, to family shows, pantomimes and music, Norwich Theatre Royal and Stage Two truly have something for everyone.

**Opening Hours:** 10am – 6pm, Monday – Saturday (Box Office) and during performances

**Location:** Chapelfield

**Route from The Forum:** From The Forum, head west along Theatre Street for 2 minutes. Norwich theatre Royal & Stage Two will be on your left.

***2 minutes***

<https://norwichtheatre.org/>

**Norwich Theatre Playhouse**

Norwich Theatre Playhouse is a relaxed, intimate 300-seat riverside venue. The venue has become recognised as one of the best fringe venues in the country, having helped to launch the careers of many major performers.

It is home to the Playhouse Bar, which serves a selection of local ales and more exotic drinks, as well as teas, coffees, hot chocolates and hot cider. Interval drinks are always available, and the bar is open until midnight for after-show discussions and drinks.

**Opening Hours:** 12pm – close, Monday – Saturday

**Location:** St Georges Street

**Route from The Forum:** From The Forum, head north past City Hall and east down Gaol Hill. Follow Exchange Street until the junction with St Andrews Street. Turn right up St Andrews Street. Cross the road to St Georges Street opposite Cinema City. Follow St Georges Street, past Norwich University of the Arts and over the bridge. The Playhouse will be on your left.

***10 minutes***

<https://norwichtheatre.org/your-visit/norwich-theatre-playhouse/>

**Norwich Puppet Theatre**

Norwich Puppet Theatre is an excellent introduction to the magic of theatre with original shows, activities, workshops and masterclasses for all ages. Situated inside a converted medieval church, the Theatre is one of only three building-based puppet theatres in England.

Home to a family of puppets spanning over 35 years, they produce new shows for families and children which play in Norwich before touring the UK and internationally.

**Opening Hours:** 9.30am - 5pm, Monday – Friday (Box Office) and during performances

**Location:** Whitefriars

**Route from The Forum:** Driving, head west along Bethel Street to the roundabout at the top of Grapes Hill. Take the third exit heading down Grapes Hill, following the inner ring road clockwise. Turn right at the roundabout on Barn Road, then follow the road and head straight across on the next roundabout on St Crispins Road. At the fourth roundabout, take the third exit right onto Whitefriars- the entrance to Norwich Puppet Theatre will be on your immediate left.

When taking the bus, head east form The Forum, along the south side of Norwich Market, through the Royal Arcade and up Arcade Street onto Castle Meadow. Turn right to Stop CA. Take the X55 or 54 bus (5 minutes) to Anglia Square. From here, walk east for 4 minutes, crossing the roundabout and Barrack Street to Norwich Puppet Theatre.

Walking, head north past City Hall, turning right down Gaol Hill. Cross Exchange Street onto London Street, following the road to Bank Plain and Queens Street. Follow Queens Street to Tombland, heading north. When you’re facing the Maids Head Hotel, turn right onto Palace Street and follow the road round, over the bridge and along Whitefriars for approximately 7 minutes until Norwich Puppet Theatre is on your right, near the roundabout.

***7-minute drive, 14-minute bus journey (includes walking to your destination), 18-minute walk***

<https://puppettheatre.co.uk/>

**Maddermarket Theatre**

Nestled in the heart of the city we are Norwich’s community theatre. The Elizabethan style playhouse’s resident company has productions in the beautiful 300-seat main auditorium and intimate Emmerson Studio every other month.

The theatre was originally built as a Roman Catholic chapel in 1794, its vaulted ceiling giving it excellent acoustics.

The Maddermarket Theatre opened in 1921, with their resident theatre company, The Norwich Players. They have never been short of ambition and were the first company in the world to stage the entire Shakespeare canon twice.

At other times the theatre is an established presence on the professional touring circuit, giving audiences everything from stand-up comedy to hair-raising rock and much more in between.

Tours are available upon request.

**Opening Hours:** 10am - 2pm, Monday – Friday (Box Office) and during performances

**Location:** St John's Alley

**Route from The Forum:** From The Forum, head north past City Hall and right down Gaol Hill. Halfway down, turn left down Dove Street. At the end of the street, turn left up Pottergate, before taking a right onto St John’s Alley (at the side of the Belgian Monk and church of St John the Baptist). Follow the alley for 1 minute, where the Maddermarket Theatre will be on your left.

***5 minutes***

<https://maddermarket.co.uk/>

**The Garage**

The Garage is a hub for performing arts; a creative space to learn, experience and create. The Garage’s regular programme features an array of over 90 classes for children and adults of all abilities.

It presents small-scale performances in its intimate 113 seat theatre, featuring local and national productions in theatre, dance and music.

**Opening Hours:** 9am – 9pm, Monday, 9am – 10pm, Tuesday – Thursday, 9am – 9.30am, Friday, 9am – 5pm, Saturday & 9am – 2pm, Sunday

**Location:** Chapelfield

**Route from The Forum:** From The Forum, head west along Theatre Street for 2 minutes. The Garage will be on your right, opposite Chapelfield Gardens.

***2 minutes***

<https://www.thegarage.org.uk/>

**Sewell Barn**

Tucked away in the serene grounds of Sewell Park Academy, Sewell Barn Theatre is a lively hub for local performers and audiences alike. Named for Black Beauty author, Anna Sewell, the theatre thrives on community spirit. Its cozy auditorium, surrounded by comfortable seating, brings you right into the heart of the action.

**Opening Hours:** During performances

**Location:** Constitution Hill, NR3

**Route from The Forum:** Driving, head west along Bethel Street and south on Cleveland Road, taking the third exit at the roundabout onto Grapes Hill. Follow the inner ring road along Barn Road, and turn right at the roundabout. Then take an immediate left onto Oak Street, before turning right onto Sussex Street. Follow St Augustines Street, heading northeast as it turns onto Waterloo Road. Follow Waterloo Road and turn left onto Magdalen Road/ Constitution Hill, following the road until Sewell Barn is on your left.

On the bus, head east along the south side of Norwich Market, through the Royal Arcade and up Arcade Street to Castle Meadow. Turn left and take the 11A/ 11/ 11C/ 12 bus at Stop CA to Gerturde Road (12 minutes). From here, walk south along Sprowston Road, taking the first right onto Tillett Road. Follow the road to Constitution Hill and turn right. Head north for approximately 1 minute- Sewell Barn will be on your left.

From The Forum, walk north past City Hall, turning right onto Gaol Hill. Halfway down, turn left onto Dove Street, following the road as it turns into St John Maddermarket and crossing the road onto Duke Street. Follow Duke Street until you reach Norwich University of the Arts, turning right onto Colegate. Follow the road and turn left onto Magdalen Street. Keep following Magdalen Street north, past The Artichoke pub as it turns into Magdalen Road, all the way to The Whalebone Pub. Follow the road round as it becomes Constitution Hill, past Sewell Park, where Sewell Barn will be on your left.

***10-minute drive, 18-minute bus journey (includes walking to destination), 37-minute walk***

<https://www.sewellbarn.org/>

**Arts Venues**

**Norwich Arts Centre**

Internationally recognised and nestled in Norwich’s cultural and independent community, award-winning Norwich Arts Centre (NAC) is a contemporary multi-arts venue housed within a Grade 1 listed beautiful flint church. It’s known for its welcoming staff, friendly atmosphere, well stocked Adnams bar and pretty gardens.

Since 1980, NAC has delivered a diverse programme of new music, theatre, comedy, live art, visual arts and dance. As well as providing quality cultural experiences all year round, this independently run venue is also available to hire for a city centre wedding, civil service or party.

**Opening Hours:** From 7pm for evening events, but can be earlier for daytime events

**Location:** St Benedicts Street

**Route from The Forum:** From The Forum, head west along Bethel Street, then right on St Giles Street. Take the first left onto Willow Lane, walking down to Cow Hill. Turn right, then walk down Ten Bells Lane from Pottergate (next to the iconic pink house) onto St Benedicts Street. Norwich Arts Centre will be opposite you.

***7 minutes***

<https://norwichartscentre.co.uk/>

**National Centre for Writing**

The National Centre for Writing at Dragon Hall celebrates and explores the artistic and social power of creative writing and literary translation. Their ongoing programme of innovative collaborations engages writers, literary translators and readers, in person and online, in projects that support new voices and new stories, and respond to the rapidly changing world of writing.

Following a restoration project, Dragon Hall is now free for visitors to explore on select days of the week.

During school holidays, NCW puts of lots of FREE and low-cost activities for families and children of all ages.

**Opening Hours:** 10am - 4.30pm, Tuesday - Saturday

**Location:** King Street

**Route from The Forum:** From The Forum, make your way east along the south side of Norwich Market, across Gentleman’s Walk and through the Royal Arcade. Continue up Arcade Street and cross Castle Meadow to Castle Gardens (around the bottom fo Norwich Castle). From here, follow Cattle Market Street east, before turning right onto King Street. Follow King Street for approximately 5 minutes until the National Centre for Writing is on your left.

***12 minutes***

<https://nationalcentreforwriting.org.uk/>