



**FAMILY FIRST NIGHTS 2025**  
**INFORMATION GUIDE**

# WELCOME TO FAMILY FIRST NIGHTS!

Over 12,000 families have participated in FFN since the programme began in 1998, and it continues to play a vital role in making London theatre more accessible to families facing challenging circumstances.

To book, please go [this page](#), once you have found the show you wish to see simply click the **BOOK TICKETS HERE** button or follow the instructions within the show information section below. You can find a step-by-step booking guide [here](#)

If the seating plan doesn't display any seats, this means that we have sold out for that particular performance. However, we have lots of shows available so we recommend taking a look at an alternative production - you're sure to find something you'll love.

**YOU MAY BOOK UP TO 8 TICKETS FOR ONE SHOW ONLY AND PLEASE DON'T SHARE THIS PAGE WITH ANYONE ELSE.**



**PLEASE READ ON TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT ALL THE SHOWS  
AVAILABLE THIS YEAR!**



# THE LIGHTING THIEF: THE PERCY JACKSON MUSICAL

VENUE: THE OTHER PALACE, 12 PALACE ST, LONDON SW1E 5JA

**RECOMMENDED AGE:** 8+ (babies and children under 4 will not be admitted to the venue)

## CONTENT WARNINGS:

This production contains strobe and flashing lighting, loud and sudden noises, smoke effects, mild threat...and mythical creatures!

## SYNOPSIS:

When New York City teenager Percy Jackson discovers that he is the half-blood son of the Greek god, Poseidon, his life takes a dramatic turn as he is plunged into a world much bigger than he could possibly have imagined.

With newly discovered powers he is unable to control, an unwanted destiny and a whole textbook's worth of mythical monsters on his trail, Percy must learn what it means to be a hero.

The future of the world hangs in the balance as Percy and his friends embark on an epic adventure that will have you on the edge of your seat.

## VENUE ACCESS INFORMATION:

The Theatre auditorium has level access and there are dedicated wheelchair spaces in Row N (the back row of the auditorium which is at ground level). Please note: the rake from Row N to the stage is fairly steep and may not be suitable for vertigo sufferers. Access to aisle seats in the Theatre auditorium involves a minimum of one step.

Full accessibility details here: <https://theotherpalace.co.uk/your-visit/accessibility/>

## DATES AVAILABLE:

- SAT 17 MAY, 7:30PM
- FRI 23 MAY, 7:30PM
- WED 28 MAY, 7:30PM
- FRI 30 MAY, 2:30PM - **RELAXED PERFORMANCE**



Closest Tube Station (approx. 5 minute walk away) : Victoria (Circle, District and Victoria Line)



Bus Routes in the area: 16, 38, 52, 73, 82, 42 and the 148



Closest Train Station: Victoria



#### DATES AVAILABLE:

- THU 1 MAY, 2:30PM
- SAT 3 MAY, 2:30PM
- MON 5 MAY, 7:30PM
- TUE 6 MAY, 7:30PM
- WED 7 MAY, 7:30PM
- SAT 10 MAY, 2:30PM
- THU 15 MAY, 2:30PM AND 7:30PM
- TUE 20 MAY, 7:30PM
- WED 21 MAY, 7:30PM
- THU 22 MAY, 2:30PM



Leicester Square and Tottenham Court Road



The nearest bus stops are serviced by numbers 19, 38, 14, 176, 29 and 24



Closest Train Station: Charing Cross

# MJ THE MUSICAL

VENUE: PRINCE EDWARD THEATRE, OLD COMPTON STREET, LONDON, W1D 4HS

**RECOMMENDED AGE:** 8+ (babies and children under the age of 3 will not be admitted to the venue)

## CONTENT WARNINGS:

This production contains theatrical smoke effects and flashing lights. Contains scenes featuring abuse and prescription drug use.

## SYNOPSIS:

He is one of the greatest entertainers of all time. Now, Michael Jackson's unique and unparalleled artistry is thrilling West End audiences night after night at the Prince Edward Theatre, in the multi-Tony Award®-winning musical MJ.

Centred around the making of the 1992 Dangerous World Tour, and created by two-time Pulitzer Prize winner Lynn Nottage and Tony Award®-winning director/choreographer Christopher Wheeldon, MJ goes beyond the singular moves and signature sound of the star to offer a rare look at the creative mind and collaborative spirit that catapulted Jackson into legendary status.

## VENUE ACCESS INFORMATION:

Venue Visual Story Video: [Prince Edward Theatre - Social Story - YouTube](#)

Full accessibility info can be found here:

<https://www.delfontmackintosh.co.uk/theatres/prince-edward-theatre#access-information>





# STARLIGHT EXPRESS

VENUE: TROUBADOUR, WEMBLEY PARK THEATRE, 3 FULTON RD,  
WEMBLEY PARK, WEMBLEY HA9 0SP

**AGE RATING:** **3+** (babies and children under 3 will not be admitted to the venue)

## CONTENT WARNINGS:

This production contains roller-skating on tracks close to the audience, pyrotechnics, flashing and strobe lights, haze, simulated sparks, flame & smoke effects, and loud sound effects

## SYNOPSIS:

As a child's train set magically comes to life and the engines race to become the fastest in the world, Rusty the steam train has little hope of winning until he is inspired by the legend of the 'Starlight Express'.

Audiences will be immersed inside a world of speed, song and storytelling as an incredible cast of 40 whizz around and above, performing some of musical theatre's most beloved songs, including AC/DC, Make Up My Heart, Light at the End of the Tunnel and the iconic Starlight Express.

## VENUE ACCESS INFORMATION:

Troubadour Wembley Park Theatre is a fully accessible venue. There is level access from the street, into the foyer, and the ground-level section of the auditorium. There are two fully accessible toilet cubicles. We want to ensure your visit to our theatre is as smooth and enjoyable as possible. If there is anything that we can do to assist you in your visit, please email our dedicated team at [access@kxtickets.com](mailto:access@kxtickets.com).

## DATES AVAILABLE:

- **THU 1 MAY, 7:30PM**
- **FRI 2 MAY, 7:30PM**
- **THU 8 MAY, 7:30PM**
- **FRI 9 MAY, 7:30PM**
- **THU 15 MAY, 7:30PM**
- **SAT 17 MAY, 7.30PM - CAPTIONED PERFORMANCE**
- **FRI 23 MAY, 7.30PM**



Closest Tube Station: Wembley Park Station (5 minutes walk away) - Jubilee Line and Metropolitan Line



Bus Routes in the area: 83, 92, 182, 206, 223, 245, 297, 440, 483.



Closest Train Station: Wembley Park



#### DATES AVAILABLE:

- SAT 3 MAY, 7:00PM
- TUE 6 MAY, 7:00PM
- WED 7 MAY, 7:00PM
- FRI 9 MAY, 7:00PM
- SAT 10 MAY, 7:00PM
- TUE 13 MAY, 7:00PM
- WED 14 MAY, 7:00PM
- THU 15 MAY, 7:00PM
- SAT 17 MAY, 7:00PM
- TUE 20 MAY, 7:00PM
- WED 21 MAY, 7:00PM
- FRI 23 MAY, 7:00PM
- SAT 24 MAY, 7:00PM



Closest Tube Station: Covent Garden (Piccadilly line) and Leicester Square (Northern and Piccadilly Line). The nearest station with step-free access is Tottenham Court Road which is approximately 500 metres from the Theatre.



Bus Routes in the area: 14, 19, 24, 38, and 176



Closest Train Station: Charing Cross

# MATILDA THE MUSICAL

VENUE: CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, EARLHAM ST, LONDON, WC2H 9HU

**RECOMMENDED AGE:** 6+ (babies and children under 4 will not be admitted to the venue)

## CONTENT WARNINGS:

This production features flashing lights, lasers and loud sound effects. Latex balloons are popped onstage and stage haze (smoke) is used. Throughout the performance actors interact in audience spaces.

## SYNOPSIS:

Matilda The Musical is the multi-award winning musical from the Royal Shakespeare Company, inspired by the beloved book by Roald Dahl.

With book by Dennis Kelly and original songs by Tim Minchin, Matilda The Musical is the story of an extraordinary little girl who, armed with a vivid imagination and a sharp mind, dares to take a stand and change her own destiny.

Winner of over 100 international awards, including 24 for Best Musical, Matilda is now the 15<sup>th</sup> Longest-Running Production in West End history.

## VENUE ACCESS INFORMATION:

Matilda Visual Story: [Visual-Stories-Longer-Version-2024-non-adapted-performances.pdf](#)

The main entrance and Box Office are located on Seven Dials and have step-free access. If step-free access to the Stalls is required, then customers should present in the foyer where our access host will escort them to the access entrance which is located in Earlham Street.

<https://lwtheatres.co.uk/access/cambridge-theatre/>

# MEAN GIRLS



## DATES AVAILABLE:

**ALL MONDAY - FRIDAY**

**PERFORMANCES THROUGHOUT MAY.**



Closest Tube Station: Charing Cross is a 5 minute walk away (Bakerloo and Northern Line). Other close tube stations: Embankment and Temple Circle and District line)



Bus Routes in the area: 6, 9, 11, 15, 23, 87, 93, 139 (and more if you walk to Trafalgar Square)



Closest Train Station: Charing Cross

# MEAN GIRLS: THE MUSICAL

**VENUE:** SAVOY THEATRE, SAVOY CT, STRAND, LONDON WC2R 0ET

**AGE RATING:** 10+

Babies and children under the age of 3 are not permitted in the theatre and anyone under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult 18 years or over. The accompanying adult must be seated with the under 16.

## CONTENT WARNINGS:

It includes some mature themes including bullying and commentary on body image. Includes strobe lighting.

## SYNOPSIS:

Meet The Plastics – Regina, Gretchen and Karen. They rule North Shore High and will burn anyone who gets in their way. Home-schooled Cady Heron may think she knows a thing or two about survival of the fittest thanks to her zoologist mom, but high school is a whole new level of savage. When Cady devises a plan to end Regina's reign, she learns the hard way that you can't cross a queen bee without getting stung.

## VENUE ACCESS INFORMATION:

The theatre has no lift and 75 steps to the Stalls, which are not recommended for patrons with limited mobility. The Dress Circle is accessible via 32 steps or street-level access from Carting Lane.

Wheelchair access is available in the Dress Circle, accommodating one wheelchair patron with a companion or two wheelchair patrons seated together. Patrons can transfer to seats in Row F (2 steps) or Row G (3 steps). Accessible toilets are on the Dress Circle level.

Full access information can be found here:

<https://www.thesavoytheatre.com/visitors/your-visit/access>



# MY NEIGHBOUR TOTORO

VENUE: GILLIAN LYNNE THEATRE, 166 DRURY LANE, LONDON WC2B 5PW

**RECOMMENDED AGE:** 6+ (babies and children under 4 will not be admitted to the venue)

## CONTENT WARNINGS:

This production contains live music, some loud noises, some scenes are set in a hospital with a sick parent and some very large puppets. There are pyrotechnics, smoke, and haze.

## SYNOPSIS:

My Neighbour Totoro is an enchanting coming-of-age story exploring the magical fantasy world of childhood and the transformative power of imagination, as it follows one extraordinary summer in the lives of sisters Satsuki and Mei.

## VENUE ACCESS INFORMATION:

The Stalls are accessed by escalator and stairs, with the Circle up two to three flights of stairs. For access customers, the Stalls auditorium is accessible via lifts and a wheelchair platform, with two dedicated wheelchair spaces and companion seats in Row P. Row S can be used for transferring from wheelchairs. Wheelchairs must be within 73cm width and 123cm length. Larger electric wheelchairs cannot enter due to lift limitations. The maximum lift capacity is 630kg (8 persons). The Dress Circle is only accessible via stairs: 114 steps from the ground floor or 24 steps using the lifts.

Full access information can be found here: <https://lwtheatres.co.uk/access/gillian-lynn-theatre/>

## DATES AVAILABLE:

- **SUN 18 MAY, 2PM - AUDIO DESCRIBED PERFORMANCE**
- **TUE 27 MAY, 7PM**
- **WED 28 MAY, 7PM**
- **THU 29 MAY, 7PM**



Closest Tube Station: Holborn (Picadilly and Central Lines) and Covent Garden (Piccadilly Line) . The nearest station with step-free access is Tottenham Court Road which is approximately 800 metres from the Theatre.



Bus Routes in the area: 1, 59, 68, 134, 168, 171, 188, 243 and X68



Closest Train Station: Charing Cross





# WICKED

VENUE: APOLLO VICTORIA THEATRE

**RECOMMENDED AGE:** 7+ (babies and children under 5 will not be admitted to the theatre)

## CONTENT WARNINGS:

Loud noises, flashing lights, smoke effects, and strobe lighting feature in the production. Explores themes of bullying and discrimination.

## SYNOPSIS:

Based on the acclaimed novel by Gregory Maguire, Wicked imagines a beguiling backstory to the lives of L. Frank Baum's beloved characters, and reveals the magic that shaped the destinies of two unlikely friends on their remarkable journey to becoming Glinda The Good and the Wicked Witch of the West.

## VENUE ACCESS INFORMATION:

The Apollo Victoria Theatre offers step-free access and wheelchair accommodations. There are four wheelchair positions in Row F of the Circle, accessible via two platform lifts from the Vauxhall Bridge Road entrance. Wheelchairs must meet specific size and weight limits. Patrons can transfer to theatre seats in Row F, which is accessible via lifts or 17 steps with handrails.

If you wish to use the platform lifts please contact the box office on [apollovictoriaaccess@atgentertainment.com](mailto:apollovictoriaaccess@atgentertainment.com)

More info can be found here: [Access Information & Assisted Performances](#) | [Apollo Victoria Theatre](#)

## DATES AVAILABLE:

- TUE 6 MAY, 7:30PM
- WED 7 MAY, 7:30PM
- THU 8 MAY, 7:30PM
- TUE 13 MAY, 7:30PM
- WED 14 MAY, 7:30PM
- THU 15 MAY, 7:30PM
- TUE 20 MAY, 7:30PM
- WED 21 MAY, 7:30PM
- THU 22 MAY, 7:30PM



Closest Tube Station (approx. 5 minute walk away) : Victoria (Circle, District and Victoria Line)



Bus Routes in the area: 16, 38, 52, 73, 82, 42 and the 148



Closest Train Station: Victoria



# CLUELESS, THE MUSICAL

VENUE: TRAFALGAR THEATRE, 14 WHITEHALL, LONDON SW1A 2DY

**RECOMMENDED AGE:** 8+ (babies and children under 5 will not be admitted to the venue)

## SYNOPSIS:

Welcome to 90s Beverly Hills, where Cher Horowitz has a heart bigger than her allowance and a unique talent of finding love for others. When awkward new girl Tai arrives in town, Cher takes on her biggest project yet – but is she matchmaking or meddling? And what about her annoying ex-stepbrother Josh who she can't stop thinking about? Suddenly, Cher's life isn't quite so perfect and – ugh! – maybe she's the one being clueless.

## DATES AVAILABLE:

- MON 5 MAY, 7:30PM
- TUE 6 MAY, 7:30PM
- WED 7 MAY, 7:30PM
- THU 8 MAY, 7:30PM
- FRI 9 MAY, 7:30PM
- SAT 10 MAY, 7:30PM
- MON 12 MAY, 7:30PM
- TUE 13 MAY, 7:30PM
- WED 14 MAY, 7:30PM
- THU 15 MAY, 2:30PM
- THU 15 MAY, 7:30PM
- FRI 16 MAY, 7:30PM
- SAT 17 MAY, 7:30PM



Closest Tube Station: Charing Cross (Bakerloo and Northern Line) and Embankment (District and Circle Line)



Bus Routes in the area: 3 11 12 24 53 77a  
88 91 139 159 453



Closest Train Station: Charing Cross Station

## VENUE ACCESS INFORMATION:

Trafalgar Theatre is accessible for wheelchair users. Please note the lift only goes down to the Stalls level. The Dress Circle is only accessible via stairs.

The main entrance to the theatre is on Whitehall. The Foyer, Foyer Bar and Box Office are on street level. The pavement in front of the entrance of the venue is raised by 2 steps. You can find a flat pavement on Spring Gardens, the street parallel to Whitehall behind the theatre.

Enter the foyer step free, take the lift to the lower level, then enter the auditorium via rear Stalls Entrance A or B, depending on your seat location. The Stalls level is gently raked and the spaces for wheelchair user and companion are on the aisles in rows B and H. There are 25 steps down from the Foyer/Box Office to the Stalls Bar. You are welcome to use our lift. The Stalls Bar affords level access to the Stalls auditorium.

Our Dress Circle level is steeply raked.

Full information can be found here: <https://trafalgartheatre.com/access/>



#### DATES AVAILABLE:

- MON 5 MAY, 2:30PM
- WED 7 MAY, 7:30PM
- THU 8 MAY, 2:30PM
- THU 8 MAY, 7:30PM
- FRI 9 MAY, 7:30PM
- MON 12 MAY, 7:30PM
- WED 14 MAY, 7:30PM
- THU 15 MAY, 2:30PM
- THU 15 MAY, 7:30PM
- FRI 16 MAY, 7:30PM



Closest Tube Station: Covent Garden (Piccadilly line), Charing Cross (Northern and Bakerloo lines) and Embankment (District and Circle lines),



Bus Routes in the area: 6, 9, 11, 13, 15, 23, 87, 91, 139, 176



Closest Train Station: Charing Cross

# BACK TO THE FUTURE: THE MUSICAL

VENUE: ADELPHI THEATRE, STRAND, LONDON, WC2R 0NS, UK

**RECOMMENDED AGE:** 7+ (babies and children under 4 will not be admitted to the venue)

## CONTENT WARNINGS:

Show includes flashing lights, strobe effects, smoke/haze and pyrotechnics throughout. More info on exact timings [here](#) (includes spoilers!)

## SYNOPSIS:

Great Scott! It's time for "perfect musical escapism" (Metro) with the multi-award winning Back to the Future The Musical. The 1985 blockbuster film and pop culture phenomenon is electrifying audiences and critics alike.

When Marty McFly finds himself transported back to 1955 in a time machine built by the eccentric scientist Doc Brown, he accidentally changes the course of history. Now he's in a race against time to fix the present, escape the past and send himself... back to the future.

## VENUE ACCESS INFORMATION:

Visual Story can be found here: <https://assets.lwtheatres.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/24111727/BTTF-visual-story.pdf>

The Stalls auditorium has level access and there are two dedicated wheelchair park spaces in Row X. Any aisle seat in the Stalls can be used for customers wishing to transfer from a wheelchair into a theatre seat.

The Dress and Upper Circle levels of the auditorium can only be accessed via routes including stairs

Further information can be found here: <https://lwtheatres.co.uk/access/adelphi-theatre/>

# FIRST TIME VISITING THE THEATRE?

PLEASE FIND ANSWERS TO SOME FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS BELOW TO ASSIST WITH YOUR VISIT.

## **Is there a dress code?**

No, you are free to wear what you like and feel most comfortable in. Some people may choose to dress up, if it's a special occasion, but there is no expectation to wear anything fancy.

## **What time do I have to arrive?**

You should aim to arrive about 30 minutes before the time listed on your ticket.

This is the time that the show starts. So, make sure you are settled and in your seat before this time. If you are late, you may not be let into the theatre.

## **Can I eat in the theatre?**

Most theatres will not allow food bought from somewhere else to be brought in, but most will allow you to bring your own soft drinks – as long as they are in a plastic bottle. No hot food or drinks and no glass is allowed, for the safety of the other audience members.

Theatres will have a bar where you can purchase drinks and snacks.

If you are eating snacks in noisy packaging, it's a good idea to open the snacks before the show starts – otherwise they can disturb the performers on stage and your fellow audience members.

## **Can I take photos/videos?**

You are welcome to take photos and videos before the performance starts to remember your trip to the theatre, but you must not take any once the performance starts. If you are caught using your phone or a camera at this time, a member of staff will ask you to stop. If you continue to photograph/film, you might be asked to leave.

## **How long is the show?**

On each show page you will be able to find the running times. Most shows are divided into two halves, with a short interval (usually about 15-20 minutes long) in the middle.

The interval is your opportunity to stretch your legs, go to the toilet and get a drink or a snack. You are also very welcome to stay in your seat.



# FAQS CONTINUED...

## **I'm scared of heights, will I be very high up?**

Some theatres do have very steep steps, and the seats can be quite high up, so when booking look for seats that are closer to the stage. Rows in theatres are usually ordered alphabetically with A being the row closest to the stage and Z being the row furthest away. If you don't like heights, try to book seats in the stalls which are on the ground level.

## **What are the different levels in the theatre?**

- Stalls: These are the seats on the ground level directly in front of the stage.
- First Circle / Dress Circle: This is the first floor of seating above the stalls.
- Second Circle / Grand Circle: This is the second floor of seating
- Balcony: This is usually the highest level of seating.

## **Can I bring my baby/toddler to the theatre?**

Each theatre and show allows different ages to attend. You can find the age recommendation in the show information. Most theatres do not allow children under 5 to attend and do not allow babies.

## **I need to book a wheelchair space, or have specific access queries**

Please contact [Nancy Turner](#) (Programme Manager - Children & Families) with details of the show you'd like to see and she'll assist you with your booking.

**IF YOU HAVE ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS , OR ARE HAVING ANY ISSUES BOOKING  
PLEASE PLEASE CONTACT [NANCY TURNER](#) (PROGRAMME MANAGER -  
CHILDREN & FAMILIES) - SHE WILL BE VERY HAPPY TO HELP!**



# GLOSSARY

**The following glossary may help you understand some of the terms that are commonly used in theatres.**

**Running Time:** This is how long the show, or each act of a show, will last. You can find these running times on the info page for each show.

**Interval:** This is a short break in the middle of a show where you are welcome to leave the auditorium. This can be a good time to stretch your legs, go to the toilet, get a drink or a snack. If you would rather stay in your seat that is okay as well.

**Foyer:** The waiting area at the entrance of the theatre.

**Auditorium:** The seating area in front of the stage where audience sit and watch the performance.

**E-Ticket:** A ticket is a document with details such as the name, time and date of the show you are seeing and where you are sitting. To gain entry to the theatre you will need to show this document to a member of Front of House Staff. Most theatres will provide the ticket as an e-ticket, which is an online version and will be emailed to the person who bought the tickets to show and can be shown to staff on a mobile phone/tablet or printed off. Some theatres will send you the ticket just after you have ordered, some will send a few days before the performance – so please keep an eye on your emails and check the booking policy when you book.

**Seat Number:** Each seat at the theatre has a specific number and your ticket will tell you what seat number you will be sitting in. Your ticket will show a letter and a number, for example “A5”. The letter is to tell you what row you are in, and the number is to tell you which seat you are in. You can find which row is which by looking at the letters on the floor on the end of each row and you can find the number by looking at the number on the seat. An usher will be very happy to help you find your seat.

**Usher or Front of House Staff:** These are staff members who are placed throughout the theatre (often at the door of the auditorium). They are there to check everyone’s ticket, help show the audience to their seat and provide any help you may need. Sometimes these staff members will be called Ushers or Front of House Staff – both names mean the same thing.

# TERMS AND CONDITIONS

## **Taking part in Family First Nights (FFN is subject to the following terms and conditions)**

1. Any cancellations made after the tickets have been booked with the theatre are still liable to be paid for.
2. You must not share the ticket booking link with any friends or families. If we find that you have shared the link we reserve the right to cancel your booking.
3. Families may only book up to 8 tickets for ONE performance only. If duplicate bookings are identified Go Live reserves the right to cancel your booking.
4. At least half of the booking must include young people aged 6 - 17 (or up to age 25 for young people with SEND), unless you are a two parent family with one child.
5. Someone in your party must be aged 18 or over.
6. We have a limited allocation of tickets for each performance and they will be allocated first come, first served. We strongly advise that you book quickly to avoid disappointment. All tickets and prices are strictly subject to availability.
7. Children under 3 will not be admitted to most London theatres, unless stated otherwise on the booking page.
8. All information provided will be kept securely and will only be used in line with Go Live's Privacy Policy.
9. Families must be referred through a referring organisation.
10. Families must not have previously taken part in Family First Nights, unless they are a foster family who are taking new children to the theatre (please make sure this is noted on the families application).
11. Go Live are not able to take applications from any staff members of partner organisations.