

Tying the knot at Norwich Puppet Theatre



Information for weddings, civil
partnerships and other ceremonies

NORWICH
PUPPET
THEATRE

Getting married at Norwich Puppet Theatre

Setting the scene

A special day deserves a special venue, and Norwich Puppet Theatre is just that.

One of only two dedicated puppetry venues in the country, Norwich Puppet Theatre was converted in 1980 from the Grade I listed parish church of St James Pockthorpe to a beautifully intimate and atmospheric theatre.

The Auditorium – with the retro style of a classic theatre, the main auditorium sets an authentic stage for the perfect ceremony. The raked seating promises an excellent view of the proceedings for all of the guests, both friends and family alike, and the aisle steps provide a most dramatic entrance framed against the medieval stained glass window at the top of the stairs.

Special theatrical spot-lighting can be altered to suit design requirements, and the theatre stage is a versatile back-drop for whatever scene the couple wish to set.

The Octagon – for a smaller ceremony or to serve tea, coffee, drinks etc

Additional spaces are:

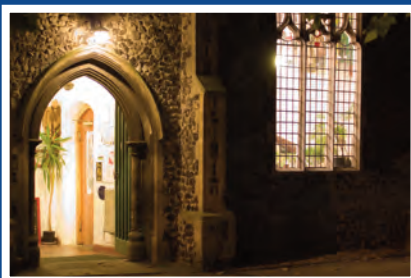
The Foyer – where there is a bar and space to congregate before and after the ceremony

The Amphitheatre – an outside area behind the main building with stone steps – ideal for photographs



Some facts

- A full-house in the auditorium is approximately 140 seated guests
- The church was dedicated to two St Jameses – James the Lesser – patron saint of milliners and James the Greater – patron saint of Spain
- As the church was deconsecrated in 1969 there must be no religious references during any ceremonies



Getting married without a hitch

Norwich Puppet Theatre is an ideal venue for your special day, whether it is a wedding, a civil partnership, a renewal of vows or a naming ceremony.

We offer two distinct options:

The Auditorium sets the scene for the ceremony on stage with seating for any number of guests up to 140, blending medieval tradition with the excitement and style of a professional theatre.

The Octagon Studio is ideal for smaller, intimate gatherings in a more contemporary setting, accommodating up to 40 guests.

Or you can use both.

Whichever you choose, the grounds around the church, and the foyer area are available for you and your guests to take photographs and to mingle and chat.

The theatre building is already adorned with original puppets from past and current shows and is, by its very nature, a fascinating place to most people just as it is.



However, you are welcome to come in and dress and decorate any of the spaces to your own taste, providing the puppets who live here aren't too disturbed!

Norwich Puppet Theatre has all of the entertainment, music and bar licences (up until 11.30pm) that you need for a reception party as well.

Unlike many other venues, we have the flexibility to enable the ceremony that you want. We know how to set the scene but we also know that most people like to be in control and your style is unique to you. We are flexible on times and can offer weekday as well as weekend options.

We can sometimes offer additional time to set up the day before – but this must be negotiated well in advance to take into account normal theatre activities.

We don't offer catering services other than drinks, which means that you can bring in caterers of your own choice. We are happy to advise on how your reception can be accommodated and how to make the best of the available time and space

Car parking is available at nearby public car parks such as St Saviours.

So how much does it cost to use this unusual and exciting space?

MAIN AUDITORIUM

Ceremony only £500 weekday/£600 weekend [up to 2 hours duration]

Ceremony plus time for drinks reception £800 weekday/£900 weekend [up to 4 hours]

Ceremony plus time for reception/party £1200 weekday/£1350 weekend [up to 8 hours]

OCTAGON

Ceremony only £345 weekday £395 weekend [up to 2 hours]

Ceremony plus time for drinks reception £550 weekday/£625 weekend [up to 4 hours]

Ceremony, time for reception/party etc £800 weekday/£875 weekend [up to 8 hours]. Additional time will incur extra cost

These prices are a guide only and the final cost is dependent on actual requirements eg if both spaces are used.

Price valid for events until 31.10.17



At a glance

What is included?

- The building
- The stage and stage curtains
- Standard stage lighting
- Some tables and chairs
- Essential staff to meet and greet, run the bar, supervise the venue, ensure health and safety and clear up.

Optional extras

- Extra scene-setting, special lighting effects, music, the services of a technician
- Teas and coffees

What you will need to supply

- The Registrar and/or Celebrant – a booking cannot be made until you have booked someone to conduct the legal ceremony
- The wedding licence
- Any decorations, food, special tableware, glasses etc (we have a house supply which may be used)
- Washing up and return of glasses, crockery etc
- Any DJ, live music or musicians
- Photographer

Before booking

Please visit and discuss requirements for your special day.

A final price will be agreed and the booking confirmed in writing.

NORWICH PUPPET THEATRE

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