

**TOGETHER WE ARE**  
**EDINBURGH**  
**INTERNATIONAL**  
**FESTIVAL**

**ACCESS**  
**GUIDE**

**2-25 AUGUST 2024**

Listings information about our audio described, BSL interpreted, captioned, surtitled and relaxed performances

Access information about Festival venues and accessible booking procedures

Details about our free Access Pass initiative, including how to become a member



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Image: Audience at the 2022 opening event



# WELCOME

We want to make sure you have a relaxed and enjoyable experience with the International Festival. This Access Guide provides you with information on our accessible performances, venue access information and additional ways we are removing barriers to the Festival.

Further information about the performances listed in this guide can be found in the 2024 Edinburgh International Festival brochure or online at [eif.co.uk/access](https://eif.co.uk/access)

## ALTERNATIVE FORMATS

You can download a PDF or audio version of the Festival brochure and this Access Guide from [eif.co.uk/access](https://eif.co.uk/access)

Physical alternative formats are available on request or by signing up to our Access Pass (see page 7 for more information):

**English Language Braille** – Brochure and Access Guide

**English Language Audio CD** – Brochure and Access Guide

**English Language Large Print** – Brochure only

## CONTACT US

If you have any questions or feedback for our team, please don't hesitate to contact us:

[access@eif.co.uk](mailto:access@eif.co.uk)

[signlive.co.uk](https://signlive.co.uk)

**+44 (0) 131 473 2056** (textphone prefix **18001**)

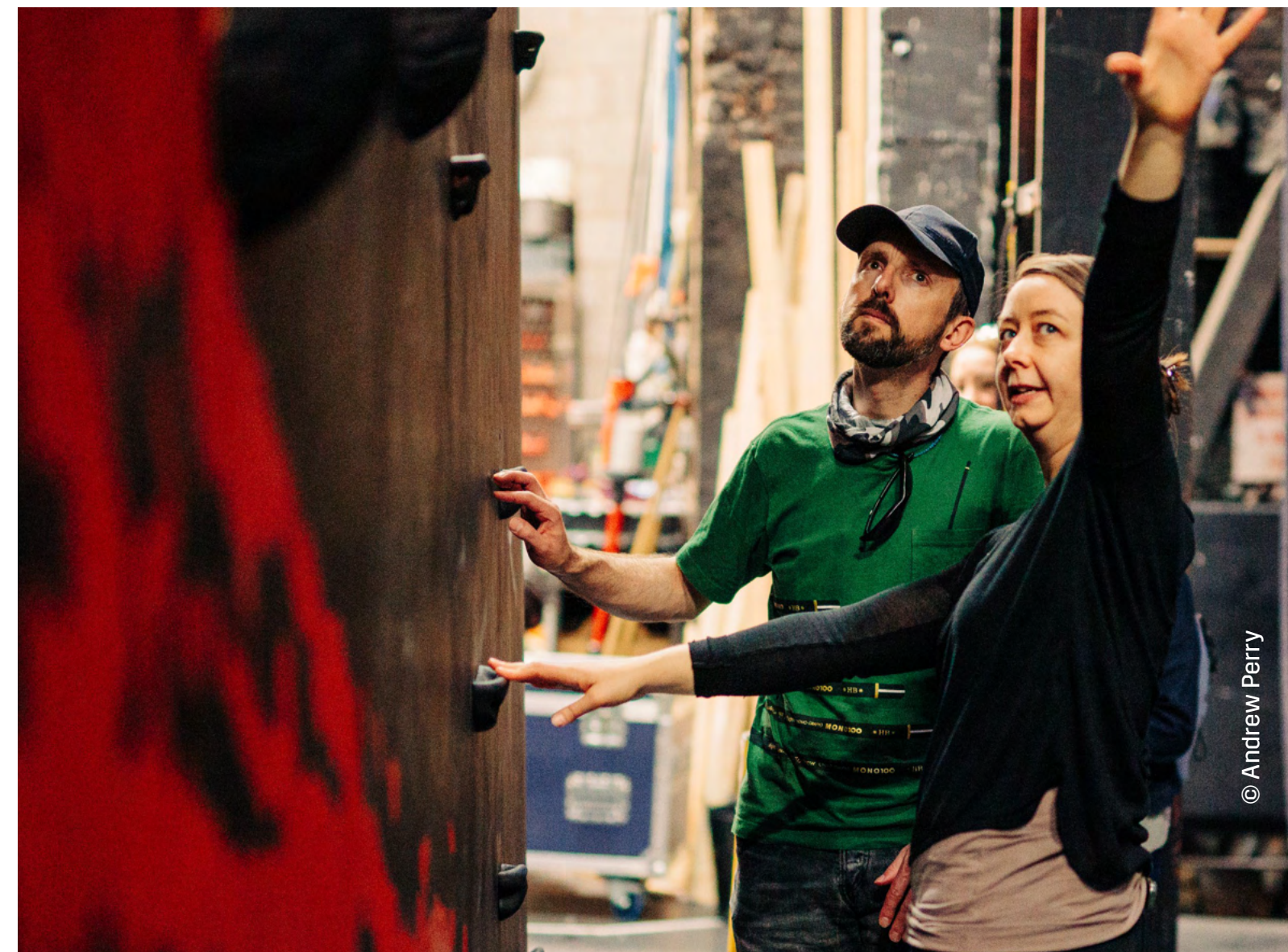
Access Contact: **Callum Madge** – Access Manager

Accessible performances and access provisions are supported by **Claire** and **Mark Urquhart**

# HOW WE DEFINE 'DISABLED'

The Edinburgh International Festival uses the term 'disabled people' to refer to anyone who self-identifies as disabled. This can include D/deaf and neurodivergent people if they identify as disabled, as well as others living with impairments (physical, sensory, learning, cognitive, long-term health conditions etc) that identify as disabled.

Some D/deaf, disabled or neurodivergent people may not identify as disabled, but the Edinburgh International Festival is guided by the social model of disability and recognises that people can experience disabling barriers, whether they identify as disabled or not.



© Andrew Perry

Touch Tour of Phaedra / Minotaur

# HOW TO BOOK

Online	<b>eif.co.uk</b>
SignLive	<b>signlive.co.uk</b>
Phone	<b>+44 (0) 131 473 2056</b>
In Person	<b>Edinburgh International Festival Box Office, The Hub, Castlehill, Edinburgh, EH1 2NE</b>

Ticket prices are inclusive of fees, except for events at the Edinburgh Playhouse, where a £2.10 theatre restoration levy charge will be applied to each ticket. In line with our commitment to environmental sustainability, we encourage you to opt for electronic tickets, however, if you choose to receive your tickets by post a £2 charge will be applied – **this fee will not apply to Access Pass members who require printed tickets as an access requirement.**

## CONCESSION PRICING

D/deaf, disabled and neurodivergent people are eligible for a 50% concession on full-price tickets. For more information about how we define who is eligible for the this concession please turn to page 3.

**This concession is not available for tickets purchased through a multi-buy initiative. Savings made through this concession will be greater than the multi-buy initiative savings.**

## TICKET EXCHANGES AND REFUNDS

No refunds will be given except in the event of cancellation of a performance. Tickets may be exchanged up to 48 hours before a performance, for another performance of the same show, subject to availability. A £1.50 fee per ticket exchanged will be charged. Ticket prices may vary from previously purchased prices.

## TICKET PROTECTION

We have partnered with TicketPlan to offer optional ticket protection. This allows you to recoup 100% of the ticket price (including any fees) if you are unable to attend your event for any number of covered reasons, including illness, travel delays, adverse weather conditions and more. For more information, please visit **[ticketplangroup.com/eifrefundpromise](https://ticketplangroup.com/eifrefundpromise)**

Refund Protection is an optional service offered by Edinburgh International Festival and administered by TicketPlan. It is not an insurance policy.

## TELEPHONE BOOKING

**14–20 March** (Members only)

Monday to Saturday 12noon – 4pm

Sunday closed

**21 March – 31 July**

Monday to Friday 12noon – 4pm,

Saturday and Sunday closed

**1–25 August**

Monday to Sunday 10am – 8pm

## IN-PERSON BOOKINGS AT THE HUB

**21 March – 31 July**

Monday to Friday 12noon – 4pm,

Saturday and Sunday closed

By appointment only

**1–25 Aug**

Festival opening hours at The Hub

Monday to Sunday, 11am – 5pm

(open late on performance nights at The Hub)

We encourage customers to book online or by phone, but if you require in person assistance with your booking you can arrange an appointment by contacting us on **[boxoffice@eif.co.uk](mailto:boxoffice@eif.co.uk)** or **+44 (0) 131 473 2000**.

The Edinburgh International Festival Box Office is based at

**The Hub, Castlehill, Edinburgh EH1 2NE.**

Please visit **[eif.co.uk](https://eif.co.uk)** for more information.

## BSL VIDEO BOOKINGS WITH SIGNLIVE

We are working with SignLive to enable audiences to book tickets via an online BSL interpreting service. Download the SignLive app and find us listed in the SignLive Community Directory. For more information visit **[signlive.co.uk](https://signlive.co.uk)**













# ACCESS PASS

The Access Pass is a free membership scheme for D/deaf, disabled or neurodivergent people. When first registering, members are asked to enter their access requirements into the system which then enables our box office and venue staff to provide a Festival experience that is best placed to support them.

The Access Pass is open to anybody who experiences disabling barriers, as per the social model of disability – please see page 3 for more information about who is eligible for this concession.

By becoming an Access Pass member, you can receive a customer experience tailored to your requirements:

-  Box office and venue staff will be aware of your access requirements, so you don't have to explain every time you book or attend
-  Book accessible seating options (wheelchair spaces, aisle seats and seats with extra leg room)
-  Book free essential companion tickets
- BSL** Book seats with the best view for British Sign Language (BSL) interpreted performances
-  Receive pre-show emails with venue information relevant to you
-  Get details of the accessible shows that might interest you, directly into your inbox
-  If digital tickets present a barrier to you, you can have printed tickets posted out to you without the postage fee
-  Declare your fire evacuation requirements, so venue staff know these in advance
-  Let us know if you prefer brochures in audio, braille, or large print formats
-  If you're a carer or usually attend as an essential companion for a D/deaf, disabled or neurodivergent friend, you can sign up to the Access Pass and book on their behalf
-  You'll receive the Access Guide and brochure as soon as the Festival launches each year, so you can plan your trip and book your tickets as early as possible
- TT** You can book tickets for a touch tour, which complement our audio described performances

Accessible seating options will be held for Access Pass members up until 72 hours (three days) before the start time of an event. After this time, they will be released on general sale.

## HOW DO I SIGN UP?

Go to [eif.co.uk/access](https://eif.co.uk/access) to sign up.

Once we have processed your registration form, you will receive an email confirmation and will then be able to log in and book your access tickets online.

Contact us at [access@eif.co.uk](mailto:access@eif.co.uk) if you have any questions.

## ACCESS SHUTTLE

### FOR EVENTS AT THE HUB ONLY

Due to road closures around The Hub during August which prevent drop-offs in cars or taxis for evening events, a free shuttle service is available. The Access Shuttle is for anybody who may experience barriers as a pedestrian when navigating the cobbled streets, busy crowds and steep hill, which surround The Hub.

The Access Shuttle will run up and down Johnston Terrace continually, before an event starts and after an event ends, with passengers seated on a first-come first-served basis. For a schedule of Access Shuttle running times please visit [eif.co.uk/access](https://eif.co.uk/access)

If you arrive ten minutes before your event, be aware there might already be a queue for the shuttle, so please arrive in plenty of time.

There will be no Access Shuttle service after late-night events that start at 10.30pm. The road closure ends at midnight and taxis can be ordered after this time.

The Access Shuttle has space for four seated passengers and one wheelchair user per journey; each journey will be approximately five minutes. For more details about the Access Shuttle, please visit [eif.co.uk/access](https://eif.co.uk/access)



© Jess Shurte

Image: Rusalka Touch Tour

# ACCESSIBLE PERFORMANCE LISTINGS



# AUDIO DESCRIBED PERFORMANCES AND TOUCH TOURS

## WHAT IS AUDIO DESCRIPTION?

Audio described shows provide a live commentary of the visuals of a performance – for example explaining how a character may dance, stomp, or skip across a stage, as well as other important visual information, such as the discovery of a murder weapon or a character hiding in a location. This means that if you are blind or partially sighted then you won't miss a beat of the action, or any gestures that are pivotal to understanding the plot.

Audio description is delivered via private headsets or headphones which you can pick up from staff at the venue. The commentary begins 15 minutes before the curtain rises.

## WHAT AUDIO DESCRIPTION ISN'T:

Audio describers won't talk over the dialogue of the show or all the music – so you don't need to worry that by using audio description you'll miss out on other elements of the performance.

It isn't backstage information or a director's commentary – it's the necessary information needed to visualise the performance.

## WHAT IS A TOUCH TOUR?

Some audio described performances also offer a touch tour. When you buy a ticket for an audio described show, you will be asked if you would also like free tickets for you and a companion for a touch tour – if there is one available.

Touch tours usually take place on the stage, before the venue opens to the public, with the audio describer giving context about set, props and costumes. Audiences will be able to touch and feel the textures of these objects to help create a more vivid experience during the show.

## WHAT A TOUCH TOUR ISN'T:

A backstage tour – there is no assumption that people already know about the plot of the show, or anything about its actors, characters or directors. Descriptions are kept very practical and factual.

## AUDIO DESCRIBER BIOGRAPHIES:

**John Cummings** has worked in theatres throughout Scotland including at Edinburgh International Festival and Edinburgh Festival Fringe. John has described for film companies as well as establishing audio described tours for art galleries, museums and the Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh. He is on the committee for Audio Description Association Scotland.

**Amanda Drollinger** is based in Edinburgh. She was trained by Audio Description Association Scotland in 2010 receiving a National Open College Network Certificate in Audio Description Skills. She has worked on hundreds of performances throughout Scotland with a particular interest in dance and musical theatre.

**Trina Gillies** retired early from a career in teaching, she was looking for something worthwhile to fill her time and discovered audio description. Since 2011, she has gained experience in different genres including theatre, musicals, film, opera and art description.

**Caroline Jaquet** is involved in promoting audio description and bringing it to new audiences, recently working with groups including Edinburgh Science Festival and Authentic Artists Collective. She works mostly in live theatre of all genres, but has recently begun describing textiles, exhibitions, and large-scale concerts.

**Lydia Kerr** has over 20 years' experience audio describing theatre in Scotland, including several Edinburgh International Festival productions. Lydia also works in higher education with a role focused on accessibility and widening participation. Originally from Orkney, she is excited to be describing *The Outrun* with its connection to her childhood.

**Veronica Kinahan** is an avid theatre goer and music lover. It is not only fun but a privilege for her to be an audio describer: helping partially sighted people enjoy a wide variety of performing arts. Edinburgh International Festival champions the provision of access to vibrant music and theatre from all over the world. Veronica loves being part of it.

**Emma-Jane McHenry** is a dance and theatre specialist who has worked all over the UK and internationally over the last ten years, turning the beauty and dynamism of movement into words.

**Christopher McKiddie** has a passion for access and for 12 years has provided live audio description and touch tours at venues across Scotland, from panto to Pinter. He also provides audio description scriptwriting services for a variety of film, television and translation companies.

**Jonathan Penny** is a skilled and versatile describer with ten years' experience. His clients include the Scottish Events Campus and Take Me Somewhere Festival, and he is a regular describer with Scottish Opera due to his musical background. Previously, he led ITV's audio description department, and he currently works for Channel 4 overseeing their output of accessible content.

**Bridget Stevens** has been an audio describer for more than 20 years, working in venues around the UK, including non-traditional spaces like Aberdeen Beach and Edinburgh Castle. She described the first-ever relaxed performance staged by the Festival Theatre in Edinburgh. She is also an AD Trainer, Assessor and Quality Monitor.

AUDIO DESCRIBED LISTINGS

SHOW	VENUE	DATE	TIME	TOUCH TOUR	PROVIDER
GRUPO CORPO	Edinburgh Playhouse	7 Aug	7.30pm	6pm	Amanda Drollinger & Janette Knibb
CARMEN	Festival Theatre	8 Aug	7pm	5.30pm	Veronica Kinahan & Jonathan Penny
PLEASE RIGHT BACK	The Studio	10 Aug	2pm	12.30pm	John Cummings & Bridget Stevens
THE OUTFUN	Church Hill Theatre	10 & 17 Aug	8pm	6.30pm	Lydia Kerr
		24 Aug	3pm	1.30pm	
SONGS OF THE BULBUL	The Lyceum	11 Aug	8pm	6.30pm	Emma-Jane McHenry
THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO	Festival Theatre	18 Aug	4pm	2.30pm	Trina Gillies & Caroline Jaquet
ASSEMBLY HALL	Festival Theatre	24 Aug	7.30pm	6pm	Emma-Jane McHenry & Christopher McKiddie
THE FIFTH STEP	The Lyceum	25 Aug	2pm	12.30pm	See eif.co.uk/access

BRITISH SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETED PERFORMANCES

If British Sign Language (BSL) is your preferred language, we offer multiple performances in which BSL interpreters are either integrated into the performance or stand on the side of stage.

SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER BIOGRAPHIES:

**Clare Canton** has over 30 years' experience in teaching BSL from introduction through to interpreter level. She holds a PGDip and MA in Interpreting BSL-English. Clare is one of only a few registered qualified deaf interpreters and translators in Scotland and holds a Philosophy Master's in the work and experience of deaf interpreters.

**Catherine King** is an interpreter specialising in performance and comedy. She works with several theatre companies in the UK including the National Theatre of Scotland and can be seen on Adam Hills's DVDs *Happyism* and *Clown Heart*. Catherine is in the final phase of her PhD investigating the dramaturgy of performance interpreting.

**Yvonne Strain** grew up with BSL as her second language, gaining professional registration and experience across all sectors before specialising in the arts. Yvonne has interpreted performances nationally and internationally and, informed by Deaf audience feedback, developed her style to integrate creatively and holistically within performance.

BSL LISTINGS

SHOW	VENUE	DATE	TIME	PROVIDER
THE OUTFUN	Church Hill Theatre	10 Aug	3pm	Integrated access by Yvonne Strain and a Deaf performer, please see eif.co.uk/access
		16 & 24 Aug	8pm	
HAMLET	The Lyceum	17 Aug	2.30pm	Clare Canton & Catherine King
THE FIFTH STEP	The Lyceum	23 Aug	7.30pm	See eif.co.uk/access



# CAPTIONED PERFORMANCES

Captions are displayed in large text on either side of the stage. Dialogue appears in real time as the words are spoken by the performers. Captions also provide information about who is speaking and any sound effects or music that may be important to understanding the performance.

Captions will be on stage so everyone can see them, but if you need a good view of the screens then choose seats in the centre and nearer the front on each level.

## CAPTIONER BIOGRAPHIES:

**Claire Hill** has nearly 30 years' experience of court reporting and captioning, and a BMus from King's College London. She relishes the challenge of live captioning at Usher Hall. She also live captions comedy and theatre at Edinburgh Festival Fringe, and throughout the rest of the year splits her time between the Southbank Centre and the comedy circuit.

**Louisa McDaid** is a live captioner and StageText qualified theatre captioner based in Edinburgh. She captions both scripted and unscripted events. Louisa has Level 6 BSL, and she is experienced in captioning theatre shows with BSL, Spanish and Scottish Gaelic content.

**Alison Pendlowski** trained as a theatre captioner in 1998 with StageText. Since then Alison has worked for theatres across Scotland on a wide range of productions, including tours with National Theatre of Scotland. Her other work includes a variety of performances with Edinburgh International Festival and Edinburgh Festival Fringe.

# CAPTIONED LISTINGS

SHOW	VENUE	DATE	TIME	PROVIDER
PLEASE RIGHT BACK	The Studio	9 Aug	7pm	Alison Pendlowski
THE OUTFUN	Church Hill Theatre	10 Aug	3pm	Integrated into performance
		16 & 24 Aug	8pm	
EXPLORING ILUMINA	Usher Hall	14 Aug	2pm	Claire Hill
THE ALEHOUSE SESSIONS	Usher Hall	15 Aug	7.30pm	Claire Hill
MAHLER 5 INSIDE OUT	Usher Hall	16 Aug	2pm	Claire Hill
THE FIFTH STEP	The Lyceum	22 Aug	7.30pm	See <a href="http://eif.co.uk/access">eif.co.uk/access</a>
ASSEMBLY HALL	Festival Theatre	23 Aug	7.30pm	Louisa McDaid

# SURTITLES

As well as captions, we also have surtitles for other performances. Surtitles are displayed in large text above the stage. Dialogue or lyrics are transcribed or translated into English and displayed in real time as the words are sung or spoken by the performers.

## CONCERT SURTITLE LISTINGS

SHOW	VENUE	DATE	TIME	LANGUAGE
OPENING CONCERT: LA PASIÓN SEGÚN SAN MARCOS	Usher Hall	3 Aug	8pm	Sung in Spanish, Latin and Aramaic with English surtitles
OPENING CONCERT: ST MATTHEW PASSION	Usher Hall	4 Aug	3pm	Sung in German with English surtitles
BAMBERGER SYMPHONIKER: HANS ROTT'S FIRST SYMPHONY	Usher Hall	6 Aug	7.30pm	Sung in German with English surtitles
BAMBERGER SYMPHONIKER: DVOŘÁK AND SUK	Usher Hall	9 Aug	8pm	Sung in Latin with English surtitles
COSÌ FAN TUTTE	Usher Hall	10 Aug	6pm	Sung in Italian with English surtitles
THE ALEHOUSE SESSIONS	Usher Hall	15 Aug	7.30pm	Sung in English with English surtitles
MAHLER'S FIFTH SYMPHONY	Usher Hall	17 Aug	8pm	Sung in French with English surtitles

PHILHARMONIA: FIRE IN MY MOUTH	Usher Hall	21 Aug	8pm	Sung in English with English surtitles
BBC SCOTTISH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA & SIR DONALD RUNNICLES	Usher Hall	23 Aug	7.30pm	Sung in German with English surtitles
PHILHARMONIA: VERDI'S REQUIEM	Usher Hall	24 Aug	8pm	Sung in Latin with English surtitles
CLOSING CONCERT: CAPRICCIO	Usher Hall	25 Aug	6pm	Sung in German with English surtitles

## STAGED SURTITLE LISTINGS

SHOW	VENUE	DATE	TIME	LANGUAGE
PENTHESILEA	The Lyceum	3–5 Aug	7.30pm	Performed in Dutch with English surtitles
		6 Aug	2.30pm	
CARMEN	Festival Theatre	4 Aug	6pm	Performed in French with English surtitles
		6 & 8 Aug	7pm	
NIGAMON / TUNAI	The Studio	15–18 Aug	7.30pm	Performed in Anishinaabemowin, Inga, French, Spanish and English with English surtitles
		18 Aug	2.30pm	
HAMLET	The Lyceum	15–17 Aug	7.30pm	Performed in Spanish with English surtitles
		17 Aug	2.30pm	
AFTER THE SILENCE	The Studio	21–24 Aug	8pm	Performed in Portuguese with English surtitles
THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO	Festival Theatre	16–17 Aug	7pm	Performed in Italian with English surtitles
		18 Aug	4pm	



# RELAXED PERFORMANCES

A relaxed performance is for anyone who would benefit from a more informal setting.

SHOW	VENUE	DATE	TIME	AUDIENCE
THE OUTRUN	Church Hill Theatre	15 Aug	3pm	Intended for neurodivergent audiences

The relaxed performance of *The Outrun* will be suitable for neurodivergent audiences. The audience capacity will be reduced to limit the overwhelm that some people can experience in large crowds.

During the show audiences are invited to move around and make noises in any way that makes them feel comfortable. If you feel you may need to leave during the show, please choose an aisle seat or any seat in row L. A chill out space will be available outside the auditorium.

Some sensory elements will be adapted to remove barriers for people with sensory sensitivities. A visual story will be made available closer to the performance date and will be sent round to all bookers.

For the most up-to-date details of our accessible performances programme, please visit [eif.co.uk/access](https://eif.co.uk/access)

# SHOW DESCRIPTIONS

Including staged works and major concert pieces, in alphabetical order of show name, for full listings consult the main brochure or our website [eif.co.uk](https://eif.co.uk)

## AFTER THE SILENCE THEATRE (brochure p39)

Following the struggles of three Afro-Brazilian women as they fight for their community, Christiane Jatahy’s powerful play explores Brazil’s legacy of colonialism and racism. Blending documentary filmmaking, installation and theatre, Jatahy creates something new, cerebral and captivating.

## ASSEMBLY HALL DANCE (brochure p22)

Following their Olivier Award-winning piece *Revisor*, Jonathon Young’s recorded texts are married with Crystal Pite’s razor sharp, witty choreography to create a genre-defining piece, combining Arthurian cosplay and emotive contemporary dance.

## BAMBERGER SYMPHONIKER: DVOŘÁK & SUK CONCERT (brochure p53)

Antonín Dvořák’s choral masterpiece is paired with his son-in-law Josef Suk’s most ambitious orchestral work. Dvořák’s *Te Deum* is a joyous affirmation of his Catholic faith, while Suk’s haunting *Asrael* depicts a journey from anguish to transcendent hope.

## BAMBERGER SYMPHONIKER: HANS ROTT’S FIRST SYMPHONY CONCERT (brochure p52)

Discover a little-known symphonic masterpiece, with Hans Rott’s monumental First Symphony. The programme also features *Symphonic Prelude* by Rott’s teacher Anton Bruckner, as well as Gustav Mahler’s haunting *Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen* sung by Catriona Morison.

## BBC SCOTTISH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA & SIR DONALD RUNNICLES CONCERT (brochure p63)

The BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra reunites with its former Chief Conductor Sir Donald Runnicles to celebrate two late-Romantic musical titans. Gustav Mahler’s *Knaben Wunderhorn* songs are witty, passionate and poignant. Anton Bruckner’s majestic final symphony runs through the whole gamut of emotions, from fear and despair to transcendent bliss.

## CARMEN OPERA (brochure p14)

Opéra-Comique presents a new production of Georges Bizet's masterpiece, brought to the stage by conductor Louis Langrée and director Andreas Homoki. This production tells the classic tale of love, passion and jealousy, following the soldier Don José's dramatic fall from grace as he meets the free-spirited Carmen.

## CLOSING CONCERT: CAPRICCIO OPERA IN CONCERT (brochure p65)

Which is greater, music or poetry? In Richard Strauss's final opera an arts-loving countess must decide – and choose between a tender composer and a fiery poet. World-renowned conductor Sir Andrew Davis returns to this magnificent work, with a superb cast including Malin Byström in the lead role of Countess Madeleine.

## COSÌ FAN TUTTE OPERA IN CONCERT (brochure p51)

Mozart's opera is hilarious and heartfelt, packed with glorious solo numbers and ensembles. Hear it performed in concert by a cast of exciting soloists and the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, under the expert direction of Maxim Emelyanychev.

## EXPLORING ILUMINA CONCERT (brochure p57)

The São Paulo based artist collective, Ilumina, was founded by violinist Jennifer Stumm to unite leading soloists with rising talent from Latin America. Discover the ensemble's process through this exploration of movement, rhythm and non-classical forms, as the musicians perform among the audience.

## GRUPO CORPO DANCE (brochure p24)

Legendary dance company Grupo Corpo summons Brazilian history, culture and spirituality in two UK premieres. *Gil Refazendo* is a transformative homage to one of the godfathers of Brazilian music, Gilberto Gil, while *Gira*, evokes of the ritualistic movements of the Afro-Brazilian Umbanda religion.

## HAMLET THEATRE (brochure p30)

Shakespeare's explosive play about a young prince of Denmark who discovers his father was murdered and seeks out revenge, is reinvented by Peruvian company, Teatro La Plaza and a cast of performers with Down's syndrome. Woven into the text are the anxieties and frustrations of the actors; who are also asking where do they fit in a society that rejects them?

## MAHLER 5 INSIDE OUT CONCERT (brochure p58)

This is a rare opportunity to sit amongst the orchestra and be surrounded by the epic music of Gustav Mahler. Pull up a beanbag next to musicians and be swept along by Mahler's love story. The Hallé and conductor Sir Mark Elder walk you through the construction of the piece, so you can experience Mahler's Fifth as you've never heard it before.

## NIGAMON / TUNAI THEATRE (brochure p38)

Immerse yourself in a contemporary ritual created by Indigenous artists Émilie Monnet and Waira Nina. They invite you into a mesmerising, multi-sensory performance inspired by solidarity for the protection of water and resistance against the extraction of resources.

## OPENING CONCERT: LA PASIÓN SEGÚN SAN MARCOS CONCERT (brochure p48)

Latin American and Afro-Cuban sounds and rhythms combine thrillingly with classical elements in Osvaldo Golijov's kaleidoscopic composition. At its US premiere in 2001 it was hailed as 'the first indisputably great composition of the 21st century' (Boston Globe).

## OPENING CONCERT: ST MATTHEW PASSION CONCERT (brochure p49)

Join the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, their Chief Conductor Ryan Wigglesworth, the Edinburgh Festival Chorus and a group of soloists, as they bring Felix Mendelssohn's impassioned arrangement of JS Bach's masterpiece to life.

## PENTHESILEA THEATRE (brochure p26)

A tragic love story infused with music, Eline Arbo directs Internationaal Theater Amsterdam's ferocious, sexy and emotionally charged production. Penthesilea, Queen of the Amazons, belongs to an all-female society of warriors, who can only have sex with men they have defeated in battle. Locking eyes with Greek commander Achilles during battle, Penthesilea falls in love and vows to defeat him. The star-crossed lovers wrestle between the demands of their war-faring societies and the wishes of their hearts.



## PHILHARMONIA: VERDI'S REQUIEM

 CONCERT (brochure p65)

Verdi's Requiem tackles its subject of death head on. This choral prayer tells the story of Judgement Day through dramatic choruses, exquisite solos and operatic intensity. The Philharmonia – and their Principal Conductor Santtu-Matias Rouvali – collaborate with the Edinburgh Festival Chorus and four soloists for an unforgettable performance.

## PHILHARMONIA: FIRE IN MY MOUTH

 CONCERT (brochure p66)

Conductor Marin Alsop, the Philharmonia, and the National Youth Choir of Scotland unite for the UK premiere of Julia Wolfe's impassioned elegy for the victims of New York's 1911 Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire.

## PLEASE RIGHT BACK

 THEATRE (brochure p36)

Award-winning company 1927 returns to the Festival with their new production. Combining handcrafted animation and bold storytelling, *Please right back* sweeps audiences into a magical, mischievous world, inspired by the writer-director's own childhood. The play explores the difficulties children go through when a parent leaves, while celebrating the power of imagination to overcome hardship.

## SONGS OF THE BULBUL

 DANCE (brochure p28)

Returning to the Festival after his spellbinding presentation of *Samsara* in 2022, Aakash Odedra presents a spiritual and captivating new dance piece. This world premiere creates a sensitive dialogue between Sufi Kathak and Islamic poetry.

## THE ALEHOUSE SESSIONS

 CONCERT (brochure p55)

This is not your standard concert. Think sea shanties and folk favourites in a 17th-century English tavern. Expect world-class music and storytelling as Usher Hall turns into a London pub straight out of the 1680s.

## THE FIFTH STEP

 THEATRE (brochure p32)

David Ireland's latest work, featuring BAFTA-nominated Scottish actor Jack Lowden, is a provocative and grimly comic play about men, intimacy and strength of belief.

## THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO

 OPERA (brochure p16)

The acclaimed Komische Oper Berlin and director Kirill Serebrennikov join for their second production together, presenting Mozart's iconic comic opera. Taking place over the course of one hectic day, Mozart's masterpiece contains all the ingredients for the quintessential romantic comedy.

## THE OUTRUN

 THEATRE (brochure p34)

A young woman finds herself washed up back home on the Scottish archipelago of Orkney. She has no idea if and how she can rebuild her life after a decade of addiction. Playwright Stef Smith joins Vicky Featherstone and The Lyceum to present this world premiere adaptation of Amy Liptrot's bestselling memoir.



Image: Burn Touch Tour





Image: A Toast to the People

# VENUE ACCESSIBILITY



# INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL VENUES

The International Festival this year is hosted at 11 venues across the city.

To ensure your visit is as relaxed and enjoyable as possible we have included information about travelling to the venues and what to expect when you arrive.

Venue staff will be on hand should you require assistance during your visit, but if you would like any specific information about a venue’s accessibility in advance, please use the contact details provided at the bottom of each page. All our venues have level access and assistance dogs are welcome.

For accessibility reviews from disabled people and their friends and families, visit [euansguide.com/edintfest](https://euansguide.com/edintfest)



Image: Buddha Passion at Edinburgh International Festival 2023

# VENUE KEY

## VENUE DETAILS

Here is where we will display access information relating to a specific venue.

### GETTING THERE

- P** Parking
- Bus stop and route numbers
- Taxi rank
- Drop off point
- Tram stop
- Train station

### FURTHER INFORMATION

- Telephone number
- Email address
- Website

### VENUE ACCESSIBILITY

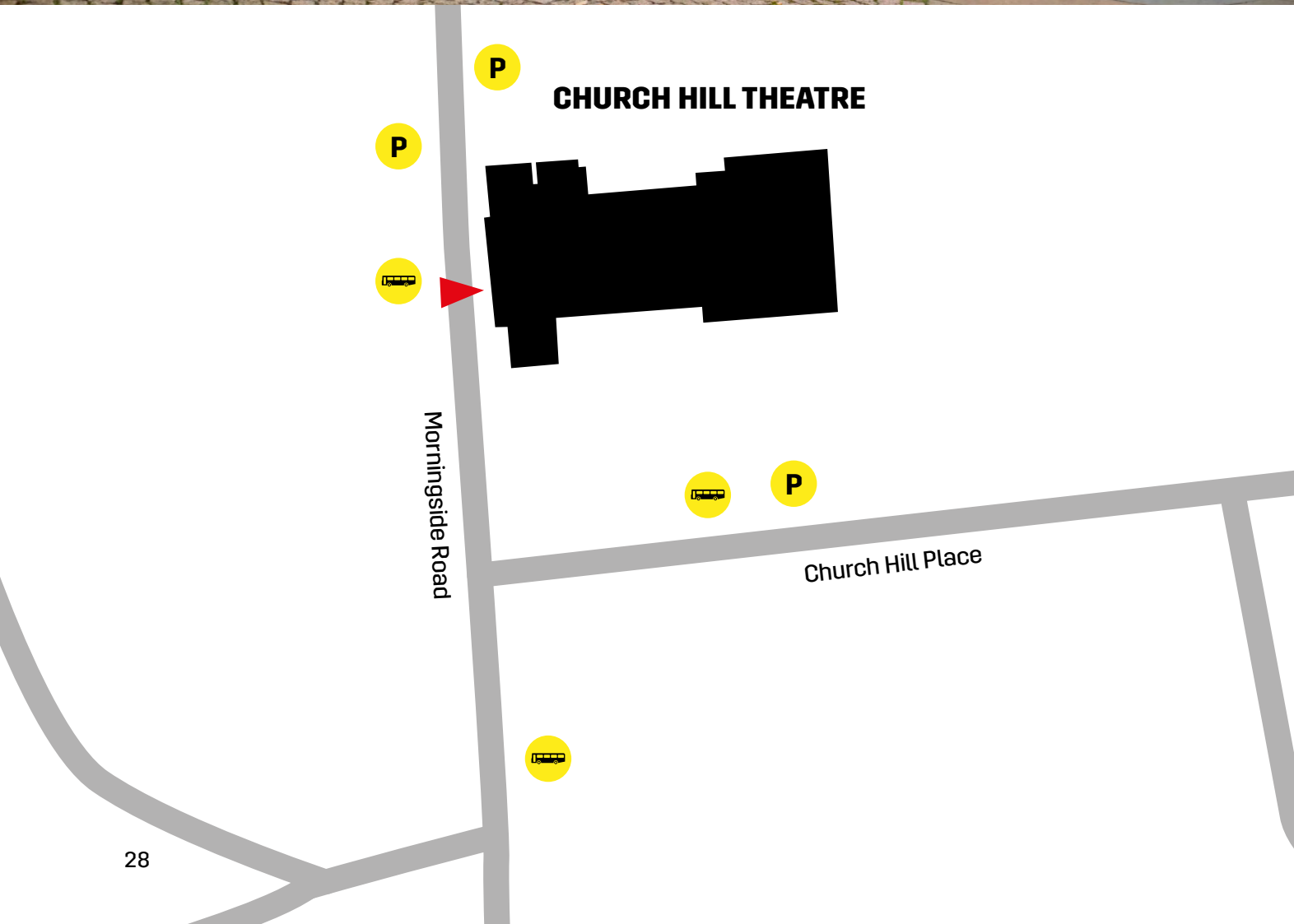
- Lift
- No lift
- Stairs
- Level and ramp access
- Wheelchair spaces
- WC** Accessible toilets
- Loop system
- Ear defenders
- Box Office
- Assistance dogs
- Seats
- A** Autism friendly
- :** Braille
- AD** Audio Description
- BSL** British Sign Language
- CAP** Captions

A map of accessible parking bays in Edinburgh can also be found at [edinburgh.gov.uk/parking-spaces/find-parking-bays](https://edinburgh.gov.uk/parking-spaces/find-parking-bays)







© Mihaela Bodlovic










# CHURCH HILL THEATRE

Morningside Road, EH10 4DR




## GETTING THERE

- P** A limited number of accessible parking spaces can be booked in advance at the venue. Email the venue to book
- P** Pay and display parking on Morningside Road and Church Hill Place
-  Bus stop (Morningside Road): 5, 11, 15, 16, 23, 36
-  Bus stop (Church Hill Place): 5

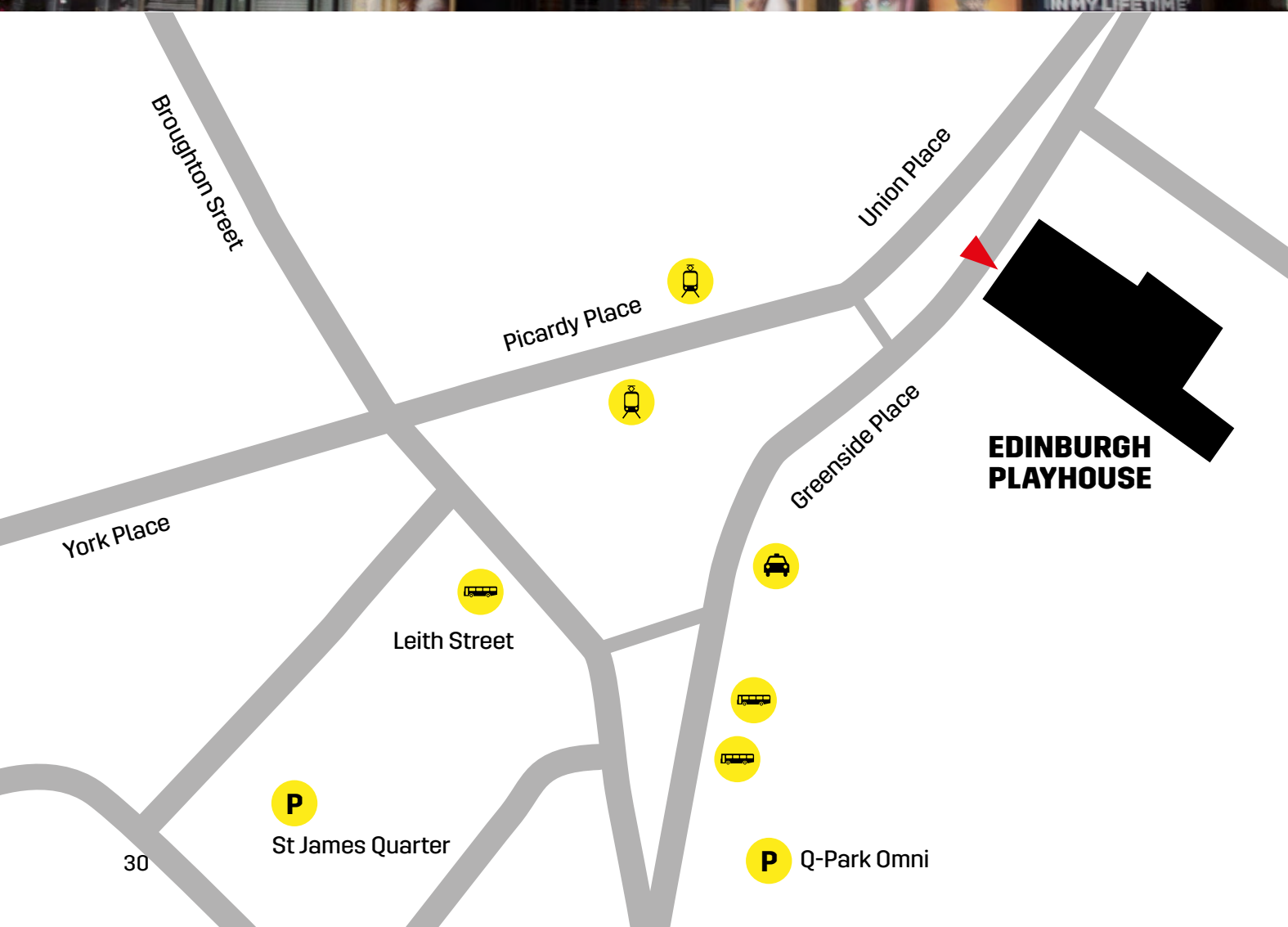
## VENUE ACCESSIBILITY

-  Lift access to all levels
-  Ramped access to the main entrance
-  Wheelchair spaces are in the centre of the auditorium
-  If you have limited mobility, or will be transferring from your wheelchair, we recommend booking aisle seats
- WC** Accessible toilets are in the bar (ground floor) and level one lobby by the lift
-  Infrared hearing loop system in auditorium only, for use with hearing aids
-  Box Office has a high counter and no loop system
-  Assistance dogs are welcome and can be looked after by venue staff
- AD** Seats on the left of the auditorium have the best signal for audio description
- BSL** Good views of BSL interpreter from all seats
- CAP** Avoid front three rows for best views of the captions

## FURTHER INFORMATION

-  +44 (0) 131 220 4348
-  [CHTenquiries@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:CHTenquiries@edinburgh.gov.uk)
-  [churchhilltheatre.co.uk](http://churchhilltheatre.co.uk)


















# EDINBURGH PLAYHOUSE

18–22 Greenside Place, EH1 3AA




## GETTING THERE

- P** Pay and display parking on Union Place
- P** Q-Park: Omni Centre (9 accessible bays)
- P** St James Quarter car park (70 accessible bays)
-  Bus stop Leith Street: 1, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 19, 25, 34
-  Taxi rank outside the Omni Centre
-  Tram stop Picardy Place
-  Waverley Station 0.4 miles

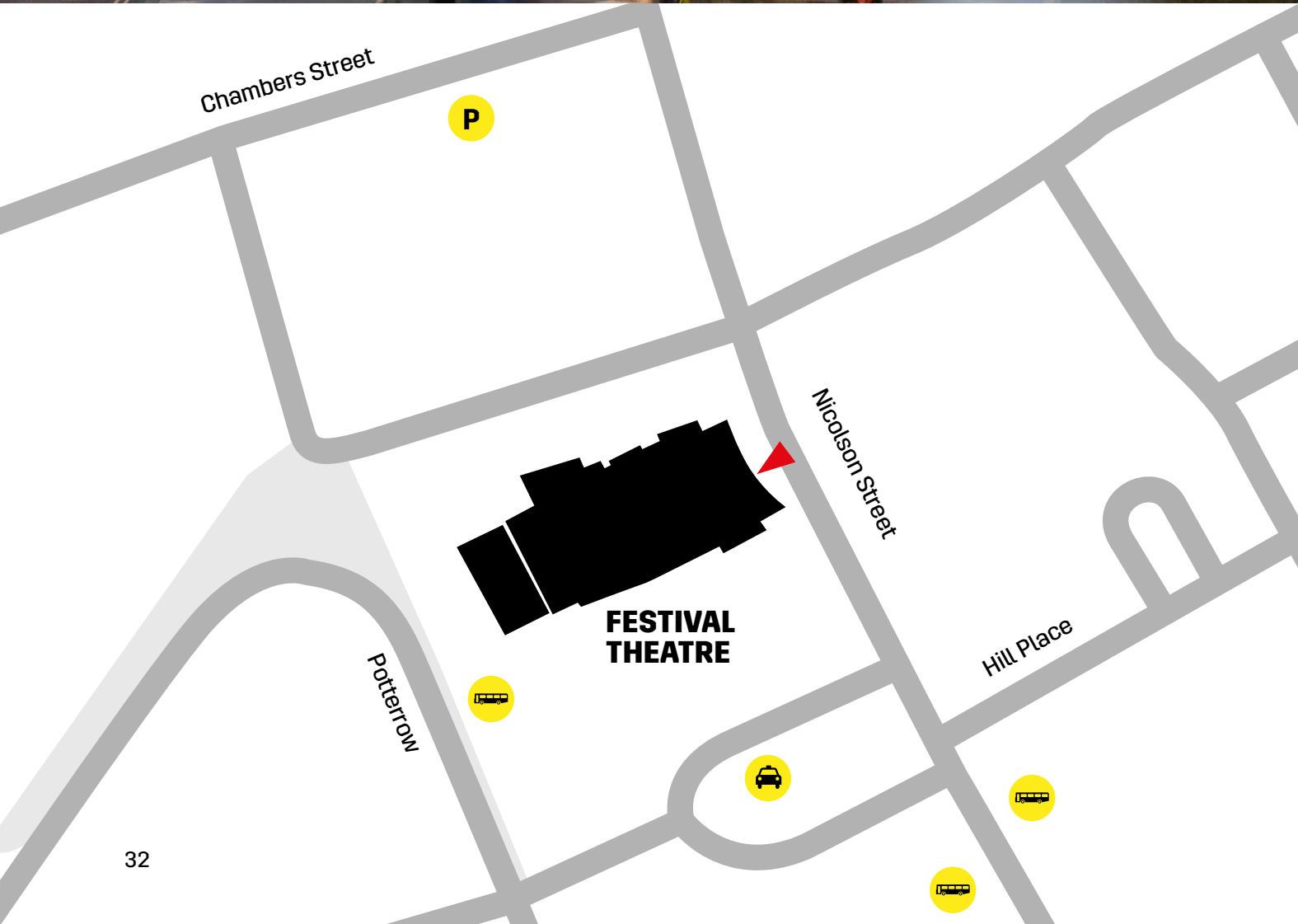
## VENUE ACCESSIBILITY

-  No lift
-  Level access to the Circle and Circle Bar only
-  40 steps down to the Stalls from street level. 25 steps up to the Balcony from street level. Number of steps are indicated on the floor maps on their website.
-  Wheelchair spaces are in the rear of the Circle
-  If you are transferring from your wheelchair to a seat, a member of staff will take your wheelchair during the performance and store it in the Circle Bar for you
-  Seats in the Balcony have minimal legroom and we would not recommend to customers with limited mobility
- WC** Accessible toilet is located in the Circle Bar
-  Infra-red system in the auditorium, headsets available from venue staff
-  Box Office has a low counter and no loop system
-  Assistance dogs are welcome and can be looked after by venue staff
- AD** Best AD signal from centre Stalls or Circle. Headsets can be collected from the room opposite the Balcony level ladies toilet

## FURTHER INFORMATION

-  +44 (0) 800 912 6971
-  StevenHogan@theambassadors.com
-  atgtickets.com/edinburgh





# FESTIVAL THEATRE

13–29 Nicolson Street, EH8 9FT

## GETTING THERE

- P** Pay and display parking on Chambers Street
- P** Accessible parking spaces in the Festival Theatre car park can be booked in advance by contacting Stage Door at [stagedoor@capitaltheatres.com](mailto:stagedoor@capitaltheatres.com) or by calling +44 (0) 131 662 1112 and selecting option two
- Bus Stop (Surgeon's Hall): 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 14, 29, 30, 31, 33, 37, 47, 49
- Bus Stop (Potterrow): 2, 9, 12, 47
- Taxi rank on Nicolson Square
- Waverley Station 0.4 miles

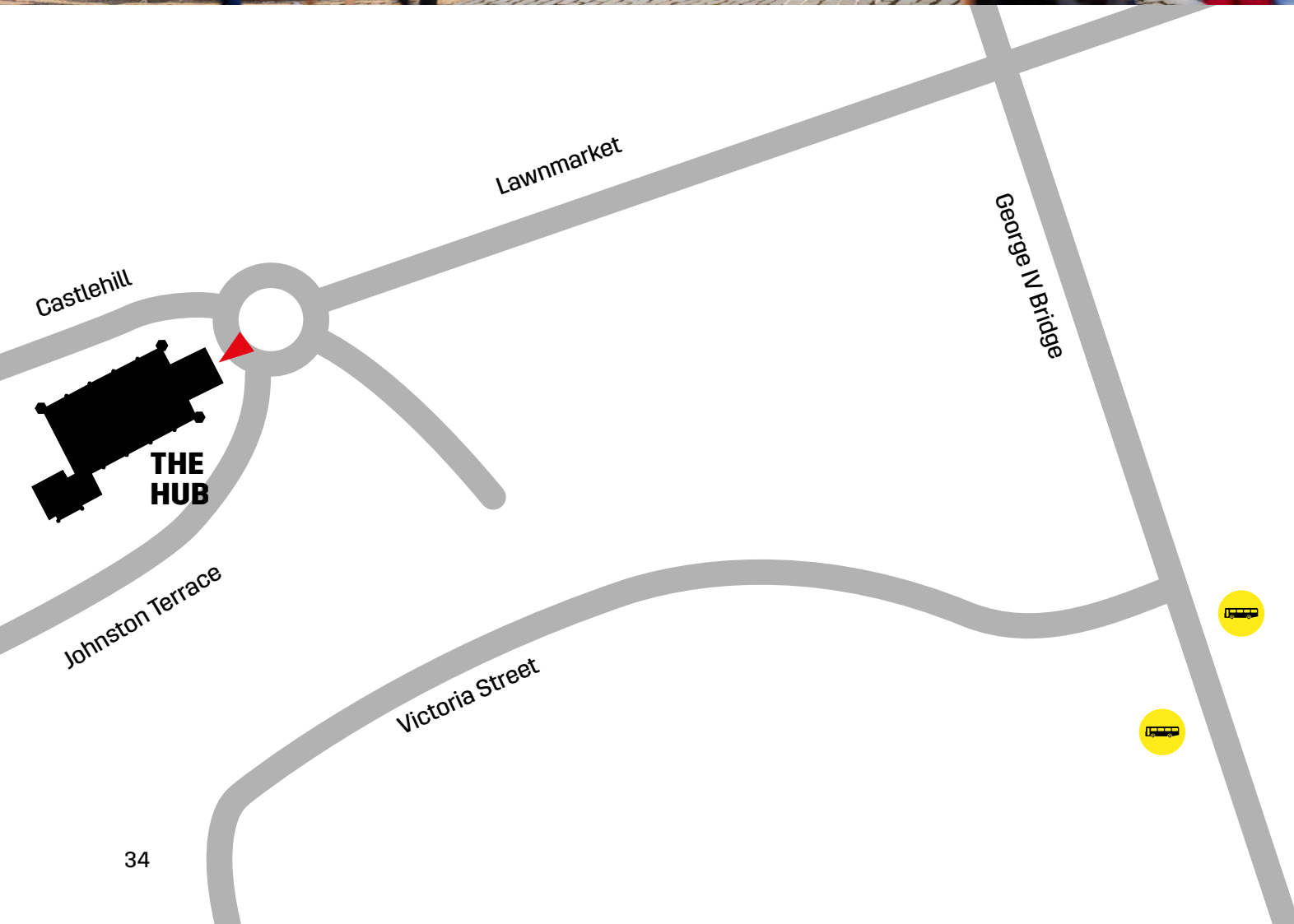
## VENUE ACCESSIBILITY

- Lift access to all levels
- Ramped access to main entrance with power-assisted door
- Level access also available at side entrance
- Wheelchair spaces are in the centre of the Stalls
- WC** Accessible toilet on level one and level two
- Ear defenders are available from venue staff
- Box Office has low counter and no loop system
- Assistance dogs are welcome and can be looked after by venue staff
- AD** Best AD signal from centre of Circle or Stalls
- CAP** Best view of captions and surtitles from centre of Circle or Stalls

## FURTHER INFORMATION

- +44 (0) 131 529 6000
- [foh@capitaltheatres.com](mailto:foh@capitaltheatres.com)
- [capitaltheatres.com/your-visit](http://capitaltheatres.com/your-visit)









# THE HUB

## Castlehill, EH1 2NE








Please be aware that during August, the Lawnmarket and Johnston Terrace are closed to vehicles from 5pm. The closest drop off point is the Radisson Collection Hotel on George IV Bridge. The five-minute walk up the hill to the Hub is steep and there are areas of cobbled street, so if you are a wheelchair user or have limited mobility you may want to attend with a companion.

A free Access Shuttle is being offered for audiences of evening events at The Hub, please see page 7 for more information.




## GETTING THERE

-  NCP: Castle Terrace (5 accessible bays)
-  Bus Stop (George IV Bridge) 9, 23, 27
-  Due to its proximity to Edinburgh Castle, the area outside The Hub can be extremely busy with tourists at all points of the day and may take people with mobility requirements longer to navigate.
-  There is no dropped curb near The Hub main entrance. The nearest level access route is to travel part way up Castlehill until the road and pavement become level with each other, and then head back down the pavement to The Hub. Castlehill is a cobbled street.

## VENUE ACCESSIBILITY

-  The ramped entrance from the street into The Hub courtyard is quite steep. The least steep approach is from the Castlehill side, so you are travelling downhill before you meet the ramp.
-  Platform lift from Box Office foyer to Sculpture Hall; due to the constraints of the building, the turning circle for this lift is 1400mm X 1050mm. The platform lift entrance has a width of 930mm and a weight limit of 250kg.
-  Wheelchair spaces are available
-  Accessible toilets on ground floor and main hall level
-  Induction loop in auditorium; set hearing aid to the T position
-  Box Office has low counter and loop system
-  Assistance dogs are welcome and can be looked after by venue staff

## FURTHER INFORMATION

-  +44 (0) 131 473 2056
-  [access@eif.co.uk](mailto:access@eif.co.uk)
-  [eif.co.uk/venues](http://eif.co.uk/venues)





© Gaelle Beri

# THE LYCEUM

30b Grindlay Street, EH3 9AX

## GETTING THERE

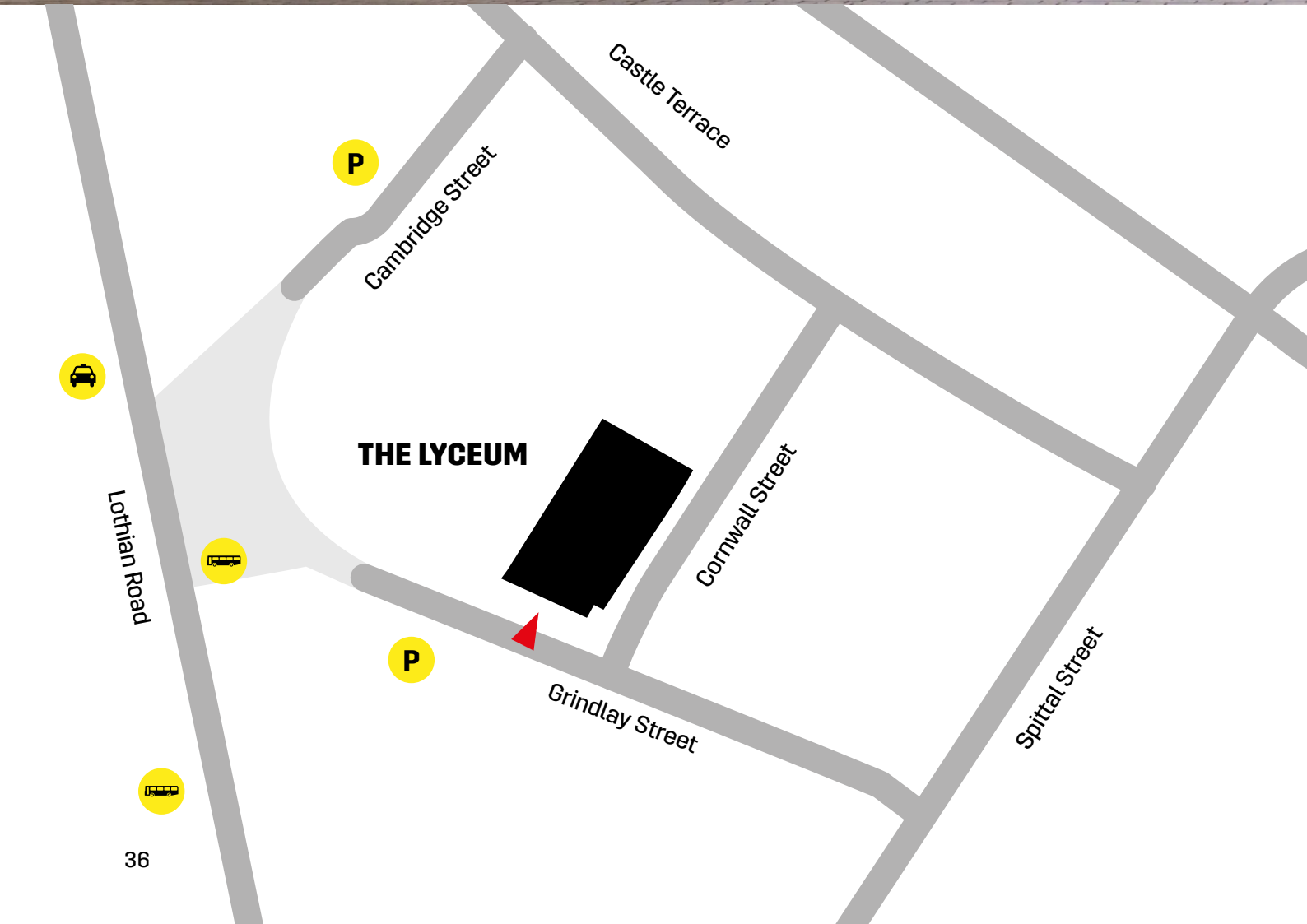
- P** Accessible parking bays on Grindlay Street and Cambridge Street
- P** NCP: Castle Terrace (5 accessible bays)
- Bus stop (Usher Hall): 1, 10, 11, 12, 15, 16, 24, 34, 36, 47
- Taxi rank on Lothian Road
- Haymarket Station 0.6 miles
- Tram stop on Shandwick Place

## VENUE ACCESSIBILITY

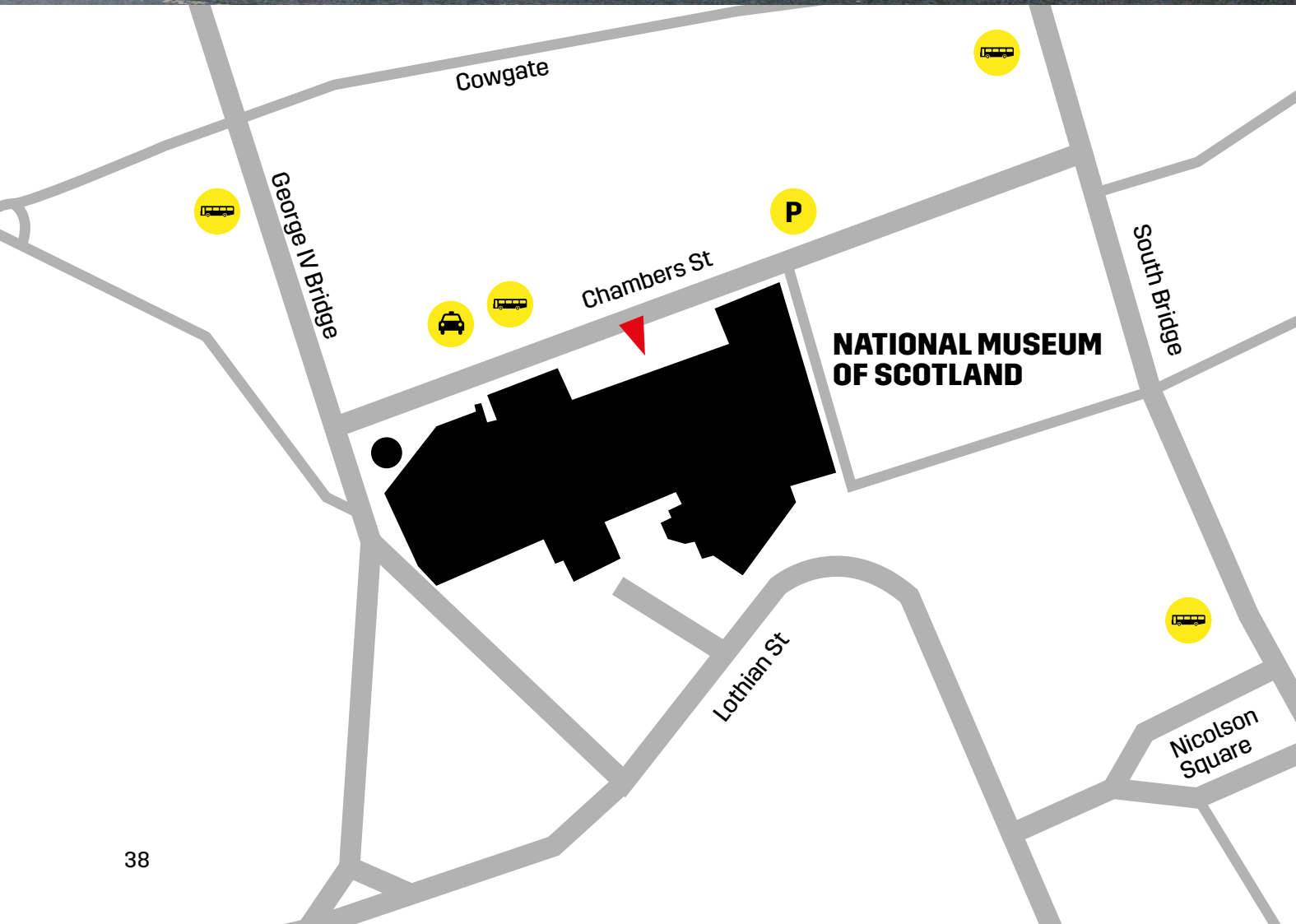
- Lift access to all levels
- Platform lift to Stalls Bar, please ask staff for assistance
- Wheelchair spaces located in the rear of the Stalls – Boxes A and C – and Row G of the Grand Circle.
- If you have limited mobility or want to transfer from a wheelchair, Stalls Boxes A and C could also work for you. These boxes have individual unfixed chairs which can be moved around.
- WC** Accessible toilet on ground floor
- Auditorium has hearing enhancement system which transmits on an FM radio signal, headsets available to borrow from shop in foyer
- Box Office has low counter and loop system
- Assistance dogs are welcome and can be looked after by venue staff
- AD** Best AD signal from central seating
- CAP** Best view of surtitles from central seating

## FURTHER INFORMATION

- +44 (0) 131 248 4848
- [info@lyceum.org.uk](mailto:info@lyceum.org.uk)
- [lyceum.org.uk/access](http://lyceum.org.uk/access)
















# NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND

Chambers Street, EH1 1JF




## GETTING THERE

- P** Pay and display parking on Chambers Street
- P** There are four accessible parking bays on Chambers Street
-  Bus Stop (Surgeon's Hall): 3, 5, 7, 8, 14, 29, 30, 31, 33, 35, 45, 49, 51, X62, X95
-  Bus Stop (Chambers St): 35, 45
-  Bus Stop (George IV Bridge): 9, 23, 27
-  Taxi rank at the west end of Chambers Street
-  Waverley Station 0.4 miles

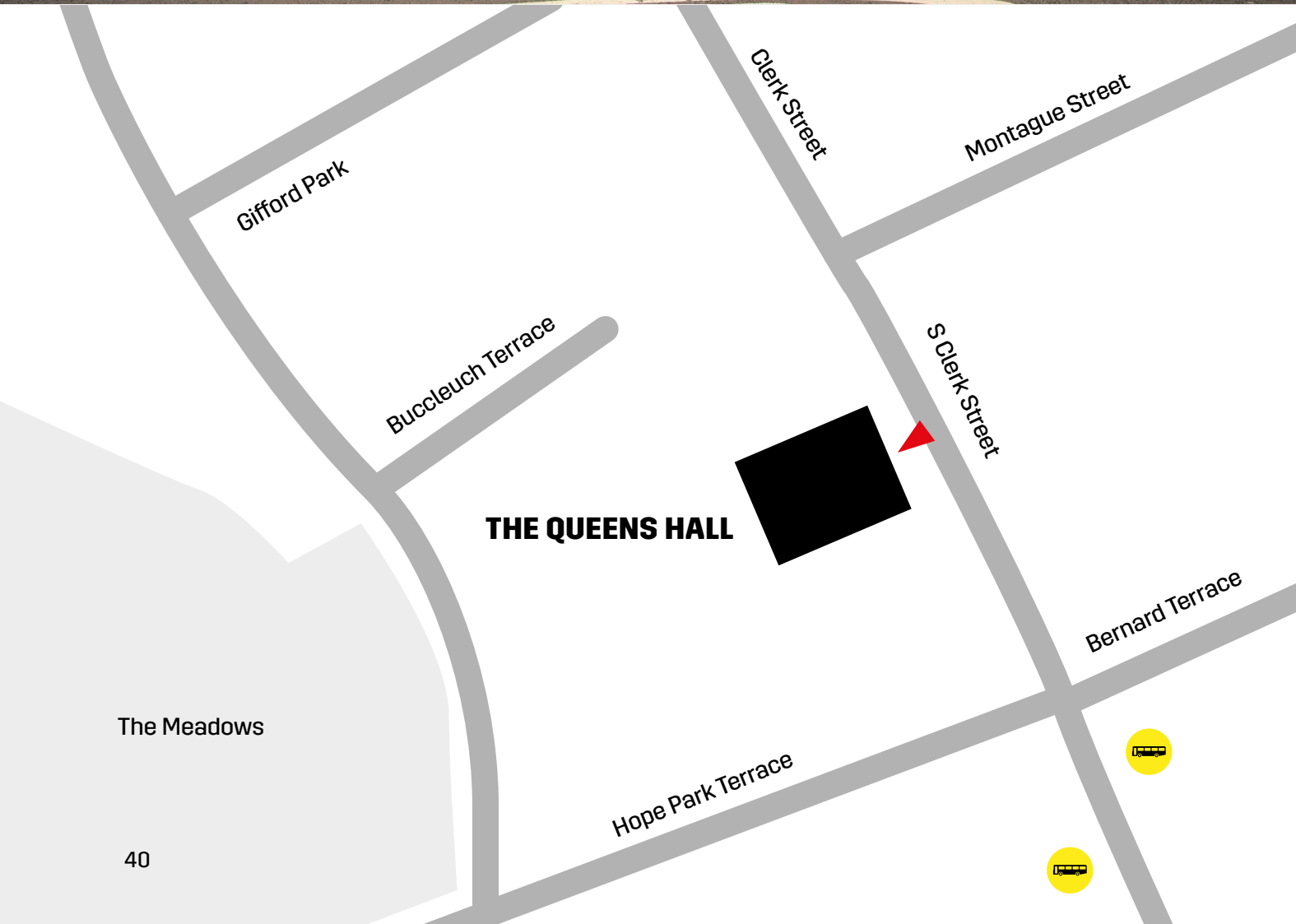
## VENUE ACCESSIBILITY

-  Lift access to all levels
-  There is level access via the main doors to the Entrance Hall on Chambers Street
- WC** There are two accessible toilets on level one and a Changing Places toilet in the Entrance Hall on level zero
-  Please use box office at The Hub to buy tickets for this venue
-  Assistance dogs are welcome

## FURTHER INFORMATION

-  +44 (0) 131 473 2056
-  [access@eif.co.uk](mailto:access@eif.co.uk)
-  [nms.ac.uk/national-museum-of-scotland/plan-your-visit/accessibility](https://nms.ac.uk/national-museum-of-scotland/plan-your-visit/accessibility)





# THE QUEEN'S HALL

85–89 Clerk Street, EH8 9JG

## GETTING THERE

- P** Parking near the venue is very limited. The closest accessible parking bay is outside the police station on St Leonard's Lane (0.2 miles)
- Bus** Bus stop (Bernard Terrace): 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 29, 30, 31, 33, 37, 47, 49

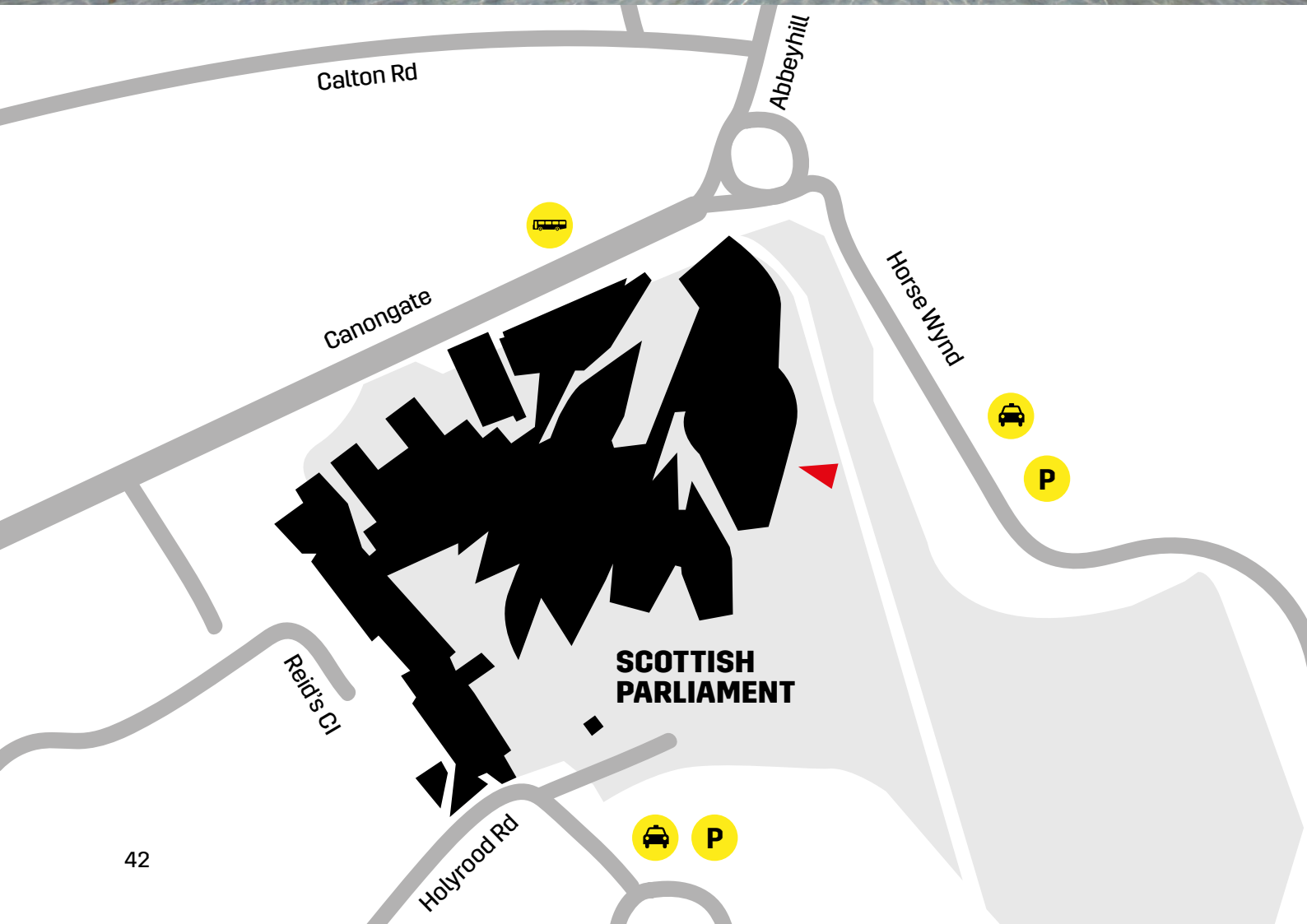
## VENUE ACCESSIBILITY

- No lift** No lift
- Pavement** Please be aware that the pavement outside The Queen's Hall is small and may become very busy with queues pre-performance
- Wheelchair** If you are transferring from a wheelchair or you have limited mobility, we recommend choosing aisle seats in the central Stalls
- WC** Accessible toilets are on the ground floor
- Hearing** Induction loop in the auditorium, set hearing aid to the 'T' position
- Box Office** Box Office has low counter and loop system
- Assistance dogs** Assistance dogs are welcome and can be looked after by venue staff
- A** Sensory Kits containing ear defenders and other tools are available to book via the venue.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

- Phone** +44 (0) 131 668 2019
- Email** [info@queenshalledinburgh.org](mailto:info@queenshalledinburgh.org)
- Website** [thequeenshall.net/your-visit/access-information](http://thequeenshall.net/your-visit/access-information)








# SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT





## EH99 1SP

The Scottish Parliament – located at the bottom of the Royal Mile – hosts Healing Arts Scotland events




## GETTING THERE

- P** Six accessible parking bays on Horse Wynd
- P** Accessible drop-off points at Horse Wynd and Dynamic Earth
-  Bus stop (Scottish Parliament): 35
-  Taxi rank on Horse Wynd
-  Waverley Station 0.5 miles

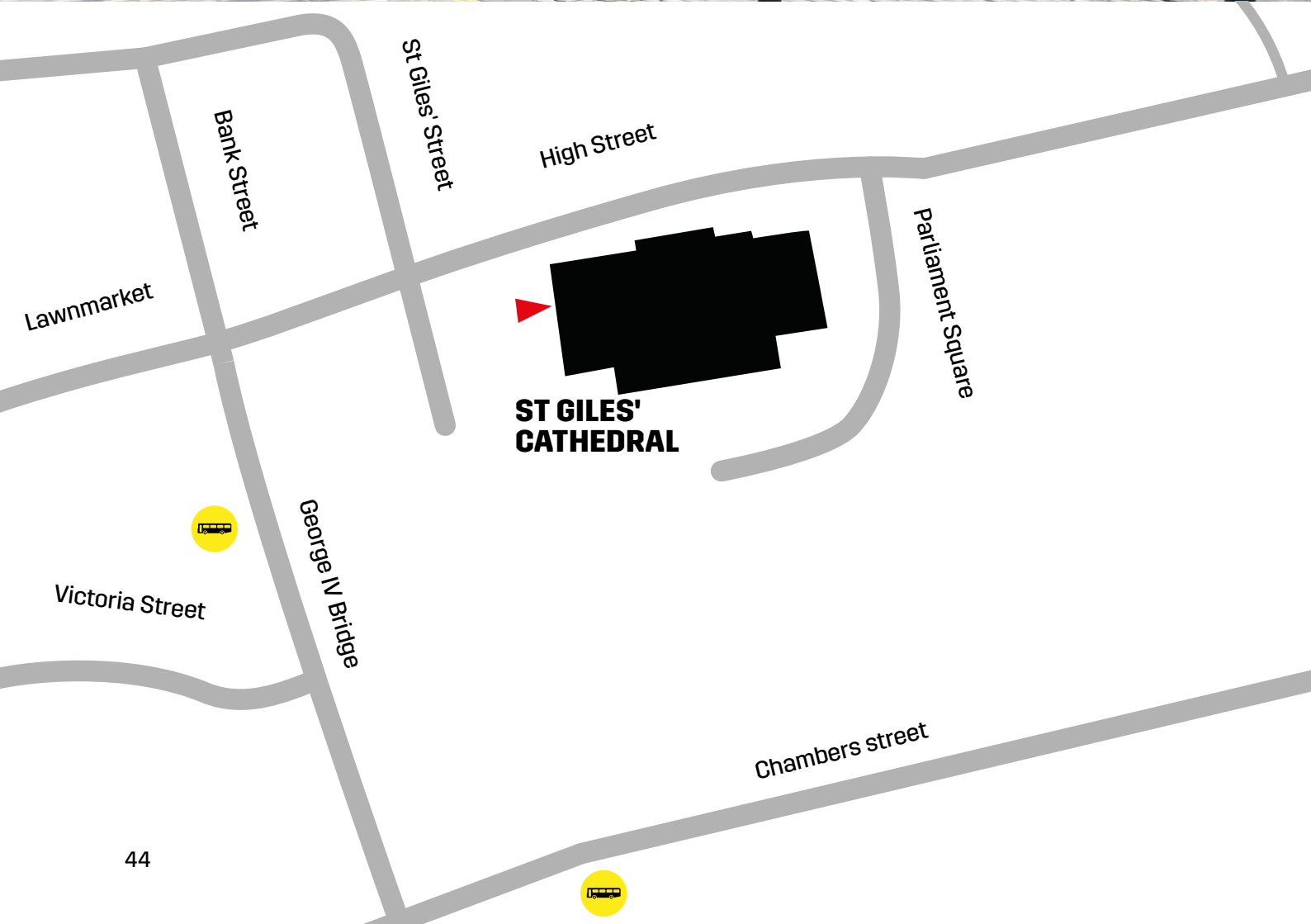
## VENUE ACCESSIBILITY

-  All public areas have level access
- WC** Accessible toilets and Changing Places toilet
-  Hearing loops are fitted throughout the public areas
-  Assistance dogs are welcome
-  Braille is on signage around the building
- BSL** For the most up to date information please check [eif.co.uk/access](http://eif.co.uk/access)
- CAP** For the most up to date information please check [eif.co.uk/access](http://eif.co.uk/access)

## FURTHER INFORMATION

-  +44 (0) 131 348 5000
-  [visit@parliament.scot](mailto:visit@parliament.scot)
-  [parliament.scot/visit/plan-your-visit/accessibility-guide](http://parliament.scot/visit/plan-your-visit/accessibility-guide)









# ST GILES' CATHEDRAL








**High Street, EH1 1RE**

St Giles' Cathedral is situated on The Royal Mile, much of which consists of cobbles and can become extremely busy with tourists during August.




## GETTING THERE

- P** There are some parking spaces available directly in front of the Cathedral entrance (West Parliament Square). There are two accessible parking bays to the rear of the building adjacent to the Mercat Cross (Parliament Square). Please be aware that these spaces are on cobbles. Please email or phone ahead to book a space.
-  Bus Stop (South Bridge): 3, 5, 7, 8, 14, 29, 30, 31, 33, 35, 37, 49
-  Bus Stop (George IV Bridge) 9, 23, 27
-  Taxi rank on Chambers St
-  Waverley Station 0.2 miles (down steep slope)

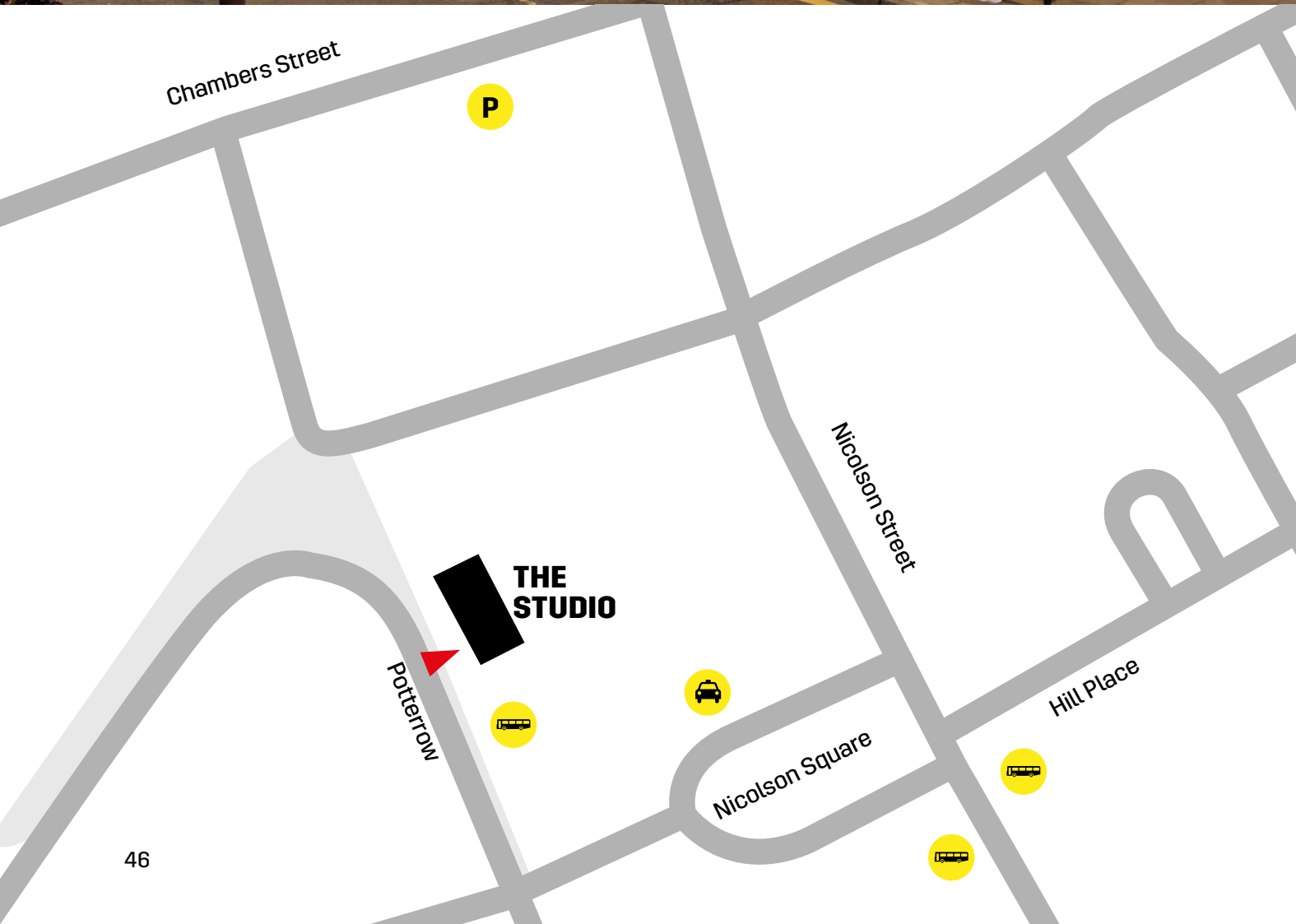
## VENUE ACCESSIBILITY

-  There is no lift but this venue is all on one level.
-  There is ramped level access up to the main entrance of the building, and another ramped walkway once inside the building. There is no ramp on the exit side of the one-way system, visitors are welcome to return the way you came in.
-  Two manual wheelchairs are available for audiences if required
- WC** There is no accessible toilet available at this venue
-  There is no hearing loop system available at this venue
-  Please use box office at The Hub to buy tickets for this venue
-  Assistance dogs are welcome and can be looked after by venue staff
-  Braille is on signage around the building

## FURTHER INFORMATION

-  +44 (0) 131 226 0674
-  [info@stgilescathedral.org.uk](mailto:info@stgilescathedral.org.uk)
-  [stgilescathedral.org.uk](http://stgilescathedral.org.uk)















# THE STUDIO

22 Potterrow, EH8 9BL




## GETTING THERE

- P** Pay and display parking on Chambers Street
- P** Accessible parking spaces in the venue car park can be booked in advance by contacting Stage Door at [stagedoor@capitaltheatres.com](mailto:stagedoor@capitaltheatres.com) or by calling +44 (0) 131 662 1112 and selecting option two
-  Bus Stop (Surgeon's Hall): 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 14, 29, 30, 31, 33, 37, 47, 49
-  Bus Stop (Potterrow): 2, 9, 12, 47
-  Taxi rank on Nicolson Square
-  Waverley Station 0.5 miles

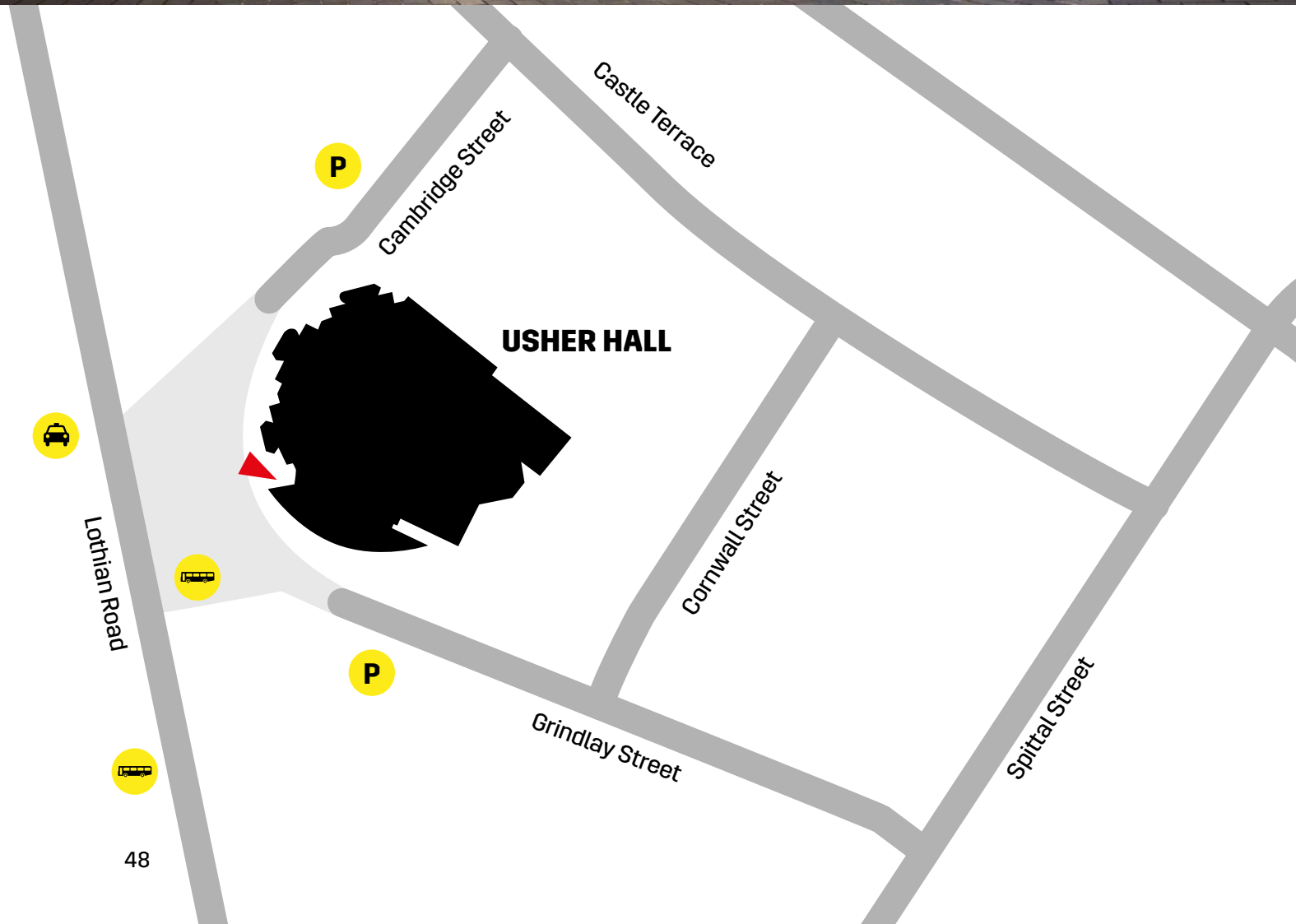
## VENUE ACCESSIBILITY

-  Lift to all levels
-  Level access to main entrance and automatic doors
-  Wheelchair spaces are located at the front of the auditorium
- WC** Accessible toilet is on level one
-  No loop system in the auditorium
-  Box Office has low counter and no loop system
-  Assistance dogs are welcome and can be looked after by venue staff
- AD** Good AD signal from any seat
- BSL** Good view of BSL interpreter from any seat
- CAP** Good view of captions from the seating banks

## FURTHER INFORMATION

-  +44 (0) 131 529 6000
-  [foh@capitaltheatres.com](mailto:foh@capitaltheatres.com)
-  [capitaltheatres.com/your-visit](http://capitaltheatres.com/your-visit)


















# USHER HALL

Lothian Road, EH1 2EA




## GETTING THERE

- P** Accessible parking bays on Grindlay Street and Cambridge Street
- P** NCP: Castle Terrace (5 accessible bays)
-  Bus stop (Usher Hall): 1, 10, 11, 12, 15, 16, 24, 34, 36, 47
-  Taxi rank on Lothian Road
-  Haymarket Station 0.6 miles
-  Tram stop at Shandwick Place

## VENUE ACCESSIBILITY

-  Lift to all levels
-  Level access through the glass wing entrance with automatic doors
-  No level access to Grand Circle Bar, ask venue staff for assistance
-  Upper Circle may not be suitable for customers with limited mobility
-  Wheelchair spaces are located in mid Stalls and Grand Circle
-  If you are transferring from your wheelchair, or you have limited mobility, we recommend aisle seats in the Stalls
- WC** Accessible toilets on all levels – three on Stalls level and two on Grand Circle level
-  There is a loop system in the auditorium
-  Box Office has low counter and no loop system
-  Assistance dogs are welcome and can be looked after by venue staff
- A** There is a sensory room available, ask venue staff for access
- CAP** Best view of captions and surtitles from centre of Circle or Stalls

## FURTHER INFORMATION

-  +44 (0) 131 228 1155
-  [customer.enquiries@usherhall.co.uk](mailto:customer.enquiries@usherhall.co.uk)
-  [usherhall.co.uk/your-visit/access](http://usherhall.co.uk/your-visit/access)

**EIF.CO.UK/ACCESS**

**+44 (0) 131 473 2056**

**#EDINTFEST**

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