

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

ABOUT THE PERFORMANCE

This summer The Lord Chamberlain's Men, are celebrating their 15th birthday and an amazing 425 years since the original company was created. To celebrate this special anniversary, they are touring one of Shakespeare's most popular and best-loved comedies, ***A Midsummer Night's Dream***.

"Lord, what fools these mortals be!"

This magical and enchanting comedy premieres at the Brighton Festival at the end of May then heads off on tour around the UK before finishing in mainland Europe in September. Calling at an incredible 70 venues including some of the UK's most significant, historically important and visually stunning castles, cathedrals and stately homes over 17 weeks with more than 80 performances the tour is one of their biggest yet. With audiences encouraged to bring picnics, a chair or a blanket and a glass of something chilled this show promises to be another **authentic, excellent** and **magical** treat from the company that brought you last year's spellbinding production of ***The Tempest***.

Shakespeare's rustic and supernatural comedy is packed with some of his most famous characters from Puck, the merry wanderer of the night, to the hilarious Bottom via the warring lovers whose true loves' course never did run smooth.

***"And yet, to say the truth, reason and love
keep little company together nowadays."***

Acclaimed for their stylish and accessible productions The Lord Chamberlain's Men have spent the last 15 years wowing audiences up and down the country in their trademark style. Continually raising the bar for standards in open air theatre they have gone from strength to strength, **Peter Stickney, Artistic Director**, says, "To reach our 15th birthday is no mean feat. We work hard to bring you the best production every year but really the pleasure is ours, we feel privileged to be able to tour to the stunning locations that we tour to and meet the wonderful people that we meet on the way. Reaching this milestone is a testament to the great work of the many actors and creatives who have worked with us, but we truly couldn't do any of this without the support of our wonderful venues and amazing audiences who make this such a joy. We played to almost 30,000 people across

the summer last year and we hope that this year will see us entertain even more. I really hope that you enjoy our magical production of this timeless classic and here's to the next 15!"

A brief plot synopsis...

Lovers at war flee to an enchanted forest alive with meddling fairies and sprites. Hoping for their true loves' course to be set straight, instead they become further entangled and confused as they are caught in the cross fire of a fairy king and queen at odds. Meanwhile a bumbling group of artisans prepare a play to be presented as part of the Duke's wedding celebration.

WHAT TO BRING

Bring a chair and a picnic and spend a glorious summer's evening watching this funny, moving and fast-paced production of one of Shakespeare's best-loved comedies. Performed in the open air, by an all-male cast with Elizabethan costume, music and dance, this is undoubtedly one of the hottest tickets of the summer.

TIMINGS

Gates will open at 6:30pm with the performance commencing promptly at 7:30pm. There will be a 15 minute interval at 8:25pm. Finishing time of the performance is approximately 9:30pm.

WHAT TO BRING

No seating is provided so please bring low-backed seats or a picnic blanket. Picnics are encouraged and liquid refreshments will be available to purchase. Please dress for all weather situations. It can get chilly towards the end of the performance so coats are recommended. This performance will take place whatever the weather.

SUITABILITY

No pets are allowed at this event. Guide Dogs however will be permitted. Babies and young children are welcome and children under 3 years go free.

DISABLED ACCESS

There will be disabled parking available on a first come first served basis. There are no steps to avoid, all the ground is flat.

CAN I BRING ALCOHOLIC DRINKS TO THE EVENT?

Yes you can, in reasonable quantities – i.e. not more than 1 litre of wine or the equivalent of 4 cans of beer per person over 18 years old. Please note you are only permitted to bring 1 glass bottle of wine or 1 glass bottle of champagne per person OR 2 per hamper or combination of both. Heavy duty glass dishes/bowl (i.e. Pyrex) and glass food jars to be allowed within reason (3–4 per hamper). Glass bottles/vessels not permitted include: fragile glass drinkware, fragile glass containers/dishes/bowls which may break easily.

IS THERE ANYTHING THAT I AM NOT ALLOWED TO BRING?

The following articles are not permitted on site – non domestic knives, fireworks, barbecues, gazebos, tents, awnings, smoke or gas canisters (including aerosols and nitrous oxide), Chinese lanterns, megaphones, air-horns, sound systems, flares, weapons, dangerous or hazardous items, laser devices, glass vessels, poles including selfie-sticks, unauthorised items for trading, including any goods using unauthorised event logos, and any article that might be used as a weapon and/or compromise public safety, including unofficial tabards.

CAN I GET BACK IN TO THE EVENT AFTER I LEAVE?

There is no re-admission to the event; once you have left you will not be able to get back in.

IS DRINKING WATER AVAILABLE AT THE EVENT?

Bottled water and other soft drinks will be available to purchase from the bars and catering units.

CAN I BUY A TICKET ON THE DAY?

Provided that the performance has not sold out you will be able to buy tickets on the day.

CAN I GET A REFUND?

Unfortunately, tickets are non-refundable and non-transferable.



I HAVE A GOLF UMBRELLA THAT I WOULD LIKE TO BRING WITH ME, WILL THIS BE ALLOWED?

Yes, although nothing larger than a golf umbrella and please be considerate to people around you. You might be better off using a plastic mac with a hood.

HOW TO FIND US

Knowsley Hall can be found using postcode **L34 4AJ**. This will take you to George Hale Avenue where you will arrive at a set of gates. You will have to show your tickets at the gate before gaining entry onto the Estate so please have these ready. Upon entry please continue along the drive following signs for Hall which will be on your right hand side and you will be directed to park by a steward.