

European Route of Historic Theatres

Channel Route

Tour proposals across Great Britain, Netherlands and Belgium



Tour A <i>Journey in km</i>	Panorama of British theatre history On this tour are to discover: the oldest theatre on the island, a typical music hall, the private theater of opera star Adelina Patti and the theatre capital of London.
Day 01	<i>Arrival in Glasgow</i>
NEW	Britannia Panopticon Music Hall (1857), Glasgow / UK The music hall was a British invention of the 19th century. Here music, dance and sketches were offered to the general entertainment. The "Britannia" is the world's oldest theatre of this type - and at the same time it is the Music Hall Museum.
	<i>Glasgow old town. Overnight stay in Glasgow</i>
Day 02 <i>270 km</i>	Georgian Theatre Royal (1788), Richmond / UK The oldest surviving theatre of Great Britain and the only from the 18th century. It was built as part of a theatre circuit for travelling theatre companies. The Theatre Museum next door shows England's oldest stage set.
	<i>Richmond historic town centre. Journey through the Yorkshire Dales National Park. Overnight stay around Sheffield, e. g. in Peak District National Park</i>
Day 03 <i>480 km</i>	Adelina Patti Theatre (1891), Craig-y-Nos / GB Adelina Patti, international opera star of the late 19th century, built on her romantic retirement home this completely preserved private theatre. Here, in Castle Craig-Y-Nos in Wales she performed for a small audience. The castle is now a hotel.
	<i>Overnight stay in Craig-y-Nos Castle</i>

<p>Day 04 300 km</p>	<p>London theatre capital</p> <p>In London the two most historically interesting theatres are "Drury Lane" and "Covent Garden", where theatre is performed since 1622. The present buildings dates from 1812 respectively 1858.</p> <p>The replica of Shakespeare's "Globe" theatre allows to revive theatre from around 1600. Nearby the foundations of the former "Rose" theatre can be visited.</p> <p>Architecturally interesting are the "Criterion Theatre" of 1874, London's first underground theatre, as well as the "Palace Theatre" (1891) and the "Wyndham's" (1899).</p>
	<p><i>Overnight stay in London</i></p>
<p>Day 05 20 km</p>	<p>Normansfield Theatre (1879), Teddington / GB</p> <p>The theatre in the former hospital Langdon Down Centre played an important role in the health and cultural advancement of the patients and the staff. Some of them stood on stage themselves.</p>
<p>180 km</p>	<p>Theatre Royal (1819), Bury St Edmunds/GB</p> <p>Im idyllischen Städtchen Bury St Edmunds, der Grablege des Hl. Edmund, einem der Schutzheiligen Englands, findet man Großbritanniens einzig erhaltenes Theater im Regency-Stil.</p> <p>Theatre Royal (1819), Bury St Edmunds / GB</p> <p>In the idyllic town of Bury St Edmunds, the grave of Saint Edmund being one of England's patron saints, we find Britain's only preserved theatre in the Regency style.</p>
<p>90 / 200 km</p>	<p><i>Ferry Harwich – Hoek van Holland. Overnight stay on the ferry</i></p>

<p>Tour B Journey in km</p>	<p>From Holland through Flanders and Wallonia</p> <p>Although the Dutch have a centuries-old theatre tradition, more than half of their theatres were built after 1945. And the older ones have been redesigned again and again. This is why we present on the Channel Route only one theatre: the Municipal Theatre of Leiden.</p> <p>In Belgium influences from the Netherlands and France mix, and this is also reflected in the Belgium theatres.</p>
<p>Day 06 40 / 40 km</p>	<p><i>Arrival in Leiden</i></p> <p><i>If only tour B: Arrival over Amsterdam</i></p>
	<p>Leidse Schouwburg (1705/1865), Leiden / NL</p> <p>This oldest municipal theatre of the Netherlands was built in 1705 and received its present form in 1865: a fantastic ambience from plush, red carpets and crystal chandeliers.</p>

200 km	<p>Opera (1840), Ghent / BE</p> <p>A concert hall, a ballroom and the theatre foyer form a 90 meters long, breath taking sequence that leads to the richly decorated auditorium. This opera is a testimony of the then newly acquired wealth of the industrialists of Ghent, who built this marvelous building.</p>
(55 km)	<i>Overnight stay in Ghent oder Brussels</i>
<p>Day 07</p> <p>55 km</p>	<p>Théâtre Royal du Parc (1782), Brussels / BE</p> <p>"Vauxhall" was a kind of amusement park. Its concept spread from London via Paris to Brussels in the 18th century: a pleasure garden with cafés and outdoor performances. In Brussels, the "Vauxhall" system is still largely intact. Well preserved too is the theatre with its intimate "bonbonnière-like" auditorium and ballrooms.</p>
105 km	<p>Chimay Palace Theatre (1863), Chimay / BE</p> <p>Here the connection to France is particularly clear: As homage to the Castle Theatre in Fontainebleau, which was destroyed by fire, the Prince of Chimay built his own Palace Theatre. As later Chimay castle almost completely burned down, miraculously the theatre survived: a crown jewel among the Belgian theatres.</p>
120 km	<i>Return to Brussels. Departure.</i>