

CORN THE HALL

CORN HALL GENERAL INFORMATION (November 2016)

Recently the subject of a major £2 million refurbishment project, with funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund, this Grade II listed building in the heart of Diss now offers a beautifully restored historic building, up-to-date facilities and flexible accommodation at a reasonable cost.

Principle uses include concerts, theatre, wedding receptions, dinners, dances, indoor sport, exhibitions, fairs, seminars, meetings, lectures and auctions.

SPACES

The Hall

This impressive high-ceilinged hall in classical style is 22.8m x 12.8m (75' x 42') with a ceiling height of 6.4m (21'). The Main Hall can cater for 300 seated (164 on fully retractable travelling tiered seating), 180 dining or 400 standing. The space includes a lighting rig with theatre lighting, sound control booth, projector and motorised screen. There is a superb dance floor and tables and chairs can be provided and set up to individual requirements.

The stage in the Assembly Hall measures 7.3m x 3.7m x 800mm (24' X 12' x 2.5'). With advance notice it may be possible to increase the stage to 7.3m x 4.9m (24' x 16') and to set the front section of the stage at a lower height. Please note: increasing the stage dimensions reduces the hall seating capacity.

The Waveney Room

At 5.7m x 9.1m (19' x 30'), the Waveney Room is ideal for medium-sized gatherings, holding 50 seated or 30 dining. With a new professionally run bar and café adjoining the space, this facility is both welcoming and versatile. The room is equipped with projector, large motorised screen and PA.

The Studio (upstairs but with lift access)

Measuring 5.7m x 10m (19' x 33'), The Studio is ideal for classes, training, small boardroom-style meetings, intimate receptions and workshops. The space can accommodate up to 50 and has access to upstairs toilet facilities and the option of a private entrance.

The Gallery

We hold approximately six art and six heritage exhibitions per year in the main Gallery. These show a rich mix of established artists. In Gallery 2 upstairs we also feature regularly changing themed exhibitions and artists from the local community.

The Box Office

The Box Office is open from Monday to Friday, 10am to 4pm, Saturday 10am to 2pm, and at least 2 hrs before performances.

Dressing Room/Green Room

The dressing room is equipped with makeup mirrors, a full length mirror and has wifi access. The space can be divided into two for privacy. An iron and ironing board are available on request. Toilets and a tea point adjoin. The Studio may be used for larger groups if necessary – please ask. The Dressing Room is on the first floor and access to the stage is down a performer's stair. There is lift access to the ground floor if necessary.

Bar & Café

Both the café and the bar are open from 10am-4pm Monday-Saturday, from 6pm on event nights and 2 hrs prior to Sunday performances.

Fredricks Fine Foods provide a delicious range of teas, coffees and soft drinks, plus a wonderful menu of freshly-made cakes, snacks and pre-show suppers. The award-winning, local and very popular Grain Brewery continue to run our bar.

Access

The Main Hall and the Waveney Room are both on the ground floor with access just a short distance from the car park with no flights of stairs. The Studio is on the first floor and is served by a lift. There are toilets including accessible toilets on both floors. The Main Hall and Waveney Room have hearing loops.

FURNITURE

Main Hall seating & capacity

300 seated (164 on fully retractable travelling tiered seating unit), 180 dining or 400 standing.

Chairs

In addition to the tipping chairs fixed to the retractable unit, we have 150 padded stacking chairs.

Tables

We have 20 x 6' trestle tables which can comfortably seat six people for dining and 8 for cabaret-style events.

Acoustic screens

We have 8 x black cloth-covered, free-standing acoustic absorber screens 6' x 3.5' which may be used as wings or scenery flats.

Lecterns & stands

2 x Tiger black adjustable music stands

LOCATION

Diss is located on the Norfolk-Suffolk border more-or-less midway between Norwich and Ipswich on the A140 and on the A1066 approximately 20 miles from Thetford.

The Corn Hall is in the centre of the town on St Nicholas Street. Approaching from the A140 drive along Victoria Road/Park Road and turn right into Denmark Street at the Park Hotel roundabout, go up the hill and, immediately after the zebra crossing, turn right into St Nicholas Street. The Corn Hall is the large columned building about 30 metres down on your left. You can drive into the yard between The Two Brewers pub and the Corn Hall to unload.

Parking

There is access for vehicles up to 7.5 tonnes for unloading and loading only. Diss is well served with public car parks with over 1000 car parking spaces in the town centre. The nearest car park is only a short walk around the corner (off Shelfanger Road). All car parks are accessible 24 hours. The first hour is free and all car parks are free on Sundays and Bank Holidays. There is no charge for parking after 6pm.

Rail

The station in Diss is approximately 1 mile from the Corn Hall off Victoria Road. There is a regular service north to Norwich and south to London Liverpool Street (journey time approximately 90 minutes). The last train to London leaves at 22:17. There is a train at 23:22 to Stowmarket and Ipswich.

Taxis

Able Taxis	01379 640900	John's Taxis	01379 640000
Scole Cabs	01379 741471	JB Taxis	01379 652014
Barry's Taxis	01379 643886	Disstrict Cabs	01379 650064

FOOD OUTSIDE THE VENUE

There are a number of good restaurants and take-aways within a short walk of the Corn Hall.

The Happy Palace (Chinese) directly across the road in St Nicholas Street, 01379 641888

Spice Cottage (Indian & Nepalese) on Market Square, 01379 640222

Mr Chips (fish and chips) on Market Square, 01379 643669

Weavers (traditional English dining) diagonally opposite, 01379 642411

Saracens Head (pub serving good food), at the end of St Nicholas Street opposite HSBC, 01379 652853

Indian View (Indian take-away only but very good!), on Church Street, 01379 650100

On Friday and Saturday the *chip-cart* sells chips in the market place. A Diss tradition for over 90 years!

A little further away (10 minutes walk):

The Fayre View (English and European dining) on Fair Green, 01379 644684

PUBS

The Corn Hall is flanked by The Two Bowers and The Greyhound. The White Horse, Saracens Head and the Waterfront are a short walk away.

ACCOMODATION

Walking distance:

The Park Hotel www.parkhotel-diss.co.uk, 01379 642244

Saracens Head www.saracensheadiss.co.uk, 01379 652853

Cobwebs Bed & Breakfast www.cobwebsbandb.co.uk, 01379 641388

Less than 10 mins drive:

White House Bed & Breakfast www.whitehousebressingham.co.uk, 01379 688428

The Oaksmere www.theoaksmere.com, 01379 873940

CORN HALL CONTACT DETAILS

Box Office (10am – 4pm every day except Tuesday and Sunday. Later on event days)
01379 652241

Director

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To come