

Detroit Opera House

Pre-Visit Story



I am going to
the Detroit
Opera House.

Park the Car

If we take the car, we may park the car in the Detroit Opera House Parking Center.

At the entrance, we will put the credit card in the machine to pay and then follow the arrows to park.

Then we will walk through the doors to take the stairs or the elevator to the garage lobby if needed.



Walking to the Opera House

I can choose the elevator or the stairs to exit the parking garage.

I can then wait at the corner until it is safe to cross the street and walk to the entrance.

I may have to wait in line many times during the visit. I will be patient and wait for my turn.



The Detroit Opera House

I am going to the Detroit Opera House to see a performance.

There are lots of different performances here. The beautiful building is over 100 years old.

If I want more information about the opera house, it is on the website at www.detroitopera.org.



Box Office

If we don't have our tickets, we will go to a place called the Box Office in the lobby.

There we will buy our tickets. Everyone who goes to the show must have a ticket.

I may have to wait in line to get my tickets.



Box Office Window

The box office has a small window with a person on the other side.

We will tell the person behind the window how many tickets we need. We will pay for those tickets.

The ticket machine will make a quiet noise and print our tickets.

The person will give us the tickets. We will take the tickets to the usher to be scanned.



Lobby

The theatre lobby at the Detroit Opera House is big. If I look up, I will see a lot of decorations, lights, and paintings.

I will walk through the lobby to get to the theatre.

I can look around as much as I like.



Lobby

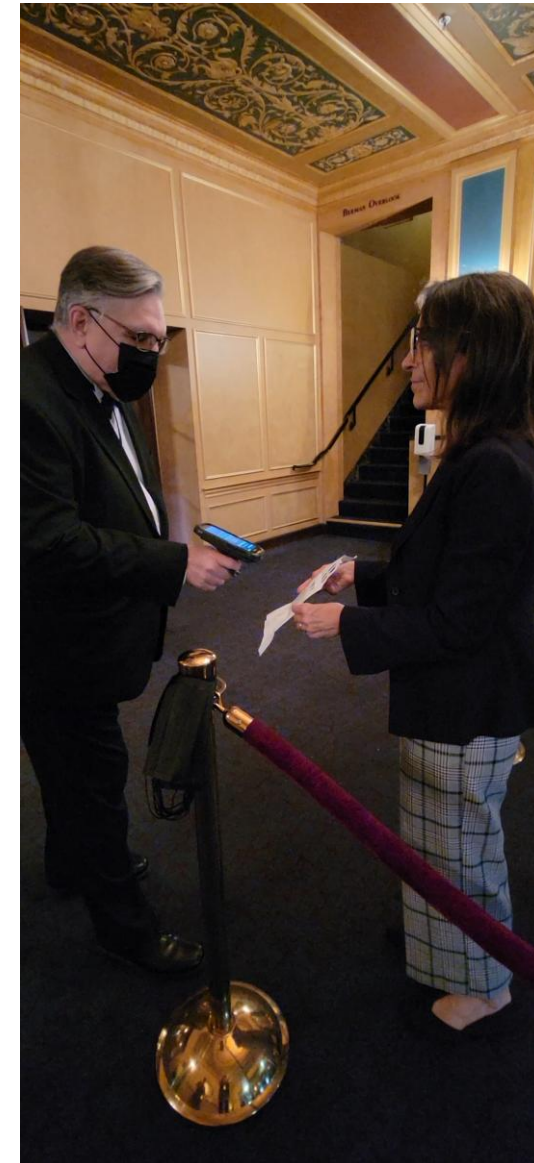
I may have to wait in line in the lobby.

If we have our tickets, we give them to the usher who will scan them with a machine. It will make beeping and swooshing sounds. I may see a brief flash of green.

After the sound, we can go to the next lobby.

There will be people standing around in the lobby. There will be a lot of sounds.

I can cover my ears if I need to.



Security

The theatre security person is a friendly helper.

I can ask the security person for help if I need it.

They wear radios that sometimes make noise.

If I have a large bag or purse, they will use a stick and a security wand to see what is inside for my safety.

The wand makes a quiet beep. Nothing touches me.



Theatre Ushers

The theatre usher is a friendly helper. I can ask the theatre usher for help.

The theatre usher can help me find my seat. They will give me a program. I can ask them questions.



Guest Services

If I need any help, I can ask a friendly usher or go to Guest Services in the Vincent Lobby. I can ask anyone for directions.

They can hang up my coat if I want them to. They also have things like Band-Aids, booster chairs and more if I need them.

I can always ask a friendly usher for anything I need.



Grand Lobby

I will walk through an open space and go through the main lobby.

People may be standing around before entering the theatre. It could get crowded.



Elevator

I can choose to ride the elevator if my seat is upstairs.

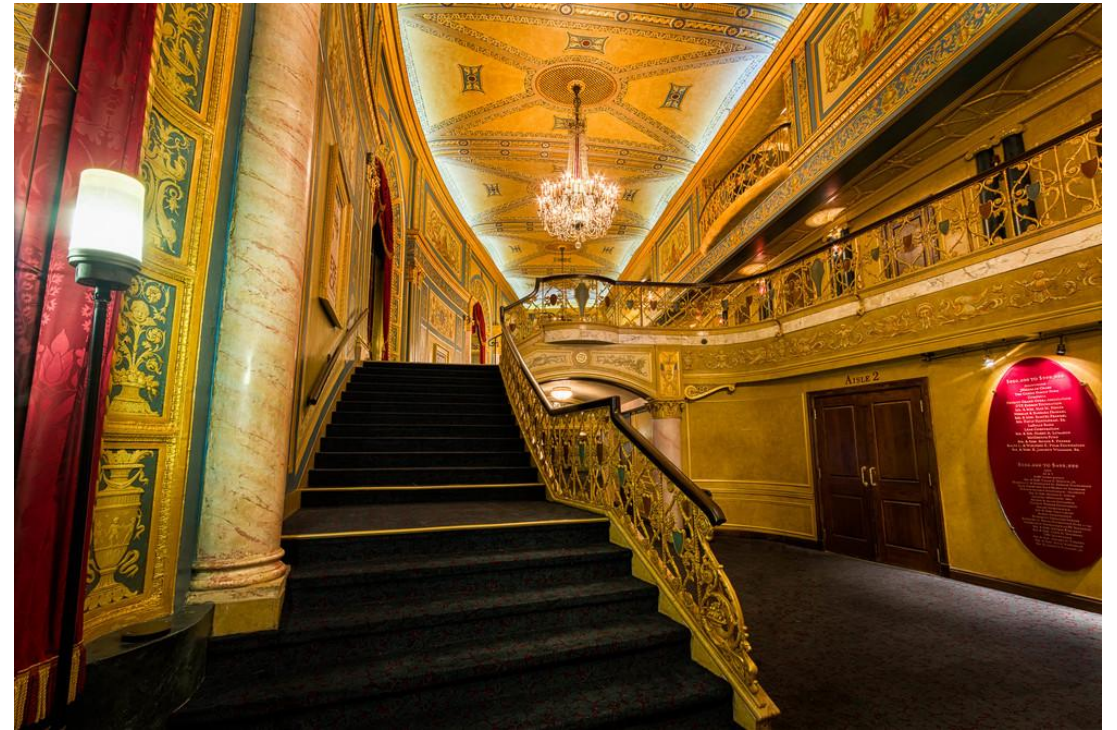
I can push the button on the outside to call the elevator. I can push the button on the inside to go to the right floor.



Stairs

I will be careful when I walk up or down the stairs to get to my seat.

I can hold onto the railing when I walk up or down.



My Seat in the Theatre

The theatre is very big and very beautiful. The ceilings are very high.

Every row in the theatre has a letter. Some rows may even have two letters. Every seat in the theatre has a number.

Every ticket has a letter and a number.

I will match the ticket letter and number with the seat letter and number.

An usher will help me find my seat.

This is where I will sit for the show.

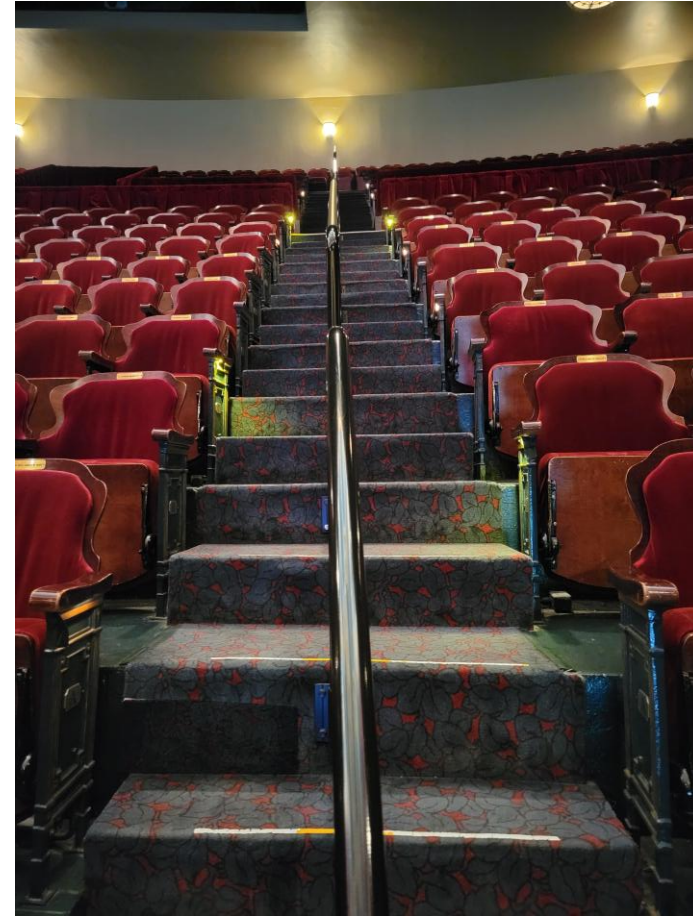


Balcony

My seat could be on the main floor, box level, balcony or upper balcony.

There may be some steep stairs if I am in the balcony.

If I want to, I can hold the railing.



Sitting

I will always be sitting next to my family or friends. I might have my family on one side of me and a person I don't know on the other side of me.

When I am sitting, sometimes a person will walk in front of me. I may have to stand up to let them go by.

If a person is in my way to see the show, I can quietly ask the person "Can you please move a little so I can see the show? Thank you."



Performance Time

Before the performance starts, there may be some announcements made.

Then the lights will go down and the theatre will get darker. I will hear music start and performers will come on stage.

Sometimes people may come late.

Then I will see a friendly usher helping them find their seat. They may have a flashlight to help them see the letters and numbers.



Bathroom

I will let my family member know if I have to go to the bathroom. I can go to the bathroom anytime I need to. There are a lot of bathrooms.

There may be a line to go to the restroom.

I will have to flush the toilet. Some of the toilets will flush when I stand up or move. The sound of the flushing toilet can be loud. After I wash my hands, I can use a paper towel.

There could be a lot of people in the restrooms.



Food and Drinks

If I am hungry or thirsty, I can go to the area in the lobby where they sell snacks and drinks.

I will look at the food and drinks and tell the friendly cashier what I want. I will pay them. The machine they use is very quiet. They will give me my items.

I may not be able to take my snacks or drink into the theatre during the show. I may have to eat or drink in the lobby. The friendly usher will tell me.

If I can take my food or drink in the theatre, I may hear other people eating or drinking quietly. I will need to eat and drink quietly, too.



Gift Area

Sometimes there are a variety of items available to purchase in the lobby.

They are different for each show.

If I want to buy a something, I may have to wait in line.

I will look at the items and choose what I want. I will tell the friendly cashier what I want. I will give them money for the item. The machine they use is very quiet. Then they will give me the items in a bag to keep.

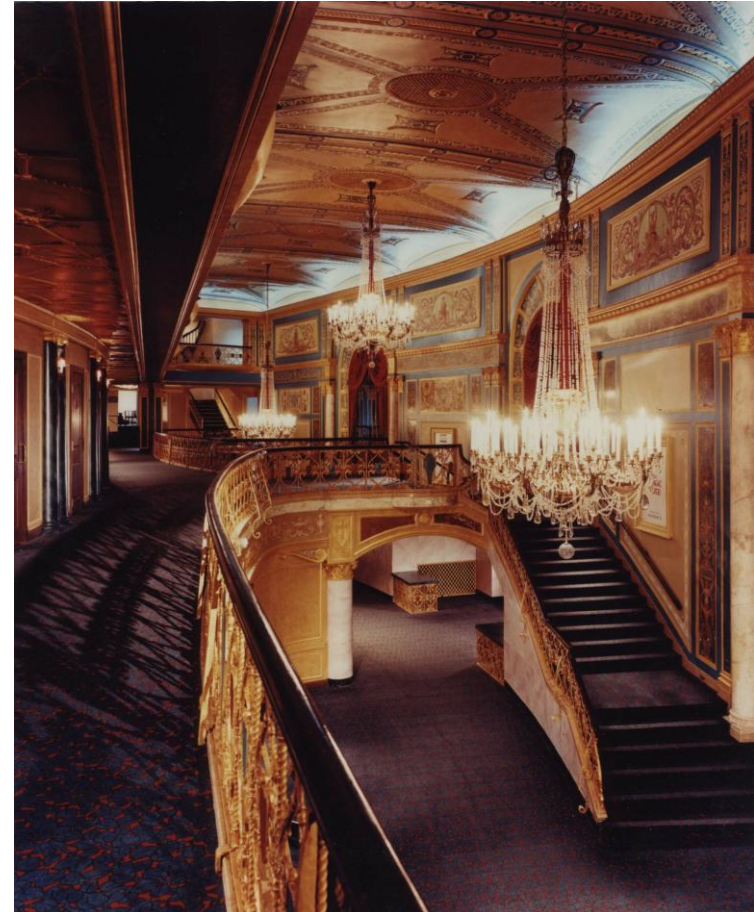
I will always keep my items with me.

Quiet Lobby

I will tell my family if I want some quiet time.

I can leave the performance and go to the quiet lobby.

I can sit down in a chair or walk around quietly.



Lounges

There are lounges on the first, second and third floor of the Opera House. Sometimes they sell snacks and drinks.

During the show, it is a quiet place to go.

During intermission it may get noisy.



TV Monitor

If I need a break from the show, I can go to the Ford lobby.

There will be a TV monitor there. I can watch the show on the TV in the lobby.



Intermission

Sometimes, there will be a short break during the performance.

The curtain will come down and the lights will come on.

It can last 15-20 minutes, and I can stretch, get snacks or use the restroom.

When it is over, I return to the same seat.

Clapping

The show ends when the performers all come out and bow.

If I liked the show, I could clap or cheer when the show ends. Other people will clap, cheer, or even stand up.

I can cover my ears if the clapping or cheering noise is too loud. People clap only for a short time and then the clapping is over.

The lights will come back on, and the theatre will get bright again.



Leaving

When the show is over, many people will leave at the same time. The lobby may get crowded.

If I would like to stay in my seat and wait for some of the people to leave, I may.

I may have to use the elevator or the stairs to leave the theatre. It will be crowded. I will walk slowly and be careful if I use the stairs.

We will go back to our cars. If I do not know where the nearest exit is, I can ask the friendly ushers or security.



Return to the Car

If we took the car, we return to the area where we parked or to the Detroit Opera House Parking Center.

We will walk through the doors to take the stairs or the elevator to the car if needed.

We will then exit the garage following the EXIT signs.

There may be many other cars leaving at the same time.

I may need to be patient to exit.

