

GARDEN PARTIES AT BELVEDERE HOUSE FAQ

Is the event outdoors?

A Midsummer Night's Dream is an outdoor Garden Theatre production by Chapterhouse Theatre Group on tour from England and takes place on the House Lawn (at rear of house) on Sunday 11th July at 3pm. There will be some seating provided but you can also bring your own canvas camping chairs and your own picnic and rugs etc.

How long does it last?

The performance lasts approx 2 hours with an interval in the middle.

What happens if it rains?

The current forecast for Westmeath on Sunday 11th July is Warm and Dry. Bearing that in mind in July in Ireland showers can occur, so a lightweight waterproof would also be advisable.

What is A Midsummer Night's Dream about?

A Midsummer Night's Dream is a comedy by William Shakespeare. It is believed to have been written around 1594 to 1596. It portrays the events surrounding the marriage of the Duke of Athens, Theseus, and the Queen of the Amazons, Hippolyta. These include the adventures of four young Athenian lovers and a group of amateur actors, who are manipulated by the fairies who inhabit the forest in which most of the play is set. The play is one of Shakespeare's most popular works for the stage and is widely performed across the world.

Is it suitable for young children?

Yes. It is set in a woodland setting and a lot of the actors are dressed as Fairies. Children are encouraged to attend in Fairy Fancy Dress.

What else is going on that day?

At noon there is a Fairy Garden Demonstration with Belvedere master gardener John Smyth in the audio visual room in the courtyard. At 1pm there is a children's magic show at the Jealous Wall with Bozo the Clown. At 2pm in Cherry Valley (on the way to Garden Theatre) there is a Mad Hatters Tea Party. There will also be face painters, balloon animals and a special Alice in Wonderland portrait to pose in. The Mad Hatters Tea Party will have characters from Alice in Wonderland in attendance.

How much are the tickets and can I buy in advance?

There is no additional charge for the Garden Party or the other activities. Normal admission rates apply. i.e Adults 8.75, Children (over3) €4.75, Seniors/ Students €6.25 Family (2 adults 1 child) €21.00, (2 adults, 2 Children) €24.00. Additional children €3.25.

There are no advance ticket sales everything is sold on the door on the day.