



PLYMOUTH
THE GUILDHALL
ESTD. 1870



Celebrate, Share, Love Your Guildhall

Your perfect venue in the heart of the City



Contents

- Page 3: History of the Guildhall
Page 4 - 5: The Great Hall
Page 6 - 7: The Drake Room
Page 8 - 9: The Lounge Bar
Page 10 - 11: The Astor & Charter Rooms

The Guildhall is steeped in history, with dramatic architectural features that provide an impressive setting for any function, whether it's a formal dinner, party, community group, or meeting. Our dedicated and professional team will ensure that your event runs smoothly.

History of the Guildhall

The Guildhall is a Grade II listed building located in the heart of Plymouth City Centre, its distinguished town hall design and combination of old and new is nationally significant, whilst the striking tower provides a landmark within the city. The Guildhall was built 1870-1874 by Norman and Hine of Plymouth, the winners of a competition judged by Alfred Waterhouse with artistic direction by EW Godwin. The north front has freestanding statuary and carving by H Hems, and relief allegorical panels by Boulton of Cheltenham, with carving also by Trevenan of Plymouth. The building was reduced to a shell during the Blitz and the part containing the municipal offices was subsequently demolished, the rest was re-roofed, restored and reopened in 1959.

Paton Watson and Patrick Abercrombie, in their Plan for Plymouth, an ambitious plan for the reconstruction of the city following the devastating bombing of World War II, envisaged a Beaux Arts planned city with a central axis focused on the Guildhall tower. After surviving the threat of demolition by a single Council vote in 1951, the Guildhall was seen as the focus of Plymouth's rebuilding and as perhaps the most significant survival from the bombed city centre. It was one of the few damaged buildings that was restored rather than rebuilt. The design of the new civic area was masterminded by HJW Stirling, who was appointed City Architect in 1951. The restoration of the Guildhall, which was undertaken in 1951-59, involved the stabilisation of what remained of the original building and the construction of new roofs, entrances and interior.



At the heart of the Guildhall is the stunning and unique...

The Great Hall

The Great Hall is the perfect space for:

- Gala dinners
- Graduations
- Proms
- Award Ceremonies
- Fairs etc

Image: Dom Moore

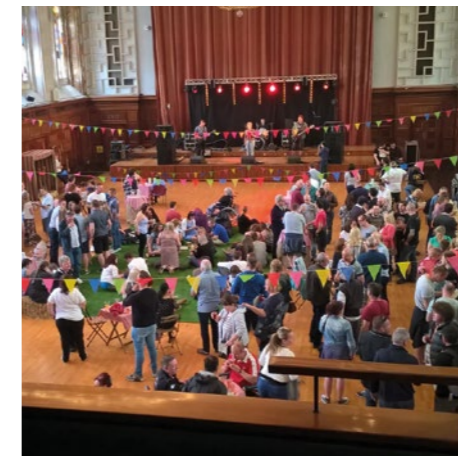
Complete with its wood panelling, stained glass windows and period chandeliers, The Great Hall is an elegant venue and will ensure that your event is one to remember!

The Great Hall has capacity for 820 people with a balcony for additional or VIP seating, making it one of the largest venues in the South West. Over the years it has hosted many famous performers including Status Quo, Queen and Julian Lloyd Webber. Fourteen stained glass windows line the sides of The Great Hall and they depict notable moments in Plymouth's history and a large tapestry at the front of the hall shows the 'Miraculous Drought of Fishes'.

A range of events and functions can take place in The Great Hall, it's most popular use is for grand gala dinners, beautiful weddings, and celebration events such as graduations and proms.

The Great Hall's location at the heart of the City Centre makes it both accessible and perfect for exhibitions, conventions, business events and fairs which benefit from the passing city footfall. The Great Hall can be dressed to suit the atmosphere and mood of your event and our helpful staff will be there to assist every step of the way.

Celebrate, share, love The Great Hall



DIMENSIONS

- Width: 17m
- Length: 27m

CAPACITY

- Standing - 840
- Theatre style seating - 728 (excluding Balcony)
- Balcony - 136
- Cabaret/banquet - 340 (round tables with a dance floor)

SPECIAL FEATURES

- PA system with four roaming microphones
- Adjoining green room
- Fixed stage
- Additional pull-out staging
- Uplighters for stained glass windows
- Portable LED mood enhancing lighting
- Lounge included

Contact our Guildhall Team for more information and to book this venue on 01752 307764.

The perfect venue for dances, private functions, wedding ceremonies and receptions.

The Drake Room

The Drake Room is the perfect space for:

- Private functions
- Wedding ceremonies
- Wedding receptions etc

A blank canvas, this space is ready to be personalised and transformed into your perfect venue. The Drake Room is ideal for private functions, wedding ceremonies and receptions and is able to host up to 320 people.



The Drake Room is an adaptable room, it can be dressed to suit your event and our helpful staff will help you achieve this. A selection of lighting is available to create the right mood for your event and there is also a projector screen which can be used to showcase photos and videos. It has its own entrance with a cloakroom, a small kitchenette area for caterers, and a licensed fully staffed bar until 1am. Alternatively you are welcome to bring your own alcohol and catering.

The Drake Room has the advantage of being centrally located, close to transport, walking distance from the iconic Hoe and the Barbican, with surrounding bars close making it a great choice to host your celebration and share with friends and family.

Celebrate, share, love The Drake Room



DIMENSIONS

- Length: 17m
- Width: 11.4m

CAPACITY

- Standing: 320
- Theatre style seating: 180
- Banquet: 100

SPECIAL FEATURES

- Pull out staging
- PA system
- Screen for presentations
- Portable LED mood enhancing lighting
- Adjoining licensed bar

Contact our Guildhall Team for more information and to book this venue on 01752 307764.



A flexible and adaptable space to relax, meet and celebrate, the...

The Lounge Bar

The Lounge Bar is the perfect space for:

- Exhibitions
- Community space
- Drinks receptions

Just across the landing from the Main Hall is The Lounge Bar. This is a large area with comfortable seating creating a relaxing atmosphere.

The Lounge Bar can either be used as a standalone hiring space for pop-up stalls, fairs, space for community groups or as additional space for your event in the Main Hall.

The licensed fully staffed bar open until 1am is perfect for a drinks reception. The Lounge Bar has been used as an additional space for Gala Dinners and lighting can be used to create the right mood for your particular event.

At the end of The Lounge Bar is a small raised platform that houses a tea bar where light refreshments can be served which is ideal for community groups who want an easy City Centre location with a kitchenette area.

Celebrate, share, love The Lounge Bar

Image: Dom Moore



Contact our Guildhall Team for more information and to book this venue on 01752 307764.



The ideal venue for community events, meeting rooms and wedding ceremonies, the...

The Astor & Charter Room

The Astor & Charter Rooms are the perfect space for:

- Meeting room
- Wedding ceremonies
- Community space

Image: Dom Moore

The Astor Room

Named after Lady Astor, whose election to Parliament was announced in the Guildhall in 1919, this room has a more contemporary décor.

The Astor room is an ideal venue for your community group or business meeting with an adjoining kitchenette, smart board, tables and seating for up to 55 people.

The Astor room can be extended by opening the partitioning doors into the Charter room creating a larger space to hire.

The Astor room can also be hired in conjunction with another event where you may need an additional room for storing equipment, set up or even as a green room.

Our dedicated staff will also be happy to assist with any set up you require.

DIMENSIONS

- Length: 15.3m
- Width: 8m

CAPACITY

- Standing: 90
- Theatre style seating: 70

SPECIAL FEATURES

- Presentation screen
- Extendable space
- Adjoining kitchen

**Celebrate, share, love
The Astor & CharterRoom**



The Charter Room

The Charter room is on the 2nd floor and has a traditional décor of wood-panelled walls and stained glass windows making it an impressive backdrop for your wedding ceremony or any function.

The beautiful stained glass windows celebrate the 500th anniversary of Plymouth Royal Charter.

The Charter room, with its many traditional features, is regularly used for meetings and community groups. This room can be extended for your event by opening the partitioning doors to the Astor room. The room can also be used as a guest room, changing room or reception area for hirers of other rooms in the Guildhall.

Contact our Guildhall Team for more information and to book this venue on 01752 307764.



DIMENSIONS

- Length: 11.35m
- Width: 6.78m

CAPACITY

- Standing: 90
- Theatre Style seating: 60

SPECIAL FEATURES

- Beautiful stained glass windows
- Extendable space
- Presentation screen



Image: Dom Moore



Image: Dom Moore



PLYMOUTH
THE GUILDHALL
ESTD. 1870

**Celebrate, Share, Love
Your Guildhall**

Guildhall Square, Plymouth PL1 2BJ
Tel: 01752 307764

www.plymouth.gov.uk/plymouthguildhall

