

Theatre by the Lake presents

# THE HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES

by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle | adapted by Steven Canny and John Nicholson | directed  
by John Nicholson

## A VISUAL STORY

### RELAXED PERFORMANCE: THU 5 SEPTEMBER 11AM

This visual story is designed for visitors to the Relaxed Performance of **The Hound of the Baskervilles**. This pack contains information about the play and lots of images to help prepare anyone who may be anxious about their visit. This visual story also has information to help you to find your way around Theatre by the Lake.

## SPECIAL TOURS OF THE BUILDING

We offer special tours of the theatre to customers booking for our Relaxed Performances. On a day of your choice, one of our friendly members of staff will show you around the theatre so you can get to know it a bit better. You'll see the Front of House areas, including the café, toilets and where the 'chill-out space' will be on the day of the performance. You'll also see the auditorium, including where you'll sit to watch the show.

## TO BOOK A TOUR

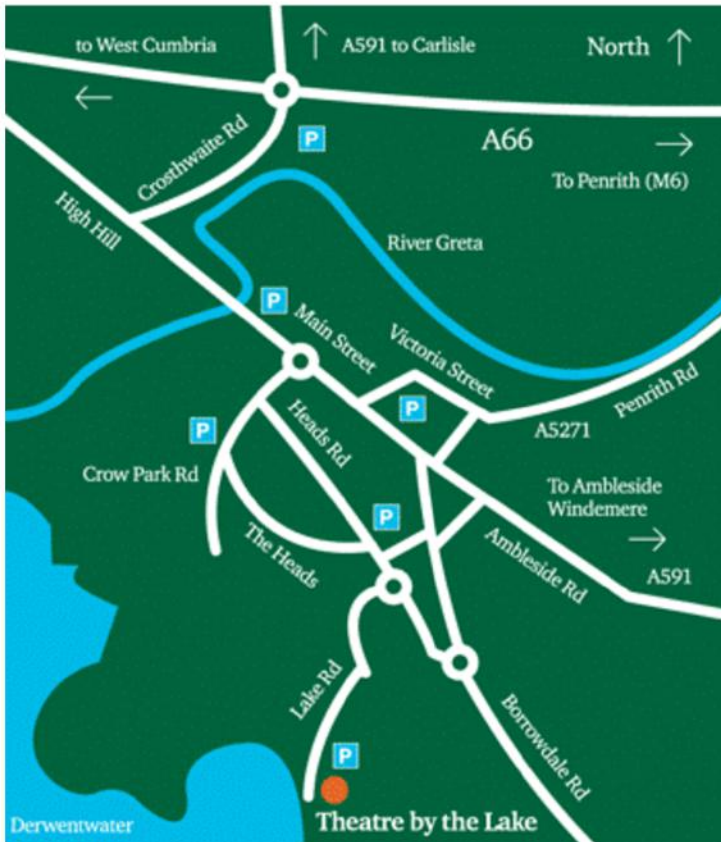
Please contact our Customer Experience Manager, Mary Elliott by email on [mary.elliott@theatrebythelake.com](mailto:mary.elliott@theatrebythelake.com) or by telephone on 017687 81103.

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# SECTION ONE: THEATRE BY THE LAKE

## WHERE IS THE PLAY?



The play is being shown at Theatre by the Lake in Keswick. The theatre is located next to a lake called Derwentwater. To walk to the theatre from the town centre, follow signposts for 'The Lake'. If you wish to use a satnav, the postcode is CA12 5DJ.

There is a car park next to the theatre. This is a council car park so you have to pay to park there – make sure you have plenty of change, or you can pay by card. There are a limited number of parking spaces for Blue Badge holders, where the first three hours are free.

Here is a picture of the theatre from the outside:





# ACCESS

Lift access is available to all floors of the theatre. There is only one lift, located in the café on the ground floor, shown here:



There are toilets on each floor, suitable for wheelchair access. On the first floor, there is an additional ambulant disabled toilet. These are clearly signposted.



## INSIDE THE THEATRE

You can view a [360 virtual tour of the theatre](#) here. This is the foyer (the inside entrance area):



The theatre will open at 10am and the auditorium will open at 10:30am on the day of the performance. Lakeside Café Restaurant next door is open from 9:30am. If you would like to book a space to sit and eat a packed lunch inside the theatre then please get in touch with us and we'll be able to arrange.



If you would like somewhere to sit, there are seats on the second floor on the circle. This will be a quiet area if you wish to have some 'chill out time' before, during or after the performance.

On the ground floor, there is a café (called The Spotlight Café) which will be open from 10:30am. The café sells hot and cold drinks and snacks. You can pre-order drinks for the interval, which will be waiting for you when you come into the café during the break.





Ice creams will be on sale in the Spotlight café and you can take them into the auditorium. Groups can pre-order ice creams and we can bring them into the auditorium for you at the interval, if you would prefer not to leave your seats. Please speak to Box Office staff for details.

You might notice some people walking around with walkie-talkies. This is the Customer Experience team and they are there to make sure that everything runs smoothly. They will check your tickets and help you to find your seats. They can also answer any questions that you may have about the play or about the theatre.

You can take your bags and coats into the auditorium with you. You can just pop these on the backs of your seats or underneath them. You may also take in any hand held electronic devices that you may need.

## **INFORMATION ABOUT THE AUDITORIUM, THE STAGE AND THE SET**

The auditorium is the part of the theatre where the audience sits when they are watching the play.

The stage is the area where the actors perform the play.

The set is the name for all the scenery, furniture and objects used on stage in a play.

### **WHAT DOES THE AUDITORIUM LOOK LIKE?**

This show is played 'end on', with the stage at one end and the audience sitting in front of it.



Because this is a relaxed performance you can get up out of your seats if you need to and move around. You won't be allowed to go on to the stage unless you are asked by the actors. You can leave the auditorium if you need some quiet time or if you need to use the toilet.

You will have some time before the show to find your seats and get comfy before the play begins. These are the seats in the auditorium where the audience sit.

### **HOW LONG DOES THE PLAY LAST?**

The play is about 2 hours and 20 minutes long including a 20 minute interval. Plus an introduction where the actors introduce themselves, and question and answer time at the end.

### **WHAT HAPPENS AFTER THE SHOW?**

When the play has finished you are welcome to stay as there will be a chance to meet the actors. You can leave the auditorium at any time, and you can still use the toilets and chill-out area after the show.

# SECTION TWO: THE PLAY

## THE HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES

### ABOUT THE SHOW

**The Hound of the Baskervilles** is a play with 3 actors who play all the characters in the story. The actors come out of character sometimes to talk directly to the audience as themselves. This happens at the start of the play and at the start of Act 2 (right after the interval). At the start of Act 2 they also re-enact the whole of Act 1 (very quickly!).

There are a few recorded gun shots in the show, although they will not be too loud, and also some smoke.

The characters talk about a large fearsome dog chasing people on the moor, but a dog doesn't ever appear on stage.

### THE SETTING

The story is set in the early 1900s. It starts in London and moves to Dartmoor in Devon, in the South West of England.

The action changes location throughout the play, from Sherlock Holmes' office in London, to a train, to the moorland of Dartmoor, to the Baskervilles house. They use props, furniture and other pieces of set to change scenes quickly.





# KEY CHARACTERS

Here is a description of the characters in the play.

Each actor plays other small roles too.

## Sherlock Holmes

He is a very clever detective who loves solving crimes.



## Dr John Watson

He is Holmes' assistant and quite new at solving cases.



## Sir Henry Baskerville

He is the new heir of Baskerville Hall.



# THE STORY



The play starts with the murder of Sir Charles Baskerville on Dartmoor.

A man named Mortimer comes to Sherlock Holmes' detective agency in London, to ask Holmes if he will help solve the murder. He tells them of the local myth that a large hound haunts the Baskerville family, and Mortimer suspects this is what killed Sir Charles. He is afraid the same will happen to the new heir of Baskerville Hall, Sir Henry Baskerville.

Holmes and Watson take on the murder case. They find Sir Henry and Watson travels with him to Dartmoor to keep him safe. Meanwhile, Holmes doesn't want to draw attention to the fact that he is investigating the murder, so he goes about Dartmoor in disguise.



When Watson and Sir Henry arrive in Dartmoor, they find out a murderer, called Slasher Seldon, has escaped from Dartmoor prison and is loose on the moor.

Then they meet Cecille, a mysterious woman who warns Sir Henry he is not safe here and that he should go back to London.



Next they meet a man called Stapleton who tells them he is Cecille's sister. Stapleton helps them across the moorland to safety at Baskerville Hall.

At Baskerville Hall, Sir Henry and Watson meet the servants, Mr and Mrs Barrymore, who are acting suspicious.

Watson and Sir Henry hear all kinds of noises in the night and are very scared. This makes Watson think that the Barrymores are something to do with the murder case in some way.







Watson and Sir Henry discover Mrs Barrymore with a candle signalling to someone across the moor. They question her and find out that the escaped murderer, Slasher Seldon, is her brother. While Slasher has been hiding from the police, the Barrymores have been smuggling him food.

Sir Henry and Watson chase after Slasher to catch him.

During the chase, Watson loses Sir Henry on the moor, but meets Holmes who's been keeping an eye on events disguised as a hermit.

While looking for Sir Henry, they discover a body on the moor which appears to have been attacked by a wild beast (or hound). At first they think the body is Sir Henry, but later they realise it is Slasher disguised in Sir Henry's clothes.



Sir Henry is invited round to Stapleton and Cecille's house for dinner. When he arrives Cecille tells Sir Henry he is not safe and he should leave straightaway, but she cannot tell him why. Sir Henry reveals he is falling in love with Cecille.

Meanwhile, Holmes and Watson uncover that Stapleton is actually in line to inherit the Baskerville fortune, and so Stapleton becomes the prime suspect.

They work out that Stapleton must own the wild hound (dog) that killed Slasher, and that he used the dog to kill Sir Charles Baskerville too.



Holmes and Watson realise Sir Henry is in grave danger at Stapleton's house. They set off to rescue him and catch the killer...

We'll save the ending as a surprise, but rest assured that all ends well.



We hope that you enjoy the show and your visit to Theatre by the Lake.