

## Own Venue Model Information for Dublin Fringe Festival 2026

### INTRODUCTION

For Dublin Fringe Festival, an own venue is just what it says – it's your own venue that you manage and fully control to present your show or event in the Festival. Generally, artists are asked to apply with a venue that you already have an agreement with or are in conversation with – but we can also offer support in making connections with unusual venues, as we have the experience of dealing with them within our team. The key element is that they must be keen on the idea of presenting a show/event in the Festival. Take a look at the list below to see some of the key differences between an Own Venue and a Fringe Assigned Venue.

### REASONS TO GO WITH AN OWN VENUE

Own venues can be especially useful if you need any of the following:

- You **cannot share a venue**, likely for reasons outlined in the Application Guide
- You need your **show/event to happen somewhere specific for creative reasons**
- You need **specialised equipment** not available in a Dublin Fringe Festival assigned venue and that is already in situ elsewhere.

### WHAT WE MEAN WHEN WE SAY OWN VENUE

Own Venue applies to a lot of types of venues – in the past, we have had shows/events in cafes, clubs, people's houses, pubs, a van, on the DART, community halls, public art outdoors, or even having your audience walking around the city. Essentially it applies to any show taking place somewhere that is not a Dublin Fringe Festival Assigned Venue.

**When we talk about own venues, it also applies to shows/events that take place outdoors or remote art experiences.** We ask people to be ambitious but realistic when it comes to applying with the Own Venue model. We love working with artists on 'Own Venue' model work: we're here to support and be your sounding board – but remember – ***you are the Producer of the work and Dublin Fringe is the Presenter. This means we support you in the presentation of the work, but you need to lead on the project in all aspects. We advise you to set an application meeting if you are applying to present work in your Own Venue.***

**If you're programmed, keep in mind - we will need you to attend a Workshop!**

Own Venue Shows/Events have to attend Making It Happen, a workshop designed to talk about all the things you need to consider. You will also need to attend a one-to-one meeting with the Dublin Fringe Team (called a Logistic Pitstop) in order to talk out how you see the venue working in practice, and your Venue Supervisor will need to have a meeting with the Volunteer Coordinator in August on site. This Pitstop is an opportunity to work collaboratively with the Fringe team, ask any questions you have and get advice from us – we've done performances almost everywhere, so will be able to support you with setting up your Own Venue.

**Don't forget - we're here to help talk logistics!** Dublin Fringe Festival has programmed shows and events everywhere – that is to say, we are not new to this! You come up with your big idea and then come talk to us. Our team is experienced and can help you solve problems or solidify your idea. We strongly encourage you to talk to us before you apply if you are applying with an own venue – book into one of our slots on the applications page on our website.

## HEALTH & SAFETY IN YOUR OWN VENUE

Here's a list of some things you will need consider when it comes to producing a show in your own Venue in the Festival:

- 1. Risk Assessment:** All Festival artists/companies must provide a risk assessment. For Own Venues, this is especially important as it might be a venue we're less familiar with, and we might ask for further information (like a safety statement) or changes to the setup of the venue for safety reasons - but we'll let you know if we need this!
- 2. Insurance:** All Festival venues must be covered under the Festival's Public Liability insurance to ensure you're able to present your work in the Festival. This is facilitated by Dublin Fringe Festival for all venues. In order to secure this for an Own Venue, we might request a Fire Safety Certificate or other relevant documentation.
- 3. Security:** You might want to think about your venue's potential security needs and their effect on your crowd management, production schedule and budget, particularly if this is a late-night event or an unusual location
- 4. Accessibility and Audiences:** We ask you to think about your audience's journey, especially if your venue is unconventional. Think about how the audience will find your venue! DFF strives to present performances that are accessible to the greatest number of audiences - we understand this is not always possible but we would like to hear from you on the level of your venue's accessibility.

## YOUR TEAM IN AN OWN VENUE

Depending on the venue, being in your own venue might mean you need more people in your team to bring your vision to life. Please see the list below to get an understanding of who you absolutely need, and who you might need:

- 1. Venue Supervisor** – This is mandatory in all Own Venues. If programmed, you will need to nominate someone who can be your Venue Supervisor. This person can be part of your production team - however, they CANNOT perform in the show/event or have any duties other than supervising the venue during the performance(s). Venue supervisors act as a liaison between the Festival and the Production. They are responsible for Front of House Management and the audience journey in general, whether that be supervising Dublin Fringe Festival FOH volunteers or their own team, as well as for liaising with the Dublin Fringe Festival Box Office team and Volunteer Coordinator. They are also responsible to provide a briefing, welcome, debrief and allocation of duties to festival volunteers. Furthermore, Venue Supervisors act as Safety Officers. They put in place and oversee all protocols necessary for statutory agencies, the festival, venue owner and insurers. You will not need to have this person identified at application stage, but if programmed, we will ask you about it in the early summer. If your Own venue is a venue with a front of house or hospitality team, you are more than welcome to nominate venue staff

as your Venue Supervisor. However, we will need maximum two names and we are not able to accommodate “the person on shift” arrangements.

**2. Crew and Technical Team** – This is not mandatory, but do think about the fact that you will need to arrange your own crew for getting into the venue, getting out, and managing it during the run or during the event.

**3. Front of House Volunteers** – This is usually mandatory for own venues, but can sometimes be managed by the venue you’re using (if it’s a venue that already has Front of House Staff that you’re paying for) or might not apply to every own venue (for example, the own venue is actually a remote art experience). With enough time and clear communication, Dublin Fringe Festival should be in a position to have enough volunteers on hand to support your Front of House operations. Please keep in mind that these are volunteers and not paid staff. They can help you with Front of House or Box Office duties but they need to be briefed and supervised while in your venue and sometimes they have last minute changes in availability that means they can’t make their shift. Your team will have to be ready to manage the audience.

## TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT

In certain cases, Dublin Fringe Festival might be able to provide technical assistance, such as lighting and/or sound equipment. This is dependent on the festival schedule, the venue, equipment specification, ability to collect and drop back, etc.

A sample of what might be available through Dublin Fringe Festival is below. These are guidelines only and will be reviewed in consultation with the Production Team if you are programmed.

<b>LIGHTING</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Profiles</li> <li>• Small LED fixtures</li> </ul>
<b>SOUND</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Powered mixer or amp and mixer</li> <li>• Speakers</li> <li>• Cable</li> <li>• Microphones</li> </ul>
<b>SEATING</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Folding chairs</li> </ul>
<b>OTHER</b>
We have provided music stands (x 2), other chairs, small tables, dollies, etc. in the past too.

## Something else to consider- if the venue you’re in is selling alcohol or food...

Alcohol sales or consumption are only allowed in venues that already hold an alcohol license and cannot be accommodated in non-official venues (i.e. someone’s home, on transport or outdoors). You might be liable for an additional VAT charge in line with Guidelines from Revenue. If your audience has access to food or alcohol for the duration of the show/performance (i.e. you can get a drink at a gig as the show is going on) you would be considered a Wet Venue and your ticket sale price will include 13.5% VAT. If you can buy a drink before the show/event and bring it in, you are not considered a Wet Venue and don’t need to account for this. There is a line on the Box Office Split template that accounts for this automatically. Make sure to enter 0 here if you are NOT a Wet Venue.

## Own Venues in Dublin – A Starting Place

Please find below a list of Dublin venues and performance sites that we know - some we have worked with before, and some we haven't. This is not an exhaustive list as the city is changing all the time. Of course - we love when you propose somewhere new to us - this is just a list to help your thinking!

*Please note that some of these spaces may not currently be accepting hires may be hired by Fringe in September as a Fringe venue, or may no longer be open. If you are interested in creating a piece of site-specific work, we are available to help you strategise and plan before you submit your application.*

NAME	NOTES	WEBSITE	TYPE OF SPACE
14 Henrietta Street	Historic building, tenement museum	<a href="http://www.4henriettastreet.ie">www.4henriettastreet.ie</a>	Museum
25 Eustace Street	Irish Landmark Trust space	<a href="http://www.irishlandmark.com">www.irishlandmark.com</a>	Residential
<b>A</b>			
A4 Sounds		<a href="https://a4sounds.org/gallery-hire/">https://a4sounds.org/gallery-hire/</a>	Performance/Gallery space
Axis Ballymun		<a href="http://www.axisballymun.ie/spaces">www.axisballymun.ie/spaces</a>	Theatre/Dance/Gallery spaces
<b>B</b>			
Barnardo Square	On Dame Street		Outdoors
Bello Bar		-	Music/Cabaret/Comedy
Blas Café @ The Chocolate Factory		<a href="https://www.chocolatefactory.ie/cafe">https://www.chocolatefactory.ie/cafe</a>	Café/Bar space
Blessington Basin			Outdoors
Botanic Gardens		<a href="https://heritageireland.ie/places-to-visit/national-botanic-garden/">https://heritageireland.ie/places-to-visit/national-botanic-garden/</a>	Outdoors
Bow Lane Social Club		<a href="https://bowlanesocialclub.ie/events/">https://bowlanesocialclub.ie/events/</a>	Music/Club

C			
Capital Dock Residence			Residential
Chaplin's Bar	Comedy club upstairs		Comedy
Christchurch Cathedral		<a href="https://christchurchcathedral.ie/hire-our-spaces/">https://christchurchcathedral.ie/hire-our-spaces/</a>	Church/Crypt spaces
City Assembly House	Georgian building	<a href="https://www.cityassemblyhouse.ie/">https://www.cityassemblyhouse.ie/</a>	Function rooms
Civic Amphitheatre	At Wood Quay, Dublin City Council offices	<a href="http://www.dublincity.ie/residential">www.dublincity.ie/residential</a>	Outdoors
Copper House Gallery		<a href="http://www.thecopperhouse.ie/gallery">www.thecopperhouse.ie/gallery</a>	Gallery space
Croke Park		<a href="https://crokepark.ie/meetings-events/spaces/space-listing">https://crokepark.ie/meetings-events/spaces/space-listing</a>	Function rooms
D			
DanceHouse		<a href="http://www.danceireland.ie/hire/">www.danceireland.ie/hire/</a>	Dance studios
Daylight Glasnevin	Arts venue in industrial unit	-	Club/Exhibition/Event space
DIT Grangegorman		<a href="http://www.tudublin.ie/explore/hosting-events/grangegorman/">www.tudublin.ie/explore/hosting-events/grangegorman/</a>	Performance/Music/Outdoors
Douglas Hyde Gallery	In Trinity College	<a href="https://thedouglashyde.ie/about/#hiring-the-space">https://thedouglashyde.ie/about/#hiring-the-space</a>	Gallery space
dIr LexIcon	In Dún Laoghaire	<a href="http://venuehire.dlrllexicon.ie/">http://venuehire.dlrllexicon.ie/</a>	Studio/Event spaces
dIr Mill Theatre	In Dundrum	<a href="http://www.milltheatre.ie/about/private-hire/">www.milltheatre.ie/about/private-hire/</a>	Theatre
Draíocht	In Blanchardstown	<a href="http://www.draiocht.ie/about/hire-a-space">www.draiocht.ie/about/hire-a-space</a>	Theatre/Dance
Dublin Castle	Various spaces	<a href="https://dublincastle.ie/venue-hire/">https://dublincastle.ie/venue-hire/</a>	Function rooms/Church/Outdoors
Dublin Circus Project	In Cherry Orchard	<a href="https://dublincircusproject.com/">https://dublincircusproject.com/</a>	Aerial/Warehouse space
E			
F			

Fade Street Studios		<a href="https://fadestreetstudios.ie/studios/">https://fadestreetstudios.ie/studios/</a>	Gallery/Studio spaces
Fairview Park	Managed by Dublin City Council	-	Outdoors
Fibber Magees		<a href="http://www.fibbermagees.ie">www.fibbermagees.ie</a>	Music/Club
Flux Dublin		<a href="http://www.fluxdublin.ie/workspaces/gallery-hire">www.fluxdublin.ie/workspaces/gallery-hire</a>	Gallery/Events space
Freemasons Hall		<a href="https://freemason.ie/freemasons-hall/">https://freemason.ie/freemasons-hall/</a>	Museum
G			
George's Dock	Managed by Dublin City Council		Outdoors
Glass Mask Theatre		<a href="https://glassmasktheatre.com/">https://glassmasktheatre.com/</a>	Theatre
Goethe Institut	Georgian building	<a href="http://www.goethe.de">www.goethe.de</a>	Event spaces
Grand Canal Dockyard			Outdoors
Green Street Courthouse	Historic courthouse managed by the OPW		Courthouse
Gutter Bookshop		<a href="https://gutterbookshop.com/bookshop-events/">https://gutterbookshop.com/bookshop-events/</a>	Bookshop
H			
I			
Inchicore Sports and Social Club		<a href="https://inchicoresportsandsocialclub.com/room-rental/">https://inchicoresportsandsocialclub.com/room-rental/</a>	Hall/Bar/Event spaces
IMMA	In Kilmainham	<a href="https://imma.ie/imma-venues/our-venues/">https://imma.ie/imma-venues/our-venues/</a>	Function rooms/Gallery/Outdoors
Iveagh Gardens	Managed by the OPW	<a href="https://heritageireland.ie/visit/venue-hire/">https://heritageireland.ie/visit/venue-hire/</a>	Outdoors
J			
James Joyce Centre	Georgian building	<a href="https://jamesjoyce.ie/bookings/#venue">https://jamesjoyce.ie/bookings/#venue</a>	Function rooms
Juno		<a href="http://www.junobar.com/function-room">www.junobar.com/function-room</a>	Pub/Music/Events
K			

Kevin Kavanagh Gallery		<a href="http://www.kevinkavanagh.ie">www.kevinkavanagh.ie</a>	Gallery space
Kilmainham Gaol		<a href="https://www.kilmainhamgaolmuseum.ie/">https://www.kilmainhamgaolmuseum.ie/</a>	Museum
Kirkos	On Little Green St, Smithfield	<a href="https://kirkosensemble.com/bookings">https://kirkosensemble.com/bookings</a>	Music/Installation
<b>L</b>			
La Catedral Studios	Mixed use venue	<a href="http://www.lacatedralstudios.com/">www.lacatedralstudios.com/</a>	Studio spaces
Liberty Hall Theatre		<a href="https://libertyhalltheatre.ie/the-liberty-hall-theatre/">https://libertyhalltheatre.ie/the-liberty-hall-theatre/</a>	Theatre/Music/Cabaret/Comedy
Light House Cinema		<a href="http://www.lighthousecinema.ie/venue-hire">www.lighthousecinema.ie/venue-hire</a>	Cinema
Lost Lane		<a href="https://lostlane.ie/venue-specification/">https://lostlane.ie/venue-specification/</a>	Music/Cabaret/Club
<b>M</b>			
Marsh's Library	Atmospheric, old library	<a href="https://marshlibrary.ie/about/commercial-information/">https://marshlibrary.ie/about/commercial-information/</a>	Library/Exhibition
Mart Gallery & Studios	Former firestation in Rathmines	<a href="https://mart.ie/hire/">https://mart.ie/hire/</a>	Studio/Gallery spaces
Meeting House Square	Managed by Dublin City Council	<a href="http://www.dublincity.ie/business-and-events/hire-venue-or-park-event/meeting-house-square">www.dublincity.ie/business-and-events/hire-venue-or-park-event/meeting-house-square</a>	Music/Cabaret/Outdoors
Merrion Square			Outdoors
Micheal Scott Canteen	Atmospheric, historical canteen @ Busáras		Rooftop
<b>N</b>			
National Concert Hall		<a href="http://www.nch.ie">www.nch.ie</a>	Music
National Leprechaun Museum		<a href="http://www.leprechaunmuseum.ie/">www.leprechaunmuseum.ie/</a>	Museum
National Museum of Ireland	At Collins Barracks	<a href="http://www.museum.ie">www.museum.ie</a>	Studio/Gallery spaces/Outdoors
National Museum of Ireland	On Kildare St	<a href="http://www.museum.ie">www.museum.ie</a>	Studio/Gallery spaces
National Stadium Ringside Bar		<a href="http://www.national-stadium">www.national-stadium</a>	Bar/Music/Club

Natural History Museum		<a href="http://www.museum.ie">www.museum.ie</a>	Studio/Gallery spaces
NCAD Gallery		<a href="http://www.ncad.ie/about/gallery/">www.ncad.ie/about/gallery/</a>	Studio/Gallery spaces
O			
O'Reilly Theatre	At Belvedere College	<a href="http://www.oreillytheatre.com/theatre-hire.html">www.oreillytheatre.com/theatre-hire.html</a>	Theatre
Outhouse		<a href="https://outhouse.ie/venue-hire/">https://outhouse.ie/venue-hire/</a>	Theatre/Library/Café spaces
P			
Pallas Projects		<a href="http://www.pallasprojects.org">www.pallasprojects.org</a>	Gallery/Studio/Outdoor spaces
Pantibar		-	Music/Cabaret/Club
ParkRite Car Parks	Citywide	<a href="http://www.parkrite.ie">www.parkrite.ie</a>	Offsite
Phoenix Park			Offsite
Pepper Cannister Church		<a href="https://stann.dublin.anglican.org/hire/">https://stann.dublin.anglican.org/hire/</a>	Church
Poetry Ireland		<a href="http://www.poetryireland.ie/">www.poetryireland.ie/</a>	Events space
Q			
R			
RDS		<a href="http://www.rds.ie/venue-hire">www.rds.ie/venue-hire</a>	Hall/Church spaces
RHA Gallery		<a href="http://rhagallery.ie/venue-hire/">rhagallery.ie/venue-hire/</a>	Studio/Gallery spaces
RIA	Atmospheric library and function spaces	<a href="http://www.ria.ie/about/contact-us/hire-a-room/">www.ria.ie/about/contact-us/hire-a-room/</a>	Offsite
Round Room, Mansion House	Very large space	<a href="http://www.theroundroom.ie/">www.theroundroom.ie/</a>	Offsite
RSAI		<a href="https://rsai.ie/venue/">https://rsai.ie/venue/</a>	Residential/Theatre/Outdoors
Rua Red	in Tallaght	<a href="http://www.ruared.ie/">www.ruared.ie/</a>	Gallery/Studio space
S			
Sandymount Strand Promenade			Outdoors
Sean O'Casey Community Centre	In East Wall	<a href="http://www.seanocaseycommunitycentre.ie/facilities.html">www.seanocaseycommunitycentre.ie/facilities.html</a>	Theatre/Dance/Music/Outdoors



Skyview Tower	In Smithfield	<a href="https://staygenerator.com/hostels/dublin/skyview-tower">https://staygenerator.com/hostels/dublin/skyview-tower</a>	Offsite
Smithfield Square	Managed by Dublin City Council		Outdoors
South Studios		<a href="https://southstudiosdublin.wordpress.com/studio/">https://southstudiosdublin.wordpress.com/studio/</a>	Gallery/Studio space
St Patrick's Cathedral		<a href="http://www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/events/venue-hire/">www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/events/venue-hire/</a>	Church
St. Audoen's Church		<a href="https://heritageireland.ie/visit/venue-hire/">https://heritageireland.ie/visit/venue-hire/</a>	Church
St. Mary's Abbey		<a href="https://heritageireland.ie/visit/venue-hire/">https://heritageireland.ie/visit/venue-hire/</a>	Church/Ruin
St. Patrick's Park			Outdoors
Stag's Head		<a href="https://stagshead.ie/host-an-event/">https://stagshead.ie/host-an-event/</a>	Café/Bar Spaces
Studio 10		<a href="https://www.studio10dublin.ie/">https://www.studio10dublin.ie/</a>	Studio
<b>T</b>			
Teacher's Club		<a href="https://clubnamuinteoiri.com/">https://clubnamuinteoiri.com/</a>	Theatre/Function rooms
Temple Bar Gallery + Studios		<a href="http://www.templebargallery.com/visit-us/venue-hire">www.templebargallery.com/visit-us/venue-hire</a>	Gallery/Studio/Balcony spaces
The Academy		<a href="http://www.theacademydublin.com/venues.php">www.theacademydublin.com/venues.php</a>	Gig/Club
The Ark	Cultural centre for children in Temple Bar	<a href="http://www.ark.ie">www.ark.ie</a>	Theatre
The Bernard Shaw		<a href="http://www.thebernardshaw.com">www.thebernardshaw.com</a>	Bar/Event/Music/Cabaret
The Botanical Garden @ Opium		<a href="https://opium.ie/spaces/garden/">https://opium.ie/spaces/garden/</a>	Bar/Club
The Button Factory		<a href="http://buttonfactory.ie/">http://buttonfactory.ie/</a>	Music/Club
The Civic Theatre	In Tallaght	<a href="http://www.civictheatre.ie/about-us/presenting-at-our-venue/">www.civictheatre.ie/about-us/presenting-at-our-venue/</a>	Theatre
The Crafty Fox		<a href="https://www.thecraftyfoxdublin.ie/">https://www.thecraftyfoxdublin.ie/</a>	Pub

The Chocolate Factory	Mixed use, former factory space	<a href="http://www.chocolatefactory.ie/events">www.chocolatefactory.ie/events</a>	Studio/Event space
The CHQ Building	Former tobacco store	<a href="https://chq.ie/event-hosting/">https://chq.ie/event-hosting/</a>	Event/Vault space
The Circular		<a href="https://thecircular.ie/venue">https://thecircular.ie/venue</a>	Bar/Events
The Commercial Rowing Club		<a href="http://www.commercialrc.ie/the-riverview-bar/">www.commercialrc.ie/the-riverview-bar/</a>	Bar/Function Room
The Complex		<a href="http://www.thecomplex.ie">www.thecomplex.ie</a>	Theatre/Music/Club/Gallery spaces
The Digital Hub		-	Gallery/Event spaces
The Fumbally Café		<a href="http://www.thefumbally.ie">www.thefumbally.ie</a>	Café/Bar Space
The Fumbally Stables	Former stables	<a href="https://thefumbally.ie/the-stables/room-hire/">https://thefumbally.ie/the-stables/room-hire/</a>	Events/Studio spaces
The Grand Social		<a href="http://www.thegrandsocial.ie/services-1">www.thegrandsocial.ie/services-1</a>	Gig/Club spaces
The Helix		<a href="http://www.thehelix.ie/venuehire">www.thehelix.ie/venuehire</a>	Theatre/Events spaces
The International Bar		<a href="http://www.theinternationalbar.com/">www.theinternationalbar.com/</a>	Comedy/Music/Cabaret
The LAB Gallery	Dublin City Council gallery on Foley Street	<a href="http://www.dublincityartsoffice.ie/programmes-projects/lab-gallery">www.dublincityartsoffice.ie/programmes-projects/lab-gallery</a>	Studio/Gallery spaces
The Lir Academy		<a href="http://www.thelir.ie/venue-hire">www.thelir.ie/venue-hire</a>	Theatre spaces
The National Stadium		<a href="https://www.thenationalstadium.ie/">https://www.thenationalstadium.ie/</a>	Music/Club/Cabaret
The Racket Space	at the Bernard Shaw	<a href="https://the-racket-space.com/venue/">https://the-racket-space.com/venue/</a>	Gig/Club/Events
The Sugar Club		<a href="http://www.thesugarclub.com">www.thesugarclub.com</a>	Music/Cabaret
The Unitarian Church		<a href="http://www.dublinunitarianchurch.org">www.dublinunitarianchurch.org</a>	Music
The Workman's Club		<a href="https://theworkmansclub.com/spaces/">https://theworkmansclub.com/spaces/</a>	Music/Comedy/Cabaret/Club
Wigwam		<a href="http://www.wigwamdublin.com/parties">www.wigwamdublin.com/parties</a>	Music/Comedy/Cabaret/Club
<b>U</b>			
Universal Space		<a href="http://www.universalspace.studio/about">www.universalspace.studio/about</a>	Studio spaces
United Arts Club	Function Rooms, Georgian building	<a href="http://www.unitedartsclubdublin.com/reserve">www.unitedartsclubdublin.com/reserve</a>	Music/Function rooms

V			
Vicar Street		<a href="http://www.vicarstreet.com">www.vicarstreet.com</a>	Music/Comedy/Cabaret
W			
Whelan's		<a href="http://www.whelanslive.com/about/our-spaces/">www.whelanslive.com/about/our-spaces/</a>	Music/Comedy/Cabaret
Wolfe Tone Park	Managed by Dublin City Council		Outdoors
Wood Quay Venue	At Dublin City Council Civic Offices	<a href="http://www.dublincity.ie/wood-quay-venue">www.dublincity.ie/wood-quay-venue</a>	Exhibition/Events space
X			
Y			
Z			