

Southampton's Guildhall Square

A high quality event space

Sited at the north end of Southampton's city centre high street, the Guildhall Square is a versatile and contemporary space, finished with the highest quality materials and lighting.

New granite paving, sculpted benches and flood lights are now set against the dramatic backdrop of the pillared Guildhall entrance, flanked by glass offices to one side and surrounded by Southampton's award winning parks.

The square has become one of the city's most memorable attractions in its own right, and is a place where diverse and exciting cultural entertainment can be delivered in a relaxed and enjoyable atmosphere.

All of these factors culminate in a space that is the perfect setting for mass audience events, performing arts shows, exhibitions, fairs, parades and concerts. The Guildhall Square is suited to day or night time events all year round.



Images of Guildhall Square courtesy of Aggregate Industries

Southampton's Guildhall Square

Essential facts

Address

Guildhall Square, West Marlands Road, Southampton SO14 7LP.

Capacity

The square can host a crowd of up to 5,000 people at any one time. The adjacent park can double these numbers, while the Guildhall building itself can host 1,800. These spaces are all licenced for audiences up to these numbers.

Size (see map)

G1: East side of Square - Approx 24m x 28m

G2: West side of Square – Approx 24m x 28m

G1 + G2: Main Square – Approx 24m x 56m

G1 + G2 + G3: Main Square and Guildhall Forecourt* – Approx 24m x 90m

*Depending on the nature of the event, the closure of West Marlands Road and Above Bar Street may be required.

Power

Six 16 amp single phase power located on the main Square (G1 and G2).

Two 32 amp three phase power located on the East side of the Square (G2).

Other features

Variable flood-lights, granite surface, fixed seating and planting (with controllable detail lighting).

Fees

The cost to hire Guildhall Square is very competitive but varies depending on the size and duration of the event and the need for any road closures. Contact our events team to discuss your event requirements.

Vehicle access

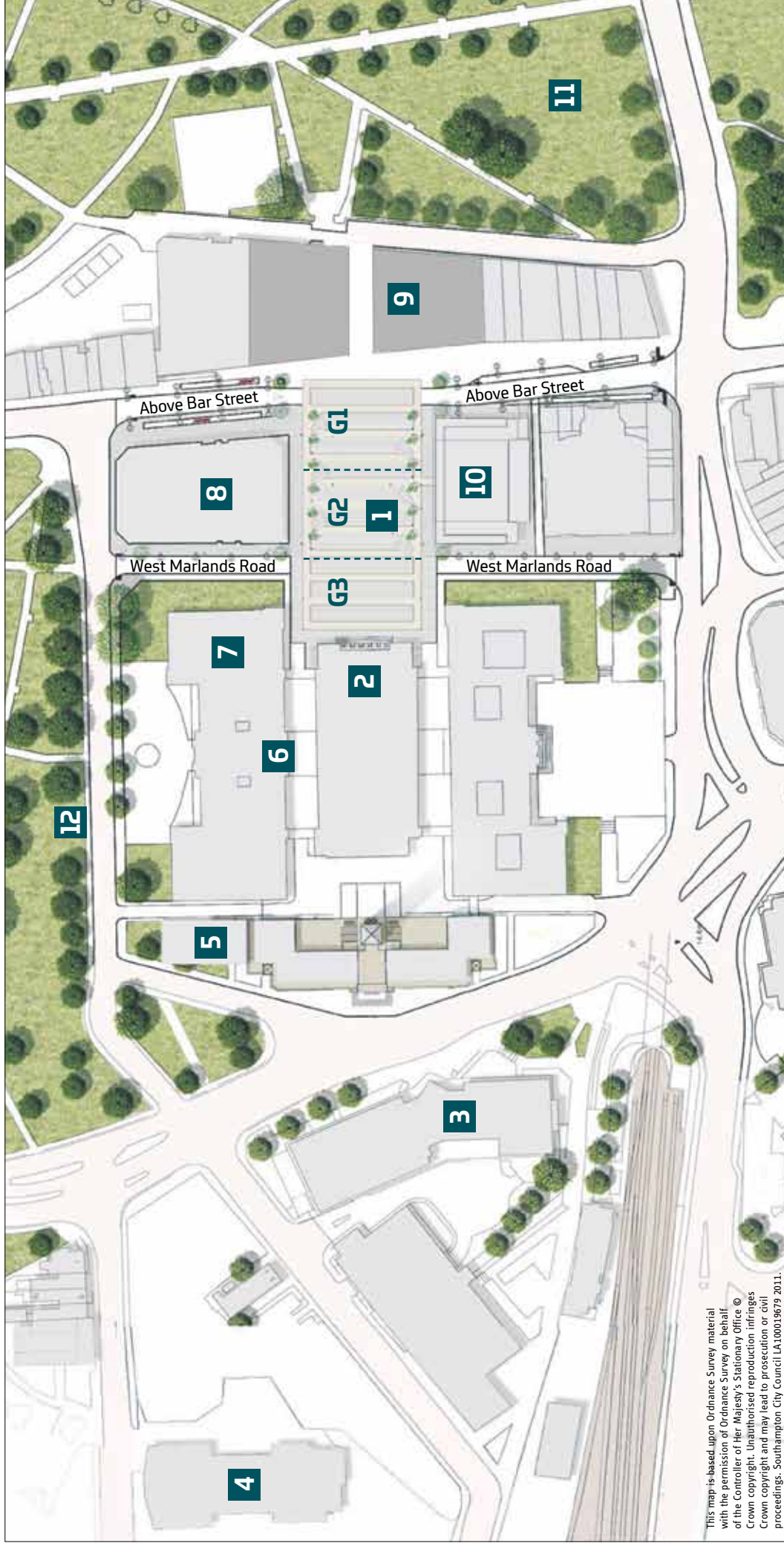
Vehicle access is restricted in this area and a vehicle permit scheme is in operation in Guildhall Square / West Marlands Road for loading and unloading.

Public access

There is parking for more than 2,500 cars within five minutes walk from the square and good pedestrian access from all sides. The square is five minutes walk from the central station and is a hub for most bus routes.



At the heart of the Cultural Quarter



- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Guildhall Square | 9. Southampton new arts complex (opens Spring 2015) |
| 2. Southampton Guildhall | 10. City council's contact centre and offices |
| 3. BBC's regional news and radio stations | 11. West Park |
| 4. Mayflower theatre | 12. Andrews Park |
| 5. Sea City (from April 2012) | |
| 6. City Art Gallery | |
| 7. Central Library and Archives | |
| 8. Southampton Solent University's SJM building and conference centre | |

Southampton's Guildhall Square

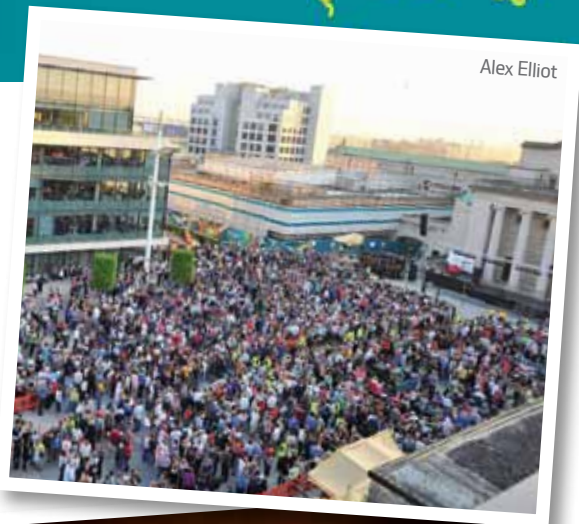
Guildhall Square location

At the heart of the Cultural Quarter in Southampton's city centre the square is well positioned to attract large audiences.

With over 4,000 people working in the vicinity, and the main campus for one of the city's two large universities sharing this prime central location, your main concern will not be building an audience but how many people you can cater for.

Guildhall Square is surrounded by some of the regions largest and most prominent arts and entertainment venues, attracting large numbers of visitors from across the city and the region. As a result the square is a natural meeting place for a wide variety of visitors day and night.

Within easy walking distance of Guildhall Square is one of the finest art galleries in the country; the hugely popular Mayflower theatre and BBC regional centre. Not forgetting Southampton Guildhall which is the south's largest multi-purpose entertainment venue. These attractions help to bring more than one million visitors a year to this part of the city. Meanwhile, Sea City opens in April 2012 with a Titanic exhibition. Plans for an Arts Complex with contemporary gallery and two performance spaces will draw in even larger numbers to the square, building its reputation as a central hub and creative venue.



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A truly diverse venue

The Guildhall Square can cater for a huge range of events.

Past, successful events have included:



Midsummer night's dream – September 2009

Performers were suspended 50m in the air on a human mobile with drummers and a trapeze artist swooping above the heads of the 7,000 strong audience.

Queen Elizabeth naming – October 2010

A weekend of events, Shakespearean performance and street entertainers. The naming was beamed live to crowds on huge screens and a rock concert finale showed the versatility of Guildhall Square.



Alive and Ablaze – November 2010

A magical and awe-inspiring fire garden, with dancing fire sculptures, mysterious fiery engines and cascades of candles attracted 20,000 people to Guildhall Square over the two days.

Chinese New Year Celebrations – February 2011

This well established cultural event filled Guildhall Square with a veritable feast of sounds, smells, visual colour and excitement. All that we've come to expect from this Chinese festival that grows in popularity each year.



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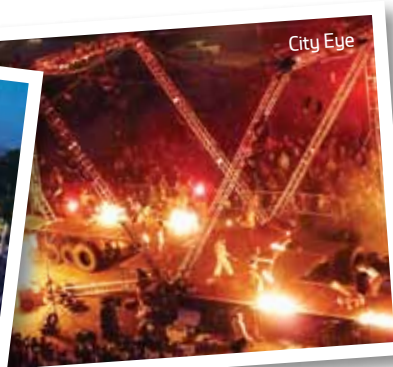


Royal Wedding Street Party – April 2011

At least 5,000 packed Guildhall Square to join the country in celebrating the royal wedding. This giant street party was televised as part of the BBC's national coverage.

Southampton Passion – April 2011

This musical stage show used the Guildhall steps as the setting for this dramatic enactment of the story of Christ's death. The event filled the square to capacity and spilled over with an audience of 8,000.



NoFit State Circus - Barricade – July 2011

A state circus-come-street theatre used the cover of dark to dazzle crowds. With a heady mix of music, acrobatics, dramatic lighting, fire and pyrotechnics, the 5,500 strong audience were left gasping and applauding with amazement.

Contact us:

For more information, to discuss an event or arrange an event space booking, contact our events team on:

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events@southampton.gov.uk

Event Management, Southampton City Council, Civic Centre, Southampton, SO14 7LP

Or visit us at

www.southampton.gov.uk/events