

Most of London's theatres are closely grouped in the West End, around Leicester Square. The main exceptions are the **Royal National Theatre** on the South Bank, the **Barbican Centre** in the heart of the City, and the **Globe Theatre**, Bankside which will open officially in 1997. In addition, several experimental and 'fringe' theatres are scattered throughout London.

Cinemas are also particularly numerous in the West End and are scattered throughout the rest of London. **The National Film Theatre** (membership only, but daily membership is available for a minimum charge) is on the South Bank, and several other art cinemas are in various localities. For details of addresses, telephone numbers and programmes consult the press and the weekly London magazines.



Popular shows often sell out weeks in advance, so why not book before you travel? To find out where you can purchase tickets outside the UK, consult your nearest overseas BTA office. In London, book directly with the theatre or through a ticket agent. When booking through an agent remember:-

Before you commit yourself, the agent must tell you the face value (original price) of the tickets - in writing or by allowing you to examine the tickets closely. Be prepared to pay a booking fee - but not over 30%. The agent must also tell you where the seats are. Check their location, and whether you will have a restricted view of the stage, on a seating plan. If in any doubt, buy your tickets elsewhere.

The Half Price Ticket Booth in Leicester Square has tickets available for a wide selection of shows on the day of performance. The booth is open Monday to Saturday from 1200 for matinees, 1430-1830 for evening performances.

You are strongly advised not to buy tickets from touts (scalpers) outside the booth or the theatres.

