



WHERE CAN I MAKE MY FUN PALACE?



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Anywhere. At the end of this document, you can find a list of some of the kinds of places that have hosted Fun Palaces over the past six years. Many Fun Palaces take place across several venues, meaning that no one venue had to do all the work.

You might already have a connection to a possible venue, so start there. Think laterally too, Fun Palaces have happened in some very unusual venues, including a light-ship in 2015, a care home in 2016, a ferry in 2017, a meadow in 2018 and a battlefield in 2019. Several Fun Palaces have taken place in empty shops or local pubs.

If you can find a venue that is already usually open to the public, you will probably not have to worry too much about licenses or insurance. If you've got your eye on somewhere more unusual, you might have to deal with a bit more paperwork - but don't be put off.

HOW DO I APPROACH AN EXISTING VENUE?

Be bold. If the venue has a website, that's a good starting point or pop in and ask who to speak to. Do you know-someone-who-knows-someone at the venue? Sometimes Fun Palaces HQ can help with matchmaking too, email hello@funpalaces.co.uk or ring us on 0208 692 4446 ext. 203 if you'd like to have a chat.

Remember to explain that Fun Palaces are free and if everyone is volunteering say so. Most people, venues included, are more inclined to be generous if they feel that everyone is pitching in and nobody is going to run off with a big profit.

Venues supported by public or lottery money (which includes most leisure centres, arts centres, museums, etc) often have an obligation to engage with their communities and do some "outreach" work (which means getting people involved who don't usually use the venue). Fun Palaces is great for this so they may be very pleased to hear from you.

I WANT TO USE AN UNCONVENTIONAL SPACE AS MY VENUE. WHAT DO I DO?

- Artquest have written a great guide to using empty shops and spaces [here](#).
- The Big Lunch have a guide to closing your street [here](#).
- And the government have produced a guide too, [here](#).
- Voluntary Arts have a great set of free resources available [here](#).



I RUN A VENUE, BUT WE'RE BOOKED UP

Some great Fun Palaces have happened in the in-between spaces in venues; foyers, cafés, car parks and forecourts. A Fun Palace can be as big or as small as you like, so you can be creative about the space you use. Team up with another local venue with limited space and make a Fun Palace that includes the route between the venues.

In Pontypridd, Fun Palace Makers gave participants tandem bicycle rides from one venue to another, going through a local park or along the high street.

In Cardiff, The Welsh Millennium Centre hosted a Fun Palace in the foyer, in a corner of the restaurant over the quiet time in the middle of the afternoon, and in a tent by the main entrance. All the spaces were open to the public anyway, but not usually used to make things happen.

ANYTHING ELSE I SHOULD KNOW?

The Cabinet office have produced a “can do” guide to organizing voluntary and community events [here](#).

WHAT KIND OF PLACES HAVE MADE FUN PALACES?

Many different places since 2014 including a butcher's shop, schools, church halls, tech labs, archives, swimming pools, arts centres, a bottle-kiln, museums, libraries, a light-ship, woodlands, a writer's retreat, disused shops, botanical gardens, squares, residential homes, cafés, theatres, pubs, parks, a caravan, a churchyard, a ferry, several trains, at least three castles, a meadow, community centre, a hospital ward, a tent, orchards, a shed, a restaurant, online and in their own home.