



PlaySpaces is a city-wide trail of child-only play pods and cosy dens across Cork City, designed by kids for kids.

Come explore child-only PlaySpaces throughout Cork City to find a cosy den, an imaginary theatre creature, a secret tree-house, a magical book nook and a sensory space-disco.

Designed by children in Múin Afterschools and St Vincent's Primary School with artist Chris Finnegan.

12 June – 22 August

THE EVERYMAN
CORK OPERA HOUSE
CORK CITY LIBRARY
ST PETERS
THE LORD MAYOR'S PAVILION

How to get to PlaySpaces



THE EVERYMAN



How to get to PlaySpaces

The Everyman, 15 MacCurtain Street, Cork City, T23 E094

Located in the Victorian Quarter of Cork city on MacCurtain Street.

By Car: If you have a SatNav, the co-ordinates are 51.9014°N, -8.4683°W

General Parking: The nearest parking is located in St. Patrick's Quay car park, a 3 minute walk from The Everyman. Q-Park Carroll's Quay is a 6 minute walk from The Everyman. There is also limited on-street parking along MacCurtain Street – use *Park Magic* app or *Cork Park by Phone* app to pay for parking.

Accessible Parking: The nearest accessible parking spots are on MacCurtain Street, Coburg Street and St. Patrick's Quay, for those with a Disabled Person's Parking Permit.

Taxi service: There are regular taxis on MacCurtain Street.

By Train: The nearest Inter-City and Commuter train station to The Everyman is Kent Station, which is a short walk/taxi drive away. For more information, see www.irishrail.ie. Kent Station is a 12 minute walk from The Everyman.

By Bus: The 205 bus leaves from Kent Station and stops at Parnell Place Bus Station, a 6 minute walk from The Everyman.

By Bike: The nearest TFI Bike station to The Everyman is located on the Lower Glanmire Road, a 4 minute walk from The Everyman. For more info go to tfibikes.ie.

CORK OPERA HOUSE



How to get to PlaySpaces

Cork Opera House, Emmett Place, Cork City, T12 DW6P

Located in the centre of Cork city, by the River Lee, beside the Crawford Art Gallery.

By Car: If you have a SatNav, the co-ordinates are 51.9003°N 8.4726°W

General Parking: The nearest parking is located in Q-Park Carroll's Quay car park. Open 24 hours, it is located across Christy Ring Bridge from Cork Opera House, only a 5 minute walk from the front door.

Accessible Parking: Cork City Council facilitates accessible parking in the city for those with a Disabled Person's Parking Permit. The nearest accessible parking spots are on Emmett Place, alongside the Crawford Art Gallery.

Taxi service: There is a taxi rank outside Kent Station or book a taxi with Cork Taxi Coop at +353 (0)21 427 2222.

By Train: The nearest Inter-City and Commuter train station to Cork Opera House is Kent Station, which is a walk/bus/taxi drive from the theatre. For more information, see www.irishrail.ie. The 205 bus runs from Kent Station and will take you to St. Patrick's Street, a 3 minute walk from Cork Opera House. Kent Station is a 17 minute walk from Cork Opera House.

By Bus: Most buses that stop in the city centre within a few minutes' walk of Cork Opera House. Check buseierann.ie for details or enter *Cork Opera House, Emmett Place, Cork City, T12 DW6P* into Google Maps and choose the Public Transport option.

By Bike: The nearest TFI Bike station to Cork Opera House is beside our main entrance, to the left of our front door. For more info go to tfibikes.ie. You can tie up your bike on the railings next to TFI Bikes station, by the Crawford Art Gallery.

CITY LIBRARY



How to get to PlaySpaces

City Library, 61 Grand Parade, Cork City, T12NT99

Located in the centre of Cork city on Grand Parade.

By Car: If you have a SatNav, the co-ordinates are 51.8968°N, -8.4751°W

General Parking: The nearest parking is Q-Park Grand Parade car park. There is also on-street parking on Grand Parade (use *Park Magic* or *Cork Park by Phone* app to pay for parking). These are both right across the street from Cork City Library.

Accessible Parking: The nearest accessible parking spots are on the Grand Parade end of South Mall, and on South Main Street behind the library, for those with a Disabled Person's Parking Permit.

Taxi service: there is a taxi rank outside the library on the street.

By Train: The nearest Inter-City and Commuter train station to Cork City Library is Kent Station, a short bus/taxi drive away. For more information, see www.irishrail.ie. The 205 bus runs from Kent Station and will take you to St. Patrick's Street, a 5 minute walk from City Library. The 214 bus runs from Kent Station and will take you to Daunt's Square, a 4 minute walk from City Library. Kent Station is a 21 minute walk from the City Library.

By Bus: Most buses that stop in the city centre will leave you within a few minutes' walk of City Library. Check buseierann.ie for more details or enter *Cork City Library, 61 Grand Parade, Cork City, T12 NT99* into Google Maps and choose the Public Transport option.

By Bike: The nearest TFI Bike stations to Cork City Library are located outside Bishop Lucey Park and on South Main Street, each a two minute walk to the library. For more info go to tfibikes.ie.

ST. PETER'S



How to get to PlaySpaces

St. Peter's, 87A North Main Street, Cork City, T12 RF8D

Located just off of Cornmarket Street along the River Lee/Pope's Quay.

By Car: If you have a SatNav, the co-ordinates are 51.8996°N, -8.4785°W

General Parking: The nearest parking is located in Paul's Street car park or North Main Street car park, each a 4 minute walk from St. Peter's. Q-Park Grand Parade car park is a 6 minute walk from St. Peter's. There is also limited on-street parking along North Main Street - use the *Park Magic* app or *Cork Park by Phone* app to pay for parking.

Accessible Parking: The nearest accessible parking spots are the limited bays on Grattan Street and North Main Street, each a 5 minute walk from St. Peter's, for those with a Disabled Person's Parking Permit.

By Train: The nearest Inter-City and Commuter train station to St Peter's is Kent Station, which is a bus/taxi drive away. For more information, see www.irishrail.ie. Kent Station is a 25 minute walk from St. Peter's.

By Bus: The 205 bus leaves from Kent Station and stops at Parnell Place Bus Station, where you can switch to the 214 bus which will take you to South Main Street.

By Bike: The nearest TFI Bike stations to St. Peter's are located on North Main Street and Cornmarket Street, each a 2 minute walk from St. Peter's. For more info go to tfibikes.ie.

What to Expect at PlaySpaces

The Everyman

Accessible Toilets: Located on the ground floor, just past the Box Office and the Theatre Creature to the right.

Accessible Parking: The nearest accessible parking spots are on MacCurtain Street, Coburg Street and St. Patrick's Quay, for those with a Disabled Person's Parking Permit.

Cork Opera House

Accessible Toilets: Located on the ground floor (accessed through the auditorium) and the top floor (accessed by the elevator).

Accessible Parking: Cork City Council facilitates accessible parking in the city for those with a Disabled Person's Parking Permit. The nearest accessible parking spots are on Emmett Place, alongside the Crawford Art Gallery.

City Library

Accessible Toilets: There is a brown door to the right of the library entrance. This is the entrance to a wheelchair accessible toilet. To enter you must press the doorbell to the left of the door. Use of this toilet requires a 50c payment.

Accessible Parking: The nearest accessible parking spots are on the Grand Parade end of South Mall, and on South Main Street behind the library, for those with a Disabled Person's Parking Permit.

St. Peter's

Accessible Toilets: Located at the back of the venue, opposite the main entrance to the left.

Accessible Parking: The nearest accessible parking spots are the limited bays on Grattan Street and North Main Street, each a 5 minute walk from St. Peter's, for those with a Disabled Person's Parking Permit.

ABOUT PLAYSPACES

A city-wide trail of child-only play pods and cosy dens across Cork City. These are spaces designed by kids for kids. We asked children from Cork what their city would look like if they were in charge. They wanted to play!

PlaySpaces trail leads families on an exploration of secret hideaways and imaginative play installations developed in collaboration with children from across Cork City.

Curl up with a book in your own reading pod at Cork City Library, people-watch from a treehouse in Cork Opera House, or let your imagination run wild at the Everyman Theatre.

An exhibition at Sample-Studios Gallery The Lord Mayor's Pavilion in Fitzgerald's Park will take you behind-the-scenes, sharing insights into the child-led design process. But remember, these are child-only zones where adults can peek in but kids rule!

Chris Finnegan's participatory arts practice explores play as a vital force of imagination, being and empowerment for young people. This project was developed in response to city-wide consultation with young people by Cork Child Friendly City and gives form to the voices of Cork's young citizens. This multi-year community arts project was made with children from settings across Cork City including Múin Afterschool, St. Vincent's Primary School and The Crann Centre.

Commissioned and produced by Cork Midsummer Festival. Funded by the Arts Council's Arts in Early Learning and Childcare Scheme, Arts in Education Portal Documentation Award 2026 and Cork City Council through Creative Communities Scheme. With support from Sample Studios.

Lead Artist Chris Finnegan

Producer Susan Holland

Accessibility Support Donna O'Keeney

Design Consolidation & Build Olan Wyrnn

Access Guide Helen Cantwell