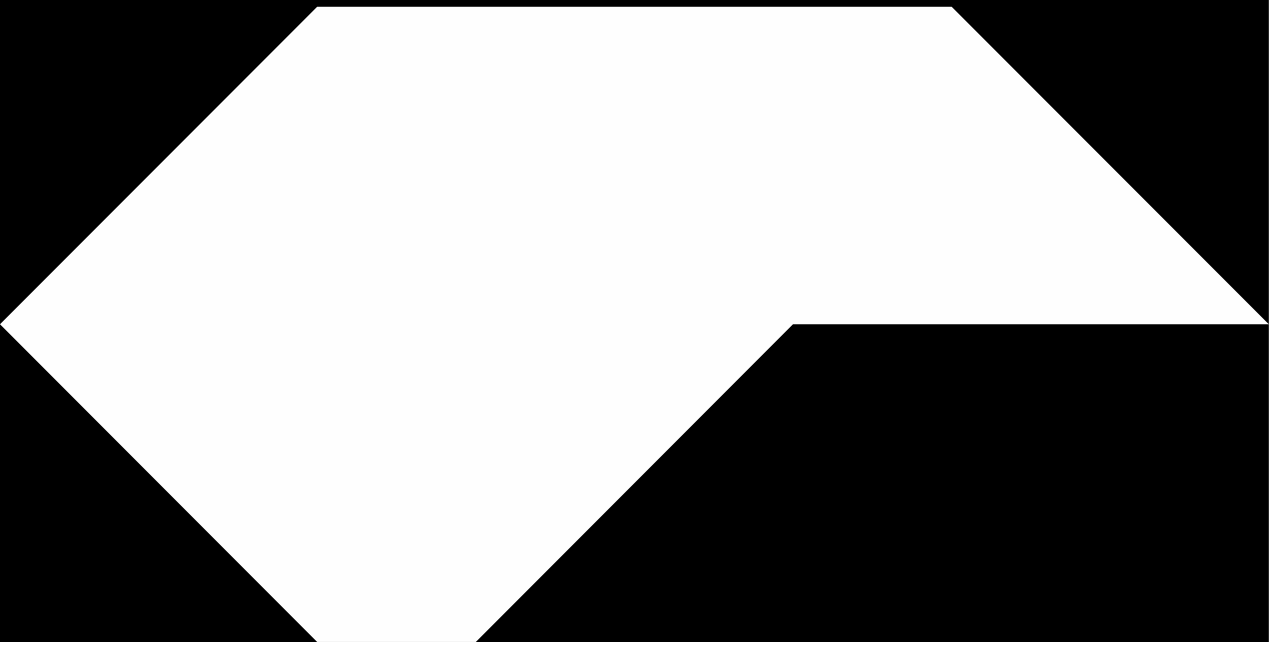


factory
international

WHAT TO EXPECT THE SOCIAL





What is the Social?

The Social is a public space inside our building, Aviva Studios. It is on the ground floor, where you come into the building.

You can come to the Social whenever the building is open and stay as long as you would like.

Sometimes there are activities like crafts that you can join in with, and sometimes there are people performing that you can watch.



When is the Social open?

The Social is open whenever our building is open.

Our opening hours are:

Tuesday, Wednesday and Sunday: **10am-9pm**

Thursday, Friday and Saturday: **10am-11pm**

We are usually closed on Mondays.



Where is it?

The Social is on the ground floor at Aviva Studios, Water St, Manchester, M3 4JQ.

You can come into the building through either of our two entrances, and you'll be in the Social.



People who can help

Our Hosts will be able to help you if you need anything during your visit.

They wear black t-shirts with white writing on them, like this. There will be hosts all around the Social.



People who can help

You can also go to the bright orange information point close to the city entrance.

Here you will find people from our ticketing team who can help you if you need a ticket for an event. They can also answer any other questions you might have about Aviva Studios.



What to expect in the Social

The Social can be a busy, noisy area with people sitting around eating, drinking and chatting, and people coming and going throughout the day.

Along one side there is a long bar and food counter, so there are sometimes food smells in the space.

There is usually music playing at a low level during the daytime.

In the daytime, there might also be activities like crafts going on that you can join in with if you want to.



There is a small stage area opposite the Bar.

Sometimes there may be people performing on the stage – giving a talk, singing, or playing music.

There is also sometimes DJ equipment on the stage, and there might be a DJ performing in the afternoon or evening.

On the wall at the back is a large video screen. Sometimes, this screen will be playing fast moving content.



Audience behaviour

- People in the Social might be eating, drinking and chatting in the Bar area.

- People might be queuing for food or drink at the Bar.
- There are lowered accessible sections at either end of the Bar. You can go to these sections if you find it hard to queue or if you can't use the higher counter in the middle for access reasons.
- At some times, there might be a dancefloor area in front of the stage where people can dance – but you don't have to dance unless you want to.
- You can stay in the Social as long or short a time as you want to while the building is open.

Housekeeping information



- We often have captioning and/or BSL interpretation at performances in the Social – check our website to see what's on offer at the event you're coming to.
- We have ear defenders and foam ear plugs available to borrow at Aviva Studios – ask one of our hosts if you need some.
- The Social has a mix of seating, including chairs with arms and backs, and lower level sofas.



Facilities

Toilets

There are toilets, including accessible toilets, in the brick arches at the back of the Social through the big silver doors.

The toilets are gender neutral which means you can use whichever arch entrance you want.

The accessible cubicles are in the same room as the standard cubicles, towards

the back of the space.

The accessible cubicles also have washbasins in them. The other handwashing facilities are shared by everyone.

You will also find our Changing Place located in the middle arch at the back of the room.

Food and Drink

You can buy food and drinks including hot drinks, cold soft drinks and alcohol from the bar in the Social.

There are menus you can take from the Bar to look at if you'd like to decide what to order before you queue up.



If you have any other questions or concerns about access at Aviva Studios, you can email us on access@factoryinternational.org