



Lodge St John Operative No.37

Venue Information Pack

Welcome to Lodge St John Operative No.37

Located in the heart of Forres, Lodge St John Operative No.37 is a historic and welcoming venue offering flexible space for community events, private functions, classes, meetings, and social gatherings.

Constructed in 1926, the building was established after members of Lodge St John Operative No.37 recognised the need for a permanent Masonic hall within the town of Forres. Nearly a century later, the building continues to serve both the Lodge and wider community.

The venue combines traditional character with recently refreshed facilities, creating a warm and comfortable atmosphere suitable for a wide range of events.

Venue Details

Venue Name:

Lodge St John Operative No.37

Address:

3 High Street
Forres
Morayshire
IV36 1BU

Email:

Admin@lodgestjohnoperative37.org

Website:

<https://lodgestjohnoperative37.org/>

Facebook Pages:

Lodge Page:

www.facebook.com/lodgestjohn37

Club 37 Social Club:
Club 37

About the Venue

Lodge St John Operative No.37 is situated close to the main High Street in Forres, making it easily accessible for both local visitors and guests travelling from further afield.

The building offers a unique blend of historic character and practical functionality. Recent refurbishment work has included fresh decoration and restoration of woodwork throughout the premises, helping maintain a clean, warm, and welcoming environment.

The venue is regularly used for:

- Yoga classes
- Dance classes
- Children's parties
- Adult functions
- Community gatherings
- Masonic meetings and events

The building also features a welcoming lounge and social area through Club 37, providing a comfortable and relaxed setting for members and guests.

Available Spaces

Main Hall

The Main Hall is a versatile open space suitable for:

- Parties
- Receptions
- Community events
- Classes
- Meetings
- Entertainment evenings

Approximate dimensions:
15m x 15m

Main Hall Features

- Seating capacity: approximately 120 people

- Small raised stage suitable for DJs or entertainers
- Good heating throughout the building
- Access to collapsible tables and chairs
- Accessible via disabled entrance

The hall does not currently include:

- Built-in sound system
 - Projector facilities
 - WiFi access
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Lounge / Club 37 Area

The Lounge Area offers a comfortable and welcoming social space with seating for approximately 30 people.

Approximate dimensions:
8m x 6m

The lounge is primarily used as:

- A private members' social area
- A relaxed gathering space during events
- A hosting area for Club 37 social evenings

The space offers a more intimate atmosphere while remaining connected to the wider venue.

Please note:

Access to the Main Hall is through the Lounge area. Due to the building layout, separate simultaneous bookings may not always be possible.

Kitchen Facilities

The venue includes a domestic-style kitchen suitable for light catering and food preparation.

Facilities include:

- Domestic gas oven
- Five gas hobs
- Microwave
- Three kettles
- Small refrigerator
- Plates, mugs, crockery, and cutlery

Please note:

- The kitchen is not a commercial catering kitchen
- There is no commercial extraction system
- Kitchen use must be declared during booking

Hall users are welcome to use available crockery and kitchen equipment responsibly.

Furniture & Equipment

The venue currently provides:

- Approximately 70 chairs
- 10 collapsible tables
- Small stage area
- Heating system throughout building
- Vacuum cleaner for post-event cleaning

Cleaning materials are limited due to regular use by children's groups and classes, however basic cleaning supplies are available within the kitchen area.

Accessibility

The venue includes:

- Disabled access via the west side entrance
- Downstairs toilet facilities
- Additional upstairs male toilets
- Accessible kitchen access

Please note:

There are currently no baby changing facilities available.

Parking Information

Limited private parking is available on the east side of the building, accommodating approximately 5 vehicles.

Please note:

Once full, vehicle access and exit space may become restricted.

Visitors are therefore encouraged to:

- Use nearby on-street parking
 - Use public parking facilities near the High Street where possible
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Club 37 & Bar Facilities

Club 37 operates as the social club connected to Lodge St John Operative No.37.

The bar is primarily open for members on Saturday evenings from 8pm onwards.

Guests accompanying members are welcome but must be signed in accordingly.

Club 37 regularly hosts:

- Quiz nights
- Wine & cheese evenings
- Cocktail nights
- Social gatherings
- Masonic events

The bar offers:

- Modern glassware
- A wide selection of spirits and bottled beverages
- Local whisky and spirit selections

Please note:

- Draft beer and cider are not currently available
- Outside alcohol is strictly prohibited within the premises

For private functions requiring bar facilities:

- An Occasional Licence may be required
 - A minimum of 7 weeks' notice is necessary
 - Bar availability is subject to licensing approval and Lodge discretion
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Booking & Access Information

Access times can be arranged depending on booking requirements and venue availability.

Where possible:

- Setup access the evening before an event may be arranged
- Additional setup time can be discussed during booking

Please note:

All events and venue use must comply with licensing regulations requiring guests to vacate the building by midnight.

Cleaning & End of Hire Expectations

We take great pride in maintaining the venue to a high standard and ask all hall users to treat the premises respectfully.

At the end of the booking, hirers are expected to:

- Return tables and chairs to their original positions
- Remove decorations and personal belongings
- Dispose of rubbish appropriately
- Leave kitchen and toilet areas clean
- Vacuum excessive mess where required

The building should be left in the same condition it was found.

Community & Atmosphere

One of the key features of Lodge St John Operative No.37 is its strong connection to the local community.

A dedicated community notice board within the entrance area allows local groups, clubs, and hall users to promote upcoming activities and events.

The venue aims to provide:

- A respectful environment
 - A welcoming atmosphere
 - A clean and comfortable setting for all visitors
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Further Information

For booking enquiries, availability, or further details, please contact:

Admin@lodgestjohnoperative37.org

Further updates and information can also be found through our website and Facebook pages.

Thank you for considering Lodge St John Operative No.37 for your event or gathering.