

Magdalen Laundry

Abbotsford Convent.



About

Magdalen Laundry is a large, self-contained venue featuring a vaulted ceiling and clerestory windows. This versatile space can be creatively configured to suit a wide range of large events, including exhibitions, conferences, and performances. The adjoining Boiler Room can be used as a backstage area or opened to create a larger working space. The Mezzanine offers an additional green room, meeting room or creative space, and is available separately for hire.

During the 1920s, the Convent's Magdalen Laundry was the largest commercial laundry in Melbourne. For close to a century, many residents of the Convent worked here, unpaid. In 2017, The Convent was inscribed on the National Heritage List, with the Magdalen Laundry and asylum buildings recognised as an important physical record for those Australians and their families known as the Forgotten Australians. Abbotsford Convent is owned and operated by the Abbotsford Convent Foundation (ACF) and is not affiliated with Good Shepherd or any other religious organisation. ACF highly recommends that all hirers learn more about the Convent's history and consider joining a guided or self-guided social history tour.

Today, the Magdalen Laundry is among the few surviving, relatively intact, examples of its type anywhere in the world. Like the rest of the Convent, it is a sensitive, heritage-listed space. There are some inherent heritage requirements and limitations of use incorporated into our conditions of hire. These are to protect the space for future generations and encourage creativity in approach.

Key Features

- Large creative event space
- Truss rigging

Dimensions

- Main hall: 24 x 12.9m (307.8m²)
- Boiler Room: 13.4 x 9.4m (127.1m²)

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Facilities

The Magdalen Laundry is equipped with the following:

- Numerous power outlets
- Truss rigging
- 3-phase power
- House lights
- LSC Mantra Lite lighting desk
- Dimmer racks
- Genie AWS 40 scissor lift
- 200 theatre chairs

Additional basic AV equipment is available to hirers. Our preferred AV provider, Melbourne AV, is available to assist with further AV requirements.



Accessibility

The Magdalen Laundry is universally accessible, and the related Mezzanine space is accessible via an elevator. Gender-neutral and accessible toilets are available within the venue.

Magdalen Laundry: venue hire rates

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	Full day (8 hours)	Half day (4 hours)	7-day week
Standard - high impact	\$1800	\$1350	\$9000
Standard - low impact	\$900	\$675	\$4500
Community/NFP - high impact	\$1350	\$1013	\$6750
Community/NFP - low impact	\$675	\$506	\$3375
Subsidised - high impact	\$900	\$675	\$4500
Subsidised - low impact	\$450	\$338	\$2250

Pricing

A compulsory additional COVID cleaning fee will be added to each day of venue hire.

Prices do not include GST.

Minimum hire is four hours. Additional hours can be added.

Important Conditions of Hire

Abbotsford Convent is a unique heritage arts precinct with specific hiring conditions. You can find our Conditions of Hire [here](#).

To better understand the delicate nature of working in a heritage-listed multi-use precinct, please refer to our Special Conditions of Hire [here](#).

Staffing and Equipment

Any event in the Magdalen Laundry requires a venue supervisor.

Front of house and additional support crew are available for minimum 3-hour calls.

Basic furniture and AV equipment is available for hire.

Site Visits and Production Meetings

To arrange a virtual or in-person site visit, please email us at venuehire@abbotsfordconvent.com.au or call us on 03 9415 3608.

Complex events will require at least one production meeting with our Venue Hire and Operations teams.

Magdalen Laundry: capacity and safety

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	2m ² per person	4m ² per person	No restriction
Standing room only	215	105	430
Seated - long banquet style	44	44	120
Seated - theatre style	48	48	240

Seating is not fixed and can be set up in a number of different configurations.

Capacity is dependent on current COVID-19 regulations and is subject to change. Please check the latest regulations to determine which capacity limit applies to you.

Stay Safe at the Convent

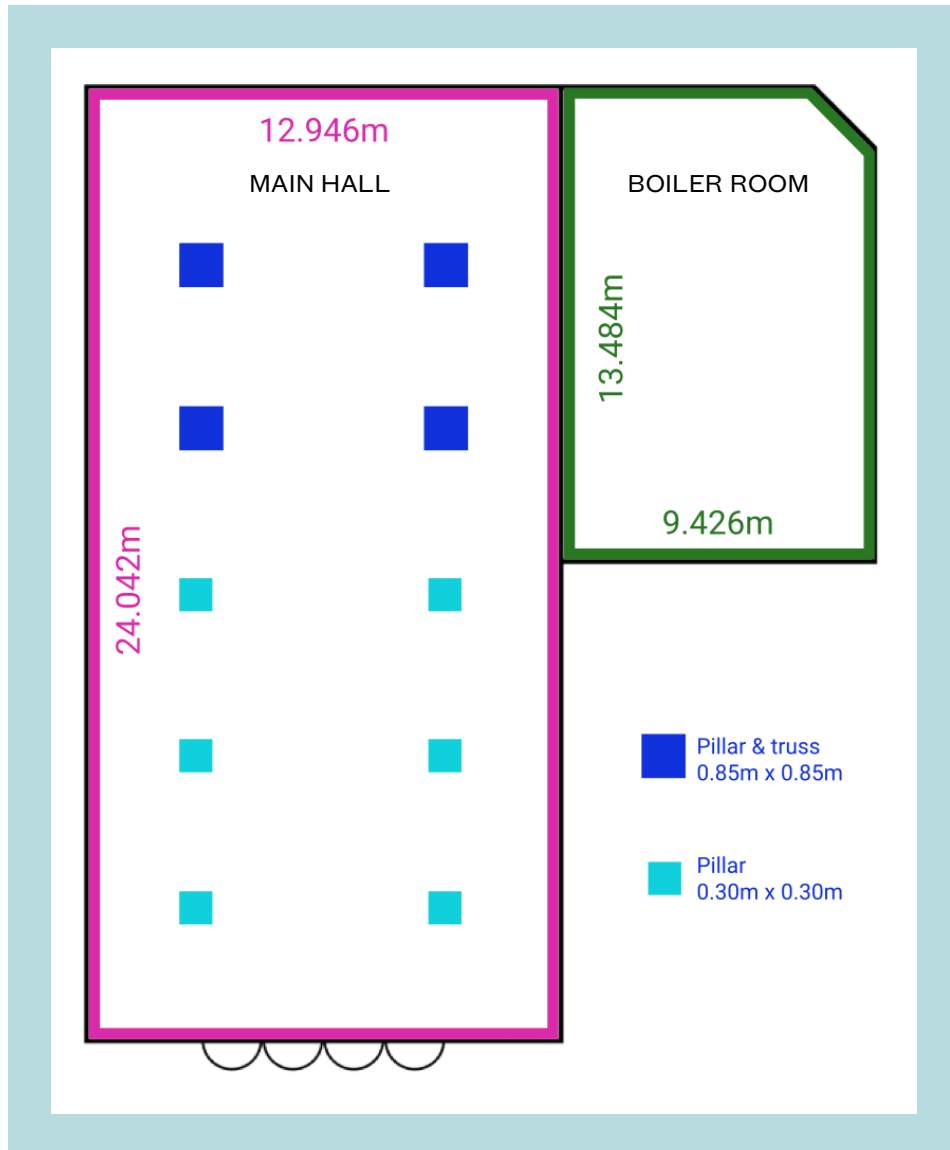
The Abbotsford Convent has a COVIDSafe Plan in place to ensure the safety of all staff, venue hirers, visitors and community members. You can find our COVIDSafe plan [here](#).

All venue hirers must comply with this plan and complete a COVIDSafe Event Checklist. Upon arrival, all hirers must undertake a COVID Safety Induction.

Hirers with complex events may be required to submit their own COVIDSafe Plan.



Magdalen Laundry: floor plan



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