

5 pantomimes to visit this Christmas

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Interior of Liverpool's Royal Court Theatre

Dating back to the 16th century, pantomimes are part of the Christmas tradition in the UK. Opening over the Christmas period there are a number of HLF-supported theatres offering pantomime for you and your family to visit.

1. Darlington Hippodrome – Snow White and Seven Dwarfs

Showing [Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs](#), the Darlington Hippodrome is the most complete surviving example of an Edwardian variety theatre designed by theatre specialists Owen and Ward of Birmingham.

Packed full of laugh-out-loud comedy, dance and music, the production is bound to make for a fun occasion. Open now, make sure you check it out before it closes on 14 January.

2. Royal Court, Liverpool - The Scouse Nativity

The theatre, which is locally known as the 'Peoples Theatre', has been at the centre of Liverpool's cultural heart for the last 200 years.

Running until 13 January, [The Scouse nativity](#) by Kevin Fearon is back this December for another Christmas show with the recipe for tear-inducing hilarity and some sharp satire.

3. Georgian Theatre Royal, Richmond – The Wizard of Oz

Built in 1788, the Georgian Theatre Royal has recently been restored and improved thanks to an HLF grant. The theatre which is Britain's oldest working theatre in its original form, is both a thriving community playhouse and a living theatre museum.

Take yourself to the [magical world of Oz](#), where this season's pantomime will follow the much loved story of Dorothy and friends.

4. The New Theatre Royal, Portsmouth – Beauty and the Beast

With help from HLF, the New Theatre Royal in Portsmouth has been restored to much of its former glories including restoration of the stage house, orchestra pit and offices.

Join [Beauty and the Beast](#) in this much-loved story that promises to entertain both you and your family this festival season.

5. Citizen theatre, Glasgow – Cinderella

The Citizens Theatre is an iconic venue based in the heart of Glasgow. The recently finished HLF project has preserved many of the original features whilst repairing and revealing the most significant parts of the grade B listed building.

Running over the Christmas period, [Cinderella](#) is full of music, fun and silliness and is the perfect choice to visit for you and your family.



Interior of the Darlington Civic Theatre



...e & Palace Theatre of Varieties

The cast of Cinderella having a ball Tim Morozzo



Ricky Foyle

Regeneration of New Theatre Royal in Portsmouth