

Far From The Madding Crowd feedback

Please note that all feedback is reproduced exactly as submitted via our post-show email surveys. No changes have been made to spelling or grammar. Names have been removed where applicable to protect customer's anonymity.

Great to have the after-performance discussion with the cast, but I didn't know in advance that this was happening. Looked like lots of people didn't know either and couldn't stay.

Really excellent. Enjoyed the movement and music and though the humour in the script was really up to date. Staging and scenery excellent.

This is the first time we've ordered drinks for the interval and we were surprised to find we had to go to a gloomy space downstairs - not attractive or welcoming in any way, although the staff were lovely.

Good show, nice theatre,

"It's quite a while since we have been out to the theatre.
We really enjoyed our supper and the show, which was very well done."

Loved this performance - very engaging and so talented with singing and playing of music as well as fine acting - well done!

I enjoyed the performance..it met my expectations

i THINK YOUR USHERS SHOULD TELL PEOPLE BEFORE THEY GO IN THAT THEY CAN NOT RE-TAKE THEIR SEATS AFTER A TRIP TO THE LOO. I WAS FORCED TO SIT FOR 30 MINUTES UNABLE TO RETURN TO MY SEAT-THIS IS RIDICULOUS AND CAUSED CONCERN FOR MY FRIEND...WHO WONDERED WHAT ON EARTH HAD HAPPENED TO ME!

The performance was not very good. We left at the interval. The adaptation and performance felt stilted giving little more than an account of the narrative of the story. There was little account taken of the depth of emotions conveyed in the printed text. The quality of all the acting of every single person was excellent. The stage setting was great. The whole experience was faultless.

very professional - scene changes effectively and simply done- a high quality performance
Far from the Madding Crown was an excellent performance. I really enjoyed it. Having just seen two performances by the RSC at The Theatre Royal, I was far more impressed and entertained by the ETT.

"excellent performance.
Your staff are always friendly, efficient and helpful- Thank you"

An Enjoyable evening although theatre was very warm before the interval and a better temperature afterwards !!

I have seen three performances over the last few weeks and although the standard did vary, all of the experiences were enjoyable. I considered all performances to be value for money - especially 'Far From the Madding Crowd' - for which I took a family of 4 (brilliant seats)) for £50 - bargain! I like the fact that all seating is comfortable and has a good view - whatever you've paid for it. 'Far From...' was a brilliant performance which everyone (including my 10 year old daughter) enjoyed.

"This slick production translated a long and complex plot onto the stage well. The use of overlapping pieces of action in different areas of the stage worked, and the set lent itself easily to this.

However, the size of the set tended to inhibited the dancing, and its design created an impression of continual winter - very Hardy-esque, but since this is a rural tale I felt more could have been done with the lighting and additional scenery/backdrops to convey the passing of the seasons."

"Wasted a lot of time trying to get a drink and failed to purchase ice cream at interval. Would it be possible to include option of ordering interval drink at time of ticket booking to enhance enjoyment of theatre experience?"

experience was let down by a very long wait for an interval drink in downstairs bar-three seemed to be only one very hardworking member of staff

"In general, the standard of service and facilities is very good, and the productions also very good. The downstairs bar is maybe a bit gloomy ...?"

excellent performance, thoroughly enjoyed the show

"The bar staff continually let the overall experience of Northern Stage down. The staff don't have great customer care knowledge, nor the ability to serve customers in any logical order. One team member's knowledge of how to serve drinks seemed poor. I ordered a Hoegaarden, which came without lime - a standard way of serving this drink. When I requested a slice of lime I got a very strange look & responded to rudely. It is a shame when bar staff let down exceptional service."

Fantastic show!

Great theatre, loved the intimate atmosphere. The play was very enjoyable and well performed. All theatre staff were polite and friendly.

Fantastic performance, could watch it all over again! Theatre has a great layout - good views of the stage from nearly everywhere. We got student/under 25 tickets and so it was great value for money. We had decided by the interval that we would definately come again.

Theatre and performance both excellent

Performance was excellent

It is good to see so many young people in the theatre.

see previous comments

Good adaptation, excellent performances. Not sure about the slow motion/dance sequences.

Parking is a problem. Show was excellent

Far from Madding Crowd-Excellent production.

Far from the Madding Crowd surpassed expectations. It was an excellent show especially as the film with Julie Christie, Alan Bates etc was such a hard act to follow.

Subtitles off putting

I thought the performance of Far from the Madding was stunning. The actions of tending the imaginary sheep were memorable and the pace was thrilling. The use of the simple stage set to move smoothly between or overlap scenes was great. I would attend a mainstream production like this again.

We thoroughly enjoyed the performance and have always liked coming to this theatre. The theatre and production were fantastic - my only disappointment was that my sister and I had no dinner that night, due to the fact there were large groups of people drinking at tables. Those tables should have been kept for customers who wanted to order food. Travelled from Scotland to see this production, quality of the acting was appalling, very bad, would not pay to see an ETT production again, only saving grace was that it was two for one.

"Very impressed with all aspects of this particular production, The theatre is also one with good sight angles of the stage. One criticism. Can you identify the rows and seat numbers more clearly. I know I'm not the only one who has had problems in this area."

"An excellent performance. Only criticism is that accents of some of cast were not authentic for the play. Long queue at Bar during interval - we should have ordered in advance!"

totally absorbing. fire and storm scenes handled very imaginatively. could possibly have done without corpse of Fanny Robin. think everyone could imagine what was there anyway.

Great theatre, excellent show. 2 for one deals are excellent too.

"The performance was really very good and my daughter (15) and I discussed the amazing acting prowess of the leading lady all the way home! Very inventive stage set, creative direction and some very strong performances all round. We come to the Northern Stage

quite often throughout the year and have never seen a production we thought was sub-standard. Many thanks."

It was our first visit to the stage but we will definitely be returning due to the outstanding quality of the production and the overall experience.

"We loved the play and the fact that there were captions was an unexpected bonus for both me and my mother as we both have problems hearing. We enjoyed the play immensely and my daughter, who is doing A level English loved it too."

The performance was excellent, the acting and use of a limited space was utilised well! Fantastic show - as per usual! Consistently high standards across the cast - utterly believable and mesmerising (we even laughed!)

A thoroughly enjoyable experience

Ladies toilets inadequate. Not enough of them and ran out of toilet paper during the interval. Not good enough at all.

Great performance except for Troy, whose accent varied across scenes and continents! I thought Gabriel Oak was very well cast. A really good show!

This is my first visit to the theatre since it was refurbished and I am in two minds about the new decor. I actually prefer the old brickwork of the Playhouse to the new black wood. It's a small point, I know, and I appreciate that space had to be found for the new foyer and a third performance area. Did it have to be black?

There was a feeling that all the staff were involved in making the performance an all round pleasant experience. Initial phone call was very efficient with the member of staff asking about concessions and very cheerful upbeat approach saying that he hoped that we would enjoy the performance; this approach is rare but very welcome, thank you.

"Absolutley loved it! The student price was very good but could be even cheaper! Thankyou for a great night"

Production was way beyond my expectations for such a long and convoluted story ... was impressed by its speed without losing atmosphere and drama.

Could you not sell some ready made sandwiches? I went to buy one during the interval and was told it would take 15 minutes to make. Too long for me to wait

More should have been done to stop the school party from crunching packets and sweet papers.

A wonderful performance. Very good company.

I attended the matinee performance. This was an exceptionally staged and acted piece. My enjoyment of the production was marred by other audience members talking during the

acting and whooping, catcalls, laughter etc. This was discourteous to other audience members and to the cast. The offenders were sixth form students attending the play as part of course work rather than members of the public who had paid and chosen to attend. The ushers should have ejected the offenders at the interval.

Every time I have attended the Northern Stage to see a performance, the building and staff have been 1st class. The show was wonderful. Thank you for a wonderful afternoon I had. Very friendly usher staff.

Thoroughly enjoyed the show and look forward to going again to see Othello in the spring. Comfortable seats, good view and brilliant set and acting!!

Even though it wasn't a full house, I felt the auditorium was just a little hot for overall comfort. Not a serious complaint, just a possible suggestion of an area perhaps needing monitoring.

"I have already written an e-mail because I was so very impressed with the performance! Excellent in all ways - choreography, storyline transfer to play, stage set.....

I have attended the venue since 1973 and have rarely been disappointed. Still my favourite theatre in the region."

Ladies toilets lacked toilet paper

Excellent production, in line with previous visits to Northern Stage

loved the show and very polite service as always

An outstanding performance, excellent double scene's which worked really well. The cast were wonderful working seamlessly between roles.

Far from the Madding suffered from being so obviously a novel adapted for the stage. The dialogue lacks the veracity of a stage drama. Some good attempts at translating scenes, difficult for the stage, through mime. I thought the production suffered from the rushed pace, despite the programme notes to the contrary, and from the wooden floor set. Too frenzied and too much clatter.

"Really enjoyed the performance. comfortable theatre - good seats and leg room. Clean, simple and practical everywhere and great loos. Shame top bar so busy and lower bar not so much. Would be better if they could both take debit card payments and serve more downstairs. Theatre staff pleasant, efficient and helpful."

"I love this theatre and particularly admire the way you put on some of the less well known and more edgy stuff. If I have one small concern it is that the house lights are rather dim when one is finding one's seat, particularly at the bottom of the aisle where the steps are. As far as the performances are concerned you're great!"

A first class performance Let me know when they are coming again

The actress playing Bathsheba, when taking a bow at the end, looked as though she couldn't wait to go home. She didn't smile once. This spoilt an otherwise excellent production, particularly the use of the set.

Had a great visit and really enjoyed the play. Only thing I didn't like were drinks being allowed in the theatre- ice cubes can be noisy!

performance was excellent. a very lively, interesting interpretation of a Thomas Hardy novel.

"very good i enjoyed the whole experience. even tho comming from the west country the accents were a bit??? sorry i filled the first bit of the survey the wrong way round"

Far From the Madding Crowd exceeded expectations and I and my three friends really enjoyed it. The set was great, the acting wonderful and the choreography and music excellent too, Never thought Hardy could be so witty!

There was a large puddle on the floor of the gents' toilet, and the trough under the taps for ladies' hand washing was badly mounted, so the water was nor running off.

"I thought the performance was great...loveed it! Northern stage has great seating, offers and fabulous ice cream. The theatre is contemporary yet atmospheric. Keep up the good work!"

When we first arrived the main toilet facilities were not accessible, which proved an inconvenience having to get across a crowded restaurant area to access the alternative facilities.

Just to reiterate that the McKennas bar and restaurant was poor and not at all value for money. My friend and I also noticed that there were other people not satisfied with the food/service. When the bar was filling up nearing the start time of the performance, we had to literally find waitress to ask for the bill! We could have easily walked away without paying which is what we should have done for the standard of food served.

"The bar upstairs (opposite university union building) was good & lively for a theatre bar. The bar downstairs was dark & dingy - we took our interval drinks upstairs."

"I though acting good but direction/production boring - esp pseudo dance sequences etc I was a bit disappointed as the keenest in our party to go and the others (3 under 28) also found it rather an unexhilarating experience."

As always, a first class performance. Great value for money

Fantastic performance, lovely music, lovely acting, great stuff and very enjoyable. I look forward to the next one.