

*On the Verge*

# BROADWAY GUIDE

April 27, 2016

## Don't break the bank for Broadway!



### **London's Tips for Seeing the Best Theater in the World**

I love theater. I am an actress so theater holds a very special place in my heart. And I love seeing shows! But do you know what I love more than seeing shows? Seeing shows for a reasonable, or extremely discounted price. It's possible in more than one way, but I thought I would compile all of the information I have about getting amazing tickets and share it with all of you.

Below is a list of all the places that I ritually check out for cheap/discounted tickets for Broadway & Off – Broadway Shows. Plus I've included a discount code for an app that sells discounted tickets! (Extra savings!!)

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# [broadwayforbrokepeople.com](http://broadwayforbrokepeople.com)

This site has a list of all the Broadway shows and how to get cheap/discount tickets. It has links to the show websites, and to the digital lotteries. The shows are listed alphabetically, and are in a lovely easy to read table that has all the information you could possibly need for each show, including theater, schedule, and when it will be closing. Also, it has links to each show's website, and links to any digital lotteries, information on rush, and SRO.

- ★ **Regular lotteries** happen in person at the theater the show is playing at, you have to be there in person to enter, and win. Most lotteries you sign up 2 & ½ hours before curtain, and they draw the winners, 2 hours before curtain.
- ★ **Digital lotteries** you can enter right through the links posted on the site. They are listed as such, with the price of the ticket should you win.
  - Some shows you have to purchase your tickets at the theater by a certain deadline, normally 2 hours before the show
  - Most shows you can purchase the tickets online and pick them up at Will Call
  - Some shows you can enter the lottery for every show during the course of the following week in one go. You will find out if you won those tickets the day before the show, and you will have until Midnight to purchase the tickets online.
- ★ **Rush tickets** go on sale when the box office opens there may be some exceptions, but this is standard practice. Some theaters/shows offer student rush. You qualify for student rush if you have a student ID when purchasing tickets at the box office. Some theaters only accepts students under the age of 30, but always ask!
- ★ **SRO = Standing Room Only** means you get to stand at the back of the theater in the orchestra section. This is a great option for musicals as they can get long, and sitting for 3 hours in a cramped seat gets a bit uncomfortable. Also, most people don't know about SRO, and just because it isn't listed doesn't mean that they don't offer it. Ask at the box office of the theater. Some shows only accept cash for SRO. Some only offer SRO if the show is sold out. SRO normally goes on sale when the box office opens as well.

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# TKTS Booth

This is the infamous, Theater Development Fund. There are THREE (3) booths in the city. They have a lot of Broadway and some off-Broadway shows listed on a regular basis. Occasionally, you can find some off-off Broadway shows as well. The shows do change daily, but the discounts are the same at every booth in the city. TKTS sells best available seats first, and works their way back. The earlier you are there in the morning, the more expensive the tickets (they start with the orchestra and move to mezzanine, and then balcony). The later you go, the less you will pay. Booth locations are listed below with a few little notes.

- ★ Some shows are never on the board.
- ★ The discounts change every day, as do the shows.
- ★ Three Locations in New York City
  - Times Square 1564 Broadway aka The Red Steps
    - Same day shows only
    - Opens the latest
    - Most popular - read: Longest line
    - Great option for last minute tickets
  - Downtown Brooklyn 1 Metrotech Center
    - Same day evening shows
    - Same day & next day matinee shows
    - Closed on Mondays
  - South Street Seaport 199 Water Street
    - Same day evening shows
    - Same day & next day matinee shows

## TKTS App (FREE)

You cannot buy tickets through the app, but you can check and see what shows are available at each location (again, they're not always the same) and you can see what discount they are offering that day (20%-60%)

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# TodayTIX App (FREE)

★ You can purchase tickets through this app! You can also enter digital lotteries on this app. They do have a \$5 - \$10 service charge per ticket if it's not a lottery ticket. Below is a code that will give you \$10 off your first order (lotteries included). They do not have every show on Broadway, but they do have quite a few, and a lot of off-Broadway, and special events including tickets to the MET Opera, and City Center Encore events.

- Enter my code JGBJG at checkout and you'll save \$10 off your first show on <http://todaytix.com/refer/JGBJG!>

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## - EXTRA TIP FOR LOTTERIES -

Enter for only 1 ticket for the lotteries, your chances go up drastically. They normally have an odd number of seats available, so being the odd number helps with winning! That being said, having a friend to enjoy the show with is always a plus!

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### Now What?

All I can say now is, "Go forth and see Theater!" I really hope that this packet of information is helpful for you in your endeavors to see some amazing art. The shows offered change quickly, and are as varied as the great city they call home. And don't underestimate the plays! Too often, people forget the plays and focus on the musicals. Granted, there's nothing like a Broadway musical, but a Broadway play is just as magical.

In case you were wondering, this was originally a blog post. If you're interested in other weird and fascinating stories, of the day to day life, and life altering experiences of a struggling artist in the big city, look no further. You can find the original post here (<http://londonontheverge.weebly.com/on-the-verge/dont-break-the-bank-for-broadway>). Leave a comment, and let me know how it what shows you get into! Or you could always drop me a line at [londonontheverge@gmail.com](mailto:londonontheverge@gmail.com)