

A Spellbinding Musical Experience

# A guide by TICKETTREE

## WE ALL REMEMBER HOW DOROTHY AND GLINDA THE GOOD TRIUMPHED OVER THE WICKED WITCH AT THE END OF THE WIZARD OF OZ.

But, like any good story, it has two sides. Take a trip back in time to an Oz before Dorothy, where a young and naïve Glinda meets a troubled but brilliant green-skinned Elphaba at Shiz University. Though they are yet to be good or wicked, the polar opposites of the bubbly, popular Glinda and the talented, lonely Elphaba eventually kindle a firm friendship, forged in fire.

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WICKED WILL INTRODUCE YOU TO A WHOLE WORLD OF INTRIGUE, WHERE DARK PASTS AND DIFFICULT DECISIONS LEAD TO A MORALLY COMPROMISED REIMAGINATION OF L FRANK BAUM'S ICONIC WORLD OF OZ. With 22 magnificent songs, Wicked is an epic undertaking that will transport you to a land of magic and mystery, with a very human story at its heart.

Since its Broadway opening in 2003 the show has won 90 awards across the world, and you'll soon see why as this lavish story unfolds amid a whirlwind of song and colour.

The music of Wicked has become legendary in musical theatre, with the show's crown jewel, Defying Gravity, becoming a hit in its own right.

## THINK YOU KNOW WICKED? CHECK OUT SOME OF THESE FACTS BELOW!

- The Wicked Witch is not named in the original L. Frank Baum novel. Gregory Maguire invented the name for her using Baum's initial L.F.B. Elphaba.
- Think Wicked is dark? Gregory Maguire's novel is much darker. In his novel, Madame Morrible and Doctor Dillamond are both killed, but they receive a somewhat more merciful fate in the show.
- Elphaba's eminent emerald makeup is actual green eyeshadow rather than foundation! Check out this video of Idina Menzel getting 'greenified' <u>here</u>!
- For each show, the electronics department uses enough power to supply 12 homes and 250 pounds of dry ice are used to create the dramatic atmosphere on stage!
- Lyricist and composer Stephen Schwartz managed to squeeze in a small tribute to 'Over the Rainbow' in the song 'Unlimited/I'm Limited' in the form of the first seven notes (because eight notes can be considered theft of a song under copyright laws!).
- Up to 70 wigs are used during any given show. What's more, they're made of human hair and each one is made individually for each actor, using their own hairline in the front.
- Idina Menzel nearly blew her audition for Elphaba when her voice cracked on the last big note of 'Defying Gravity'. Of course, she went on to win a Tony Award for Best Actress in a Musical for the role. It's easy to see why when you check out this video of her belting out 'Defying Gravity'

## **REVIEWS OF WICKED**

CHECK OUT WHAT YOU'RE IN FOR...

A remarkable kaleidoscope of magical shocks, surprises and sensations, Wicked works like a dream 99



- Evening Standard

The perfect choice for a spellbinding night out
Daily Mail

 A breathtaking success story of a magnitude the theatre has not witnessed since the peak years of The Phantom of the Opera 99
Washington Post

Wicked genuinely took my breath away, giving me the lift-descending tummy swoops that only a true musical can 99
Nicola Christie, The Independent.

## More Wicked...

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Ready to book your tickets? Why not check out this <u>video</u> of a behind-the-scenes tour of the London show – the one you could be at in no time!



You can also watch this <u>interview</u> to gear yourself up; Idina Menzel and Kristin Chenoweth discuss their performances in Broadway's 'Wicked'.



## <u>Book</u> your tickets today and make unbeatable savings on great seats, with a hotel stay included! Create your perfect, custom break now.

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