An **opera house** is a [theatre](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Theater_(structure)) building used for [opera](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Opera) performances that consists of a [stage](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stage_(theatre)), an [orchestra pit](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Orchestra_pit), audience seating, and backstage facilities for [costumes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Costumes) and set building.

While some venues are constructed specifically for operas, other opera houses are part of larger [performing arts](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Performing_arts) centers. Indeed the term *opera house* itself is often used as a term of prestige for any large performing-arts center.