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15-25 JULY 2026

READING ABBEY
RUINS

HAMLET

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

PROGRESS
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HAMLET

BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

IN THE OPEN AIR AT READING ABBEY RUINS

Evening performances 7.30pm 15–25 July

Matinees 2.30pm Saturday 18 and 25 July

No performance Sunday 19 July

Aged just 20, Prince Hamlet is clever yet tormented. His father has died in suspicious circumstances, his widowed mother has remarried his uncle, who has seized the Danish throne, and his girlfriend, Ophelia, is heading towards a tragedy of her own. Their two families are bound together in a relentless descent from which no one will escape unscathed. It's a world of spies, lies, and pretences. Dark humour intermingles with grief, betrayal, and madness, culminating in a conclusion as devastating as any in theatre.



Running time: 2h 45m,
including a 20-minute interval

No refunds for bad weather

Licensed bar and picnic area

Tickets: readingopenair.com

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