

Fanfare

Britain's Historic Royal Palaces

Summer 2011

Tower of London set to sparkle in 2012

In 1075 Londoners could only stand and stare as the White Tower rose up to dominate their skyline. Now, finally after three years of scaffolding, scrubbing and polishing, 709 new stones, 1,367 re-fixed stones, 36 tons of lime mortar - the equivalent weight of 5 double-decker buses or 400 Yeoman Warders - the White Tower is again officially white!

The external repair and conservation project has been the largest conservation project undertaken by Historic Royal Palaces, having taken 4 years to complete at a cost of £2 million, £1.5 million generously donated by

sponsors. Londoners and visitors from around the world can again stand and stare in awe of this striking historic building and admire the Norman architecture in all its glory.

No visit to the Tower however is complete without seeing the breathtaking, world famous collection of fabulous finery and regalia - The Crown Jewels. The Crown Jewels have been held for safekeeping at the Tower since 1649; they are gloriously ornate, intricately made and have inspired acts of greed, violence and even spawned stories of evil curses. They also stand as a potent symbol of Britain's enduring monarchy. At Easter 2012 we will unveil a re-presented Jewel House to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. The collection will be redisplayed, relit and the stories of the significance of these unique items of royal

regalia will be told showing them in their context of a thousand years of royal history.

Making history at Kensington Palace

On 26 March 2012, Historic Royal Palaces will unveil a new piece of history at one of the palaces in its care, Kensington. The major £12 million project to transform Kensington into a *palace for everyone*, will reveal to visitors the newly landscaped gardens, entrance loggia, free public spaces and cafe. The gardens are already taking shape and will link up with the round pond and the wider Kensington Gardens as they would have done in the time of George II.

As part of the project, **Victoria Revealed**, our exciting new permanent exhibition will explore Queen Victoria's life and reign through her own words. Visitors will experience Victoria's first day as Queen at Kensington Palace, the romance of her early relationship with Prince Albert, moments of family life and aspects of Albert's involvement in the 1851 Great Exhibition.



Tour and Itinerary planning ideas

New exhibitions and openings to inspire your tours and itineraries. For further details contact the Groups & Travel Trade team on +44(0) 20 3166 6311 or email groupsandtraveltrade@hrp.org.uk , www.hrp.org.uk/traveltradeandgroups

Banqueting House

New, guaranteed visitor opening hours

The stunning Banqueting House, designed by Inigo Jones and constructed between 1619-22 at a cost of £15,648, is the only remaining part of Whitehall Palace, once the official sovereign's residence and Europe's largest palace. The Banqueting House has been the scene of some of the most momentous events in England's history, including the execution of Charles I in 1649. Visitors can

marvel at nine Rubens paintings adorning the ceiling, commissioned by Charles I in 1629 to celebrate the glorification of his father James I. From August 2011 the Banqueting House will be open to all visitors, individual and groups from 10.00-13.00hrs Monday-Saturday. The ticket office is located in the small



shop at the bottom of the staircase, here you can purchase tickets and Agency Voucher Scheme clients can exchange vouchers here for admission. Set in the heart of London a visit will take around 1 hour and includes an audio guide available in English, German, Spanish, French, Italian, Russian and Japanese.



The Fusilier Museum

Following a major re-presentation of the Fusilier Museum entry is now included in your Tower of London ticket. The museum tells the story of a British army regiment, formed at the Tower of London in 1685 by King James II. The building originally designed as army Officers' quarters remains home to the Royal Regiment of Fusilier's Regimental Headquarters and Officers' Mess, and is used for formal dinners and ceremonial occasions. Highlights in the museum's collection include 12 Victoria Cross Medals won by the Regiment, the Uniform and Bearskin of King George V a former Colonel-in-Chief and an Eagle Standard of the 82nd Regiment of the French Line captured by the Royal Fusiliers during the Napoleonic Wars.



Every visit ends up in Kew Palace kitchens in 2012!

Itineraries to Kew Palace will be further enhanced in summer 2012 when we give you the opportunity to add a visit to the unique Georgian Kitchens. Untouched since Queen Charlotte's death in 1818 the rooms are a fascinating insight into Georgian culinary life. A simple, all inclusive ticket giving admission to Kew Gardens, Kew Palace and a tour of the Georgian Kitchens will be available to groups and travel trade clients; prices to be released in Autumn 2011. Why not combine with a visit to Hampton Court Palace where you can also discover the tantalising Tudor delicacies that tickled the taste buds of Henry VIII, prepared in his vast Tudor kitchens? Contact the Travel Trade team for planning assistance.



Private tours and special events

Our specially developed private tours offer the more discerning visitor a unique and privileged insight to our magnificent palaces. These historic venues are also available for dinners and receptions, conferences and meetings. www.hrp.org.uk/hireavenue

Tower of London T: +44 (0)20 3166 6226 E: toweroflondonevents@hrp.org.uk

New! Secrets of the Tower

This highly exclusive opportunity offers small groups access to hidden places not usually open to the public at this famous World Heritage site. Parties of a maximum of 8 people will be met by a Yeoman Warder at the Sally Port – where Henry VIII greeted Anne Boleyn as his new bride to be in 1532. Visitors will also be shown the extra-ordinary Upper Byward Tower painting, discovered during works in 1953 however thought to have been painted in the late 1390s. The Council Chamber in Queen's House, St Thomas More's cell and the Crypt below the Chapel Royal of St Peter ad Vincula are also included. This tour has very limited availability and with many areas being accessible only via narrow spiral staircases and cobbled pathways it's essential to fully discuss the nature of your group visit with our events team. The cost of this tour is £520 plus VAT.



Hampton Court Palace T +44 (0) 20 3166 6530 E: hamptoncourtpalaceevents@hrp.org.uk

New! Energise and motivate your team – Day Delegate packages

The Garden Room is set in the Tiltyard Gardens at Hampton Court Palace and here we offer a range of affordable day delegate packages with a stunning backdrop and a unique opportunity to entertain and motivate your colleagues and clients in majestic surroundings. Henry VIII entertained visiting dignitaries and courtiers with jousting or 'tilting' tournaments in this area of the gardens, so with your away-day event in mind, we offer a range of team building activities that will energise, invigorate and motivate your team, no doubt just as Henry VIII did! Day delegate rates start from as little as £68 per person plus VAT for minimum 70 whilst team building events can be arranged from £625 plus VAT for 70 participants for an hour long event.



Kensington Palace T: +44 (0)20 3166 6115 E: kensingtonpalaceevents@hrp.org.uk

New historic spaces available in the exciting represented palace

With the re-opening of a newly presented Kensington Palace on 26 March 2012, we will be able to offer new options for dining and receptions at Kensington Palace. The new entrance hall will make a perfect, welcoming space for cocktail receptions up to 300 guests whilst the Queen's Range will offer a number of spaces for a variety of party sizes. Apartment 1a, the former home of Princess Margaret will continue to offer organisers an option for lunches, meetings and dinners for up to 40 people.



Kew Palace T: +44 (0)20 3166 6115

Dine in King George III's private dining room

Just 30 minutes from central London, Kew Palace set within the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew, is an intimate retreat for private dinners for up to 24 guests. Available from April – September each year guests can start the evening with drinks in the palace garden, then take a private tour of this fascinating royal residence prior to sitting down to dinner in the same dining room where Queen Elizabeth II celebrated her 80th birthday in 2006. This unique and private venue offers exclusivity at an affordable price, the facility fee being just £3,500 plus Vat.



Daytime Events

Last minute Summer

Autumn and Winter

Diamond Jubilee Year



Tower of London

Masters of the sword – Fri-Sun, 29 July - 29 August

Medieval knights and their ladies bring the Middle Ages to life with some friendly sword demonstrations and tales of chivalry.

Knight school – Mon-Thurs, 25 July – 31 August

Have you got what it takes to become a noble knight? Work the mighty siege engines, try on the armour and learn all the tricks of the trade.

Wild life at the Tower – 01-30 September

The royal menagerie was kept at the Tower between 1250 and 1850. Come and see the wonders of nature, the bizarre, the incredible and the frankly unbelievable, as the 'rarities' and 'curiosities' of the Tower through the ages are revealed as you've never seen them before with our new exhibition Royal Beasts!



Wild life at the Tower – 01-21 October 2011
Royal Beasts exhibition continues.

Good King? Bad King? – Life in the Medieval Palace – 31 Oct – 23 Dec, 02 Jan – 31 March

Knights and ladies gather together in the chambers of King Edward I, as the cold winter days drag on, they swap stories and experiences of their king. A great law giver, a loving husband, a ruthless tyrant, you decide! Learn the skills which lead to success at court, from chess playing to spinning wool, or even reading!

Medieval Christmas – 27 – 31 December

Edward I summons his large family together for one last Christmas before he invades Scotland – again! Sparks fly between the aged king and the Prince of Wales, while the beautiful young queen tries to keep the whole court happy with music, dancing, plays and the ever popular Court of Love.



New! Jewel House re-presented – April 2012 onwards

We will unveil a re-presented Jewel House to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. The collection will be redisplayed, relit and the stories of the significance of these unique items of royal regalia will be told showing them in their context of a thousand years of royal history.

Hampton Court Palace

The Other Palace – 6-7 August

Spend a summer's day in Christopher Wren's baroque masterpiece with William III and other colourful characters. Hear the gossip, sip champagne in the Privy Garden and forget about the Tudors for a while!

Tudor Cookery: 6-7 & 27-29 August, 03-04 September

Find out what tickled the Tudor tastebuds as our world-famous Tudor cooks prepare Henry VIII's banquet.

The Royal Chase – 27-29 August

The palace comes to life as Henry VIII entertains his first wife, Katherine of Aragon with sporting events such as falconry and horsemanship.



Tudor Cookery: 01-02 Oct, 05-06 Nov, 03-04 Dec

More tantalising Tudor treats from our famous Tudor cooks.

Ghost Tours – from 31 October 2011

Spooky tours return this winter with a palace warder guiding you through the shadowy state apartments and the deserted dark courtyards. Public tours run every Friday and Sunday costing £25 per person inc VAT, however groups can book private tours on alternative days depending on availability. The cost of a private tour is £1000 plus VAT, maximum 40 people. Call 0844 482 7777 for public tour places or +44 (0)20 3166 6311 to enquire about private tours.



Henry VIII's Christmas – 27 December 2011 – 02 January 2012

The King's new young wife Catherine Howard celebrates her first Christmas as Queen at Hampton Court Palace. With songs, stories, music and dance and the madcap humour of the king's fool, Will Somers, everything looks set for a Christmas to remember – but what to do about 'the King's dear sister' – his wife from earlier in the year, Anne of Cleves?



Tudor Cookery 04-05 February, 03-04 March 2012

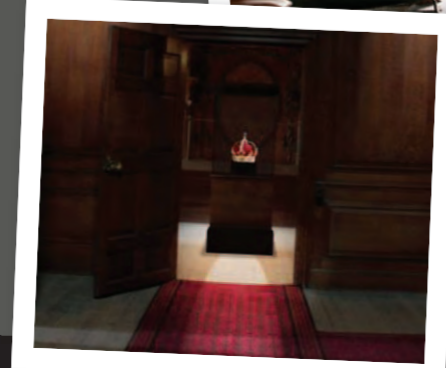
More tantalising treats to tickle the Tudor's taste buds.

New! The Wild, The Beautiful and The Damned – Easter – September 2012

A new exhibition exploring the sensual story of beautiful women, beautiful art, glamour, celebrity and love.

New! Henry VIII's Crown – late summer

The crowning glory of the six year re-presentation of the Tudor State Apartments will be the installation of a specially commissioned replica of Henry VIII's Crown. Made by the Crown Jeweller in silver gilt with semi-precious stones, the crown will be on show to visitors from late summer.



Banqueting House

Kingdom without a king! – 1-26 August

Relive the fear and excitement of 1649 as soldiers and citizens of the new Commonwealth come to terms with the trial and execution of Charles I.

New! Pop-up café – 18 July – 28 August

The perfect place to rest a while during a day of sightseeing, our 'pop-up' café will be offering a choice of two afternoon tea options, the Rubens Tea and the King's Tea as well as a two or three course Inigo Jones lunch package for groups. Prices start from just £19.50 per person for pre-booked groups of 15 or more. For group booking availability please contact Eamonn Clarke at 020 7517 3500.

New! Guaranteed opening hours 10.00 – 13.00hrs Monday – Saturday

This revolutionary and historic building holds many secrets of English royal history. The palace will be open to visitors every morning, except Sundays for groups and individuals to discover.



Morning opening guaranteed – Monday – Saturday

The Banqueting House, the only surviving part of the original Whitehall Palace will open from 10.00hrs to 13.00hrs daily, giving groups and travel trade the opportunity to plan a visit for clients in their itineraries.



Kensington Palace

Enchanted Evenings – 15 July & 19 August

Open until 21.00hrs, what could be more enchanting than a palace on a summer's evening? Experience the dazzling spectacle of the *Enchanted Palace* after dark, when the doors would normally be closed. Last admission 20.00hrs.



New! Eerie Evening Tours – 28, 29, 30 & 31 October

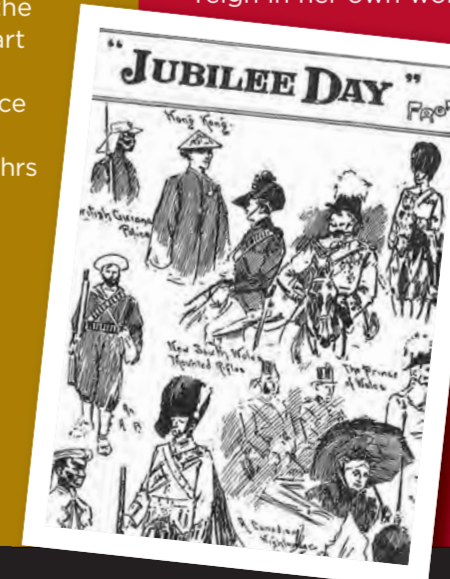
Enter into a unique eerie atmosphere of Kensington Palace at night. Tours are guided through the shadowy State Apartments where you will hear chilling tales of mysterious sights and strange happenings... Eerie evenings start at 18.45hrs, max 25 per tour, £20 per person inclusive of VAT, evening concludes at 20.30hrs. Advance booking essential.

Enchanted Palace: daily until 03 January 2012

It's your last chance to discover a very different experience at Kensington Palace with the multisensory *Enchanted Palace*. Journey through spellbound spaces and encounter a series of inspirational light installations, woven together with stories from the palace's famous princesses, Mary, Anne, Caroline, Charlotte, Victoria, Diana and Margaret. **NOTE – Kensington Palace will close entirely to the public from 04 January 2012 – 25 March 2012 inclusive.**

New! Victoria Revealed Opens 26 March 2012

A permanent exhibition of Queen Victoria's life and reign in her own words.



New! Jubilee – the view from the crowd 24 May – 31 October 2012

The story of Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee celebrations in 1897 from the view point of millions of people who joined in the festivities, from Duchesses to street sellers.

Kew Palace

Sunday evening tours – 14, 21 August & 4, 18 September

Delve into Kew Palace's secrets with a guided tour from 17.00hrs followed by a glass of wine and nibbles. £20 per person, max 30 people.

Georgian Dinner – 22 September

Your last chance this season to dine like a king in a royal palace. A maximum of 24 places are available for the 3 course dinner with wine and coffee, the evening includes a private tour and guest speaker. £100 per person.



2012 booking season opens!

Now is the time to plan your summer 2012 visits to Kew Palace. Once again we will offer the joint package for groups and travel trade clients for admission to Kew Gardens and the palace and for the first time groups can also include visits to the Georgian Kitchens. Book your visit on +44 (0)20 8332 5648.

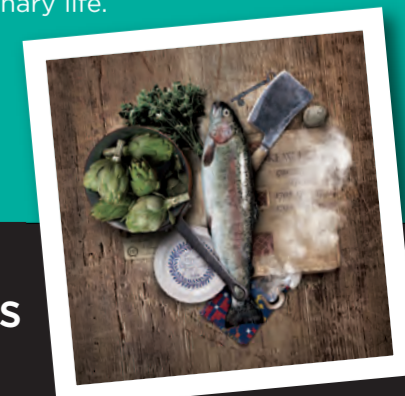


Jubilee season opens – 01 April – 30 September 2012

The dust sheets are off and shutters are up – welcome back to Kew!

New! Royal Kitchens at Kew April – September 2012

Untouched since Queen Charlotte's death in 1818 the rooms are a fascinating insight into Georgian culinary life.



...Continued from front page

Historic Royal Palaces

Set within the rooms Victoria lived as a child, the displays will include paintings by Franz Xaver Winterhalter and Sir Edwin Landseer, gifts which Queen Victoria exchanged with Prince Albert during their engagement in 1839 and her wedding dress. Glamorous jewellery, poignant mourning clothes and other personal items will sit alongside replica Victorian children's toys, try-on clothing and fun interactives for all visitors.

In addition to the story of Victoria, Kensington's historic King's and Queen's State Apartments will also be re-presented and opened to visitors along with a small evocative new display of dresses worn by Diana, Princess of Wales that will include items which will be on display here for the first time.

Jubilee - the view from the crowd, will tell the story of Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee celebrations in 1897 from the point of view of millions who joined in the festivities, from Duchesses to street sellers. It will emphasise the great enthusiasm and excitement surrounding the celebrations, 'Jubilee mania' as one paper described it, focussing in particular on the spectacular procession through the streets of London on 22 June 1897 when the Queen, members of the royal family and soldiers from across the globe made their way to a special service of thanksgiving at St Paul's Cathedral. The exhibition will showcase stunning loan objects associated with these exuberant Jubilee celebrations, from a range of museums and lenders.

Hampton Court Palace brushes up some Baroque Beauty

The fascination of love, glamour, celebrity, lust and power is nothing new! **The Wild, the Beautiful and the Damned**, an exhibition exploring beauty, debauchery and royal mistresses at the palace during the reigns of Charles II, James II, William III & Mary II and Anne (1660-1714)

will lure visitors to Hampton Court Palace from April until September 2012. The temporary exhibition will be the first of a planned ten year programme of re-presentations and improvements to the baroque palace of Hampton Court. At the heart of the exhibition will be portraits of Charles II's mistresses, including Nell Gwyn and Barbara Villiers, reunited for the first time at Hampton Court.



Need help?

Visit us!

Buy tickets for 15 or more people:

T: 0844 482 7770

E: traveltradeorders@hrp.org.uk

Calling from overseas, please dial

T: +44 20 3166 6000

Find out

about the five palaces on our website:

www.hrp.org.uk/traveltradeandgroups

Ask us questions!

T: +44 (0)20 3166 6311 or

E: groupsandtraveltrade@hrp.org.uk

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T: +44 (0)20 3166 6857

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Historic Royal Palaces

Historic Royal Palaces is the independent charity that looks after the Tower of London, Hampton Court Palace, the Banqueting House, Kensington Palace and Kew Palace. We help everyone explore the story of how monarchs and people have shaped society, in some of the greatest palaces ever built.

We receive no funding from the Government or the Crown, so we depend on the support of our visitors, members, donors, volunteers and sponsors.