The Great Fountain Garden
The garden gets its name from the great parterre with thirteen fountains, laid out for William III (1648–1702) and Mary II (1662–1694). Only one fountain remains. Queen Anne (1702–14) planted the large yew trees you see today but originally intended them to be smaller clipped specimens. In the 1820s, the herbaceous border was planted and it remains the largest in the world.

The Privy Garden
A privy, or private, garden has existed on the south side of the palace since first created for Henry VIII in 1533. In 1702, William III transformed the Privy Garden in the Baroque style with wrought iron screens by master of ironwork, Jean Tilou. Our gardeners have restored this garden, using the original plant varieties. The herbaceous border and statues were all part of William III’s original design.

The Tiltyard & Rose Garden
Henry VIII and his courtiers watched jousting, wrestling and sporting tournaments from five brick towers in the Tiltyard. William III saw more potential for the Tiltyard as a kitchen garden than as an area for sport and developed the grandest kitchen gardens in Europe.

Today the Tiltyard has been divided into smaller gardens including the Rose Garden. The one remaining brick tower contains the popular Tiltyard Café.

The Knot Garden
The Knot Garden was laid out in 1924 to show the type of garden that Henry VIII might have had at Hampton Court in the 16th century. It was designed by Eustace Law, a historian and guide who was resident at the palace.

The Pond Gardens
These sunken gardens were originally ponds used to hold freshwater fish, such as carp and bream, to feed Henry VIII and his court. When Queen Mary II arrived at Hampton Court, they had dried up but, being south facing and sheltered, they were ideal for her collection of exotic plants. Today they are planted with an impressive selection of spring and summer flowers.

The Wilderness
In the 17th century, the Wilderness was designed as a place for courtiers to wander and get enjoyably lost along interwinding paths and hedges clipped in geometric patterns. Today the Maze is the only part of the original layout that remains. The Wilderness is now famous for its glorious mass of flowering bulbs in the spring.

20th Century Garden
Previously known as the ‘Apprentice Garden’, this garden was used to train apprentices in the 1970s on how to plant and nurture trees and shrubs. Today, this quiet and secluded corner of Hampton Court is planted with ornamental trees, shrubs and hornbeam hedges. With plenty of seats and picnic benches, this is the perfect place to relax away from the crowds.

The Banqueting House
William III enjoyed small, intimate parties in the Banqueting House and it is still used for banquets today, hosting many prestigious events. Overlooking the River Thames, the beautifully painted interior is the work of Antonio Verrio who created many walled garden paintings and the ceiling. The room contains paintings of Henry VIII and Queen Elizabeth I.

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The Great Vine
Want to try grapes grown for a King? The Great Vine was planted in 1768 by renowned landscape gardener Lancelot ‘Capability’ Brown and is one of Hampton Court’s most famous features. It still produces a small crop of grapes every year which go on sale in the palace shops in late August/September.

Royal Tennis Court
Not to be confused with Lawn Tennis, Real Tennis goes back centuries. Henry VIII, Charles I, William III and Prince Albert all played at Hampton Court and you might still see a game on our historic court today.

Open summer months only and may close at short notice for tennis events.

The Lower Orangery Garden and Terrace
One of Queen Mary II’s greatest passions was collecting rare plants. She had the Orangery built to house her tender and exotic plant collection which was gathered from all over the world. Orange and lemon trees and cacti were popular specimens. You can see our collection of exotics displayed here from June to September.

Home Park
Henry VIII enclosed Home Park and used it for hunting and it remains home to three hundred fallow deer today. In the 17th century, Charles II had his Long Walk and the avenues of lime trees planted. Today the park is the setting for the RHS Hampton Court Flower Show and is designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest for invertebrates, veteran trees and acid grassland.

Kitchen Garden
For 150 years, the Kitchen Garden grew all the fruit and vegetables for Hampton Court Kitchen and the royal dining table. Our gardeners have reconstructed the planting and you can explore the types of fruits, vegetables and flowers that would have been grown in an 18th century kitchen garden.

The Magic Garden
The Magic Garden is a unique, interactive play garden, inspired by the history and stories of Hampton Court Palace. Built on the site of Henry VIII’s former Tiltyard, the garden includes a range of exciting elements for children and families to explore: from Tiltyard towers and aerial walkways to a fire-breathing dragon, a mythical beasts’ lair, a huge bejewelled crown and an underground grotto.

Visit our website for more information www.hrp.org.uk