

Building on success at Hillsborough Castle



Historic Royal Palaces has embarked on an exciting project to open the doors of Hillsborough Castle in Northern Ireland to the widest possible audience.

Plans to renovate the gardens, re-present the castle interiors and construct entirely new visitor facilities, including a car park, visitor centre and retail space, are now well underway. Most importantly for our group

visitors, the new car park will dramatically increase coach parking capacity from 6 to 16 spaces and the new groups reception area will make it even easier for your clients to come and spend an unforgettable day at the castle. The re-presentation of the castle will be completed in time for next year's summer opening from July 2018, with the remaining visitor facilities to be in place by the following summer.



Curious Kew

With all of the exciting developments at Kew in 2018, there has never been a better time to visit.

The newly restored Great Pagoda will be opening its doors to visitors in the spring, for all those brave enough to make the climb to the top! Kew Palace itself will also be hosting new interpretation to mark the 200th anniversary of Queen Charlotte's death. Guided tours of the palace are available during the day with one of our costumed experts at £6 per person. For something truly unique however, why not explore the



palace's hidden cellars and spooky attics on a Curious Kew evening tour at £15 plus VAT per person. Tour prices are additional to the Kew Gardens admission fee. Kew Palace will be open from 29 March until 30 September 2018. Contact groupsandtraveltrade@hrp.org.uk for more information.

Henry VIII's Kitchens come to life

In 2018, Hampton Court Palace's Tudor Kitchens will be reanimated with culinary smells, sounds and sights, recreating the well-oiled machine that powered Henry VIII's magnificent court.

This will include grand displays of food, complete with aromas, the heat of the fireplaces, and the bustling sound of the busy serjeants and their staff who operated the Kitchens – all of which has been driven by extensive curatorial research. We aim to create an intense, sensory experience which will allow your clients to be transported back in time to the court of Henry VIII. They will get the closest insight possible into the day-to-day running of Hampton Court Palace and the supply of its

courtiers and guests. While we work on this exciting project, there will be limited access to the kitchens for visitors from 2 October 2017 until 2 April 2018. The kitchens will then be closed entirely from 3 April until the grand reopening on 5 May.





History springs into action at the Tower of London

The Tower of London's dramatic history will be brought to life once more as our engaging live interpretation programmes return to delight your clients in early 2018.

From 10 to 18 February, England's greatest medieval fortress will fall under attack from all sides! Visitors must help our heroic guards defend the mighty Tower against its most dangerous enemies. From 19 February to 29 March, visitors will get a glimpse into the daily life in the Medieval Palace. Meet the knights and ladies of King Edward's court as they celebrate, work and plot in true medieval style.

Groups and Travel Trade bookings go online

2018 will see the full launch of Historic Royal Palaces' online group booking and Travel Trade B2B online booking service. Initially for bookings at the Tower of London and Hampton Court Palace, the service will allow you to make palace bookings 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The system will issue an e-ticket that once printed will be scanned on admission, cutting down queuing and allowing more time for your customers to enjoy the palaces. Please contact us to register your interest at groupsandtraveltrade@hrp.org.uk



Palace highlights

Tower of London Crown Jewels Daily Opening Ceremony Tue-Sat on request for groups Imprisonment at the Tower Spring 2018	Hampton Court Palace Group Guided Tours Daily on request Tudor Christmas 21 Dec 2017 to 1 Jan 2018 Henry's Kitchens re-presented From 5 May 2018	Kensington Palace Diana: Her Fashion Story Daily Group Morning Tours Wed-Fri on request Victoria's 200th Anniversary 2019
Banqueting House Hidden History Talks Daily, subject to availability Palace closed 22 February to 18 April 2018	Kew Palace Curious Kew Tours On request Pagoda Spring 2018	Hillsborough Castle Castle Tours Daily from July 2018 Christmas at Hillsborough December 2018

Contact us

Buy tickets

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Ask us questions!

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