

The Tudor Joust

This year, the palace and gardens of Hampton Court Palace will come alive with Tudor entertainment once more as they welcome back the grand spectacle of the Joust on 14 and 15 July.

This fast-paced and thrilling sport was a favourite of Henry VIII — having been a keen jouster himself, he held many a tournament within the palace grounds. Bring your clients to watch the noble knights compete for glory as the East Front Gardens ring out with the sound of charging horses' hooves and the clash of cold metal, recreating all the pomp and ceremony of this lavish court event. The Tudor Joust is included in admission. Why not complement the visit with one of our great-value group meal deals? Contact groupsandtraveltrade@hrp.org.uk for more information.



Sir Walter Raleigh's Story

Sir Walter Raleigh was one of the most high-profile prisoners to be held at the Tower of London and this year we will be marking the 400th anniversary of his death.

From June 2018, new interpretation in the Bloody Tower, where Raleigh was held captive, will tell the story of the Tower's high status prisoners. Visitors to the Tower from 20 to 28 October may even catch a glimpse of the man himself. In our special live interpretation, visitors will face the dangers and opportunities of the dashing Sir Walter, from marrying in secret to searching for the lost city of El Dorado, to see if they will make the right choices and 'Beat the Block'!



Conserving a masterpiece

This spring Banqueting House, the last complete surviving building of the lost Palace of Whitehall, will be closed to visitors from 22 February until 18 April.



This is to allow specialist conservators from all over Europe the opportunity to carry out the first ever full and systematic technical conservation study of the priceless Sir Peter Paul Rubens ceiling paintings and their framing in the Main Hall. These nine paintings were installed in 1635 to celebrate the reign of James I and show his apotheosis, or taking up into Heaven. They were commissioned by his son Charles I and still hang in the space they were designed for, set in the original richly-gilded coffering designed by Inigo Jones.

Book in your groups now for a freeflow visit or in-depth private tour from 19 April 2018 by contacting groupsandtraveltrade@hrp.org.uk

Go Medieval at the Tower

The Tower of London's marvellous medieval festival returns from 3 to 5 August 2018. Send your clients on a royal quest to meet characters from the medieval court, feel the weight of a real knight's sword and have a go at shooting a crossbow.

Visitors will have so much to take in, from the latest in medieval fashion in the costume tent, to the magnificent display of brave knights in full swordfighting action, all set in the famous Tower of London moat. As Go Medieval is included in the price of admission, groups and visitors can continue onwards to venture behind the Tower's mighty walls where nearly one thousand years of history and the fabulous finery of the Crown Jewels await. Groups can even make a day of it with one of our tempting lunch offers – contact groupsandtraveltrade@hrp.org.uk for more information.



Victoria Returns

Following a short period of closure for re-presentation works, an expanded version of the popular Victoria Revealed exhibition will open at Kensington Palace in spring 2018. Two new rooms will explain to visitors how Victoria retreated from public life following the death of her beloved Albert, and how the celebrations of her Golden and Diamond Jubilees finally

returned her firmly to public life. This exhibition also paves the way for 2019, a year that marks the 200th anniversary of Queen Victoria's birth at Kensington Palace. To commemorate this special occasion, Victoria's rooms will undergo a permanent re-presentation to tell the story of the young Princess Victoria and her fascinating life at the palace.

Palace highlights

Tower of London Hampton Court Palace **Kensington Palace** Imprisonment at the Tower **Henry's Kitchens Diana: Her Fashion Story** Summer 2018 re-presented Daily From 5 May 2018 Go Medieval at the Tower Victoria Revealed The Tudor Joust 3 to 5 August 2018 14 and 15 July 2018 Sir Walter Raleigh Victoria's 200th Anniversary live interpretation **Hampton Court Palace** 20 to 28 October 2018 **Food Festival** 25 to 27 August 2018 **Banqueting House Kew Palace** Hillsborough Castle **Hidden History Talks Curious Kew Tours Castle Tours** Daily, subject to availability On request Daily from July 2018 **Palace reopens** Pagoda **Christmas at Hillsborough** Summer 2018 19 April 2018 December 2018

Contact us

Buy tickets

T: +44 (0) 20 3166 6000 E: <u>traveltradeorders@hrp.org.uk</u> <u>www.hrp.org.uk</u>

Ask us questions!

T: + 44 (0) 20 3166 6311 or E: groupsandtraveltrade@hrp.org.uk

Host your event with us

T: +44 (0) 20 3166 6399 or E: <u>events@hrp.org.uk</u>

Souvenirs and Shopping

W: <u>www.historicroyalpalaces.com</u> E: <u>shop@hrp.org.uk</u>