Play Digital Missions

Download our 'Time Explorers' app and go on an interactive adventure around the palace. Become a secret spy at the Tudor court, find a gift for William III, plan a palace party or re-design Hampton Court for George I!

Using the app travel back in time to explore the palace, complete the digital challenges and meet characters from history to win your Mission badges!

Visit the Information Centre to find out more or download from the App Store or Google Play Store for free.



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Photography

Non-commercial photography and filming are allowed everywhere except the Chapel Royal, Royal Pew and special exhibitions.

Historic Royal Palaces is a safeguarding aware organisation and takes its responsibility to protect children and vulnerable people seriously. We may sometimes ask therefore that visitors refrain from filming or photographing other visitors.

The King Commands...

...that you share your experiences at court



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Hampton Court Palace



historicroyalpalaces

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Audio guides

Available until 17:00 from the Information Centre in Base Court in the following languages.



(Subject to availability)

A variety of special tours are available including options for families and partially sighted visitors.

Audio guides are included in your ticket price.

Not available for under 5's.

Things to remember



Please do not eat or drink inside the building.

Smoking and vaping are prohibited inside the palace and courtyards.

Please resist touching the magnificent but fragile objects that you will see displayed within the palace.

To protect these historic objects we have to use window blinds to keep light levels low and we place fragile items behind barriers.

Closing times

17:00

Fountain Court Café

17:15

The Magic Garden Georgian Story

17:30

Privy Kitchen Café Royal Tennis Court The Formal Gardens The Baroque Story The Chocolate Kitchens Cumberland Art Gallery

17:45

Last entry to the palace routes and shops Fountain Court toilets

17:55

East Gate
Base Court toilets

18:00

Tiltyard Café and West Gate



14 - 15 July 2018



Tudor Joust Programme

Experience the theatrical spectacle and sporting prowess of the joust as the palace and gardens come alive with Tudor entertainment.

Use this guide together with the Palace Map to find the event locations and plan your day.





Tudor Joust Programme

Immerse yourself in the court of Henry VIII as the King hosts a spectacular jousting tournament. You might come across members of his court in the palace, or you can join them to watch the knights compete for glory at the joust. The King has also laid on other entertainments for your delight and enjoyment.

11:00 15 mins	Royal Procession Horse and riders exchange greetings with the King. Base Court
11:30 15 mins	Sword Fighting Display Courtiers practice the art of defence. East Front Gardens - Joust Arena

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11:45 30 mins	Arming of the Knights Watch the brave knights prepare for the joust.
	East Front Gardens - Round Pavillion
12:30	The Joust

	East Front Gardens - Joust Arena
	the joust.
45 mins	Immerse yourself in the thrill and spectacle of

14.00	Tudor Music
30 mins	Meet some of Henry VIII's court musicians, their
	wonderful instruments and hear them play.
	East Front Gardens

14:50	Sword Fighting Display
15 mins	Courtiers practice the art of defence.
	East Front Gardens - Joust Arena

14.45 American of the Maladete

14:45	Arming of the Knights
30 mins	Watch the brave knights prepare for the joust.
	East Front Gardens - Round Pavillion

15:30	The Joust
45 mins	Immerse yourself in the thrill and spectacle of
	the joust.

East Front Gardens - Joust Arena

Throughout the day you can also watch King Henry VIII's Cooks cooking meat over a roasting pit; and meet the Tudor surgeon waiting to treat any injured knights.



The Court Must Have a Queen

By Ade Solanke 11:30 and 14:45 (35mins approx) The Great Hall

Henry VIII is looking for a fourth wife after the death of his beloved Jane Seymour and Thomas Cromwell is overseeing the marriage treaty between Henry and Anne of Cleves. The palace is a flurry of activity, but Henry's mood threatens to upset weeks of planning...

The Joust

Jousting is very simple and has one basic aim. Hit your opponent accurately in the allowed areas. One of three things will then happen:

- a) The lance might skid off this is called an 'attaint'.
- b) A rider might be unhorsed.
- The lance will break cleanly, demonstrating maximum accuracy and power.

Heralds, along with the Knight Marshal, control and facilitate what goes on in the tiltyard, the area where the joust takes place. They are responsible for the correct displays of heraldry and letting the participants and royal party know what is going on. Each jouster has the services of a specific Herald. Because the jousters cannot hear or see very well inside their armour, the Herald is their eyes and ears.

How a joust is scored

Points are awarded for the following:

- A blow to any part of the body from the top of the saddle steel (the top of the front of the saddle) to the charnel (the lower edge of the helmet). This includes the arms and shield.
 - An attaint here carries 1 point
 - A broken lance here carries 2 points
- 2. A blow to the helmet (the crest is not considered part of the helmet so a strike there carries no points).

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- An attaint here carries 3 points
- A broken lance here carries 5 points
- 3. Lances that break coronel (the shaped cap that is placed on the very tip of the lance) to coronel.
 - 5 points awarded to each jouster

Feasting at the Joust



Since the time of Cardinal Wolsey, Hampton Court has been a place for feasting. Enjoy food and refreshments in the East Front Gardens as you watch the joust.

Visit the Tiltyard Cafe or Privy Kitchen Cafe for further refreshments.

Don't miss out on our other activities and tours



Henry VIII's Crown



A replica of Henry's Crown is on display in the Royal Pew 10:00 - 17:30 (12:30 - 15:00 on Sundays)

No photography please



Mantegna's Triumphs of Caesar

Explore one of the most important sets of paintings in the Royal Collection.

Gallery open daily 10:30-13:00 and 14:00-17:00



The King's Wardrobe

Make sure you're dressed suitably for court with a traditional velvet cloak from the Wardrobe (subject to availability).

Information Centre, Base Court



Great Vine Talk

Meet our Vinekeeper and find out about the world's largest vine.

King's Eating Room, William III's Apartments Tuesdays and Thursdays at 13:30 (20 mins) Until 31 August



Garden History Tours

Discover how the palace gardens evolved over the centuries.

Daily until 30 September At 14:00 (60 mins) Meet at the East Gate



Meet a Palace Gardener

Wednesdays until 27 September At 13:30 (30 mins) Meet at the East Gate

Horse-drawn Charabanc rides

Tour the East Front Gardens in Victorian style! June and October: weekends and bank holidays July, August and September: daily 11:00-17:00 1 wheelchair space available on 11:00 ride Adult £5, Child £3

Produce sales

Tuesday 12 June until the end of October 13:30-14.30 Vegetables and fruit that would have graced the King's table will be available to buy from the garden stall.

Tuesdays only in the Kitchen Garden.