

MORE THAN GOOD MANNERS

Royal London Tours



BACKGROUND

The Royal London Tours are designed as a palette of opportunities for clients seeking a fascinating and unique insight into aspects of London related to the broad theme of Royalty past and present.

While the itineraries include some well known iconic sites clients will also have the opportunity to experience lesser known aspects of Royal life in London. The tours will be escorted throughout by a representative of More Than Good Manners.

The itineraries are based on **four separate day options** and **three optional evening itineraries** although they can be packaged in combination as required.

All costs are available on application and based on a group of ten although are also available on request for smaller or larger groups.

The itineraries **do not include accommodations or transportation or meals** unless specified although for meals where indicated as 'extra costs' can be organised on request.

THE ITINERARIES

ROYAL LONDON RIVER

ONE DAY

09.30 Visit and guide tour of **Westminster** Abbey. **Westminster Abbey** is a 'living pageant' of British history and ideal starting point of any Royal tour to London.

Westminster Abbey is a large, mainly Gothic church. It is the traditional place of coronation and burial site for English, later British and later still (and currently) monarchs of the Commonwealth realms.

11.15 Depart for Embankment for Thames riverboat cruise from Westminster Pier and **lunch** cruise on the Wyndham with Thames Boat hire OR with the Havengore. **(Lunch costs for either option included).**

Havengore was built as a 'ceremonial launch' and survey vessel, and operated on the Thames for almost 40 years. Her finest hour came on 30 January 1965 when, watched by a worldwide audience of 350 million people, she carried Sir Winston Churchill from Tower Pier to Festival Pier as part of his State Funeral. She has now been fully restored to her former glory and has once again resumed her role with

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ceremonial duties, such as leading Armistice Day on the Thames and officially starting the Thames Annual Barge Race.

13.45 Disembark at Blackfriars pier for St Paul's Cathedral.

14.00 Visits to St Pauls Cathedral.

St Paul's is London's cathedral and embodies the spiritual life and heritage of the British people. The present St Paul's is the fifth cathedral to have stood on the site since 604, and was built between 1675 and 1710, after its predecessor was destroyed in the Great Fire of London. This was the first cathedral to be built after the English Reformation in the sixteenth century, when Henry VIII removed the Church of England from the jurisdiction of the Pope and the Crown took control of the Church's life.

Among the events marked at St Paul's are royal occasions. In 1897 Queen Victoria chose to commemorate her diamond jubilee here. More recently Queen Elizabeth II has celebrated her jubilees at St Paul's, and also her 80th birthday in 2006. Royal weddings have been held here as well: the marriage of Catherine of Aragon to Prince Arthur in 1501 and famously the wedding of HRH the Prince of Wales to Lady Diana Spencer in 1981.

16.30 Afternoon tea in the Restaurant at St Paul's Cathedral.
(extra cost – on application)

WINDSOR CASTLE AND WINDSOR GREAT PARK

ONE DAY

08.30 Depart for tour of Windsor Castle, the largest and oldest occupied castle in the world, is one of the official residences of Her Majesty The Queen. The Castle's dramatic site encapsulates 900 years of British history. The visit will also incorporate the photographic exhibition: 'The Queen 60 Photographs for 60 Years'. This comprises sixty photographs of The Queen, including the work of leading press photographers of the past six decades, brought together for a display at Windsor Castle to celebrate Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee. The exhibition presents a portrait of The Queen's reign as captured in fleeting moments on both official occasions and at relaxed family gatherings.

12.30 Lunch at either the Harte and Garter Hotel or Castle Hotel, Windsor.
(extra cost – on application)

14.30 We continue our day by taking a tour by coach around the Windsor Great Park area. The Great Park is recorded in Saxon documents as a hunting forest used by monarchs and nobles. Adjoining the royal residence of Windsor, it has evolved over the centuries, under the patronage of Kings and Queens.

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Located in the south-east corner of the Park, The Royal Landscape has been developed as an area of recreation over several centuries. The most active period of landscaping took place in the 18th Century, under William Augustus, Duke of Cumberland. He created Virginia Water, and also introduced the new fashion for garden design, with a more natural, picturesque landscape adorned with follies.

16.00 Afternoon tea at Savill Garden (**extra cost – on application**).

Savill Garden covers approximately 35 acres and dates from 1932 when its construction was started by Eric Savill, Deputy Ranger of Windsor Great Park, with the support of King George V and Queen Mary.

ROYAL LONDON SHOPPING TOUR

ONE DAY

09.30 The day starts with an orientation tour by coach for a tour of the area around St James's Street, Pall Mall, St James's Palace, the Mall and environs.

There is no street in London where the ghosts of the 18th century crowd so thickly as St. James's Street. Adjacent Pall Mall may be described as the heart of clubland with its great places standing cheek by jowl, their marbled halls and vast rooms vying with one another in Victorian ostentation, but turn up St. James's Street toward Piccadilly and the elegance of Regency architecture at once asserts itself. The old coffee and chocolate houses once patronised by men of fashion, now clubs like Boodle's, Brooks' and White's, still their stylish facades to passersby.

This tour also offers the opportunity to visit some very Royal related retailers and artisans and will include:

The OShea Gallery. The OShea Gallery houses a collection of artwork including antique maps and prints, and also a [permanent collection of works by the famous British cartoonist Annie Tempest. Accessed through French doors at the rear of the Gallery lies Pickering Place - not only the smallest square in Great Britain with original gas lighting, but also the last place in Great Britain where a duel was fought.

John Lobb. John Lobb has been making the finest shoes and boots for gentlemen since 1866 in London and 1902 in Paris. Its rich heritage is reinforced by timeless qualities of craftsmanship, service and style - attributes that are now available to a wider international John Lobb audience. The company continues to maintain its bespoke shoe-making tradition in Paris, while also retaining core bespoke principles in the manufacture of its expanding ready-to-wear collection of shoes and leather goods.

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Locks. Locks (hatters) was established not later than 1676 to wait upon the Court at St. James's the business now serves customers from all corners of the earth. It reflects continually the passage of events in the 'corridors of power' radiating from Westminster and St. James's, for its conduct has always been sensitive to economic, political and social change.

12.30 Wine tasting and lunch in private room at Berry Bros (vintner to HRH the Queen) Dating back to 1698, Berry Bros have amassed over 300 years of experience and genuinely do know everything there is to know about the wine business. Experienced, enthusiastic staff are on hand to guide customers through the fine old selection of ports and clarets as well as the extensive wines on offer **(lunch and wine tasting included in cost but drinks consumer during lunch are extra cost).**

14.00 Tour continues to Burlington Arcade, the Royal Jewellers Garrards, and Robinson Pelham.

Burlington Arcade. Burlington Arcade was built to the order of Lord George Cavendish, younger brother of the 5th Duke of Devonshire, who had inherited the adjacent Burlington House, on what had been the side garden of the house and was reputedly to prevent passers-by throwing oyster shells and other rubbish over the wall of his home. His architect was Samuel Ware. The Arcade opened in 1819. It consisted of a single straight top-lit walkway lined with seventy-two small two storey units.

Garrard. The pedigree of Garrard dates back to its founder George Wickes who first entered his mark at Goldsmiths' Hall in 1722. In 1735, Wickes became firmly established when he went into business on his own. Soon after, he was appointed as goldsmith to the Prince of Wales Since 1843, when Queen Victoria bestowed the honour of Crown Jeweller on the company; Garrard has served six successive monarchs. Garrard is particularly acknowledged for its role in connection with H.M. Tower of London. On display in the Jewel House are the most important jewels in the United Kingdom and it is an honour for Garrard to be associated with this collection.(Garrard is responsible for the cleaning and maintenance of the jewels on display at the Jewel House at H. M Tower of London).

Robinson Pelham. Robinson Pelham is a boutique jeweller who made the earrings Kate Middleton wore at her wedding to HRH the Prince of Wales.

(Alternatively a visit to gentlemen's' tailors on Jermyn Street or Saville Row can be arranged).

16.00 Afternoon tea at Fortnum and Mason **(extra cost – on application).**

TWO ROYAL PALACES – HAMPTON COURT PALACE AND KENSINGTON PALACE

ONE DAY

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08.30 Depart for Hampton Court Palace Hampton **Court Palace**, located just to the south west of London, is a royal palace although it has not been inhabited by the British royal family since the 18th century. It was originally built for Cardinal Wolsey, a favourite of King Henry VIII, circa 1514; in 1529, as Wolsey fell from favour, the palace was passed to the King, who enlarged it.

The following century, William III's massive rebuilding and expansion project intended to rival Versailles was begun.^[1] Work halted in 1694, leaving the palace in two distinct contrasting architectural styles, domestic Tudor and Baroque. The palace houses many works of art and furnishings from the Royal Collection, mainly dating from the two principal periods of the palace's construction, the early Tudor (Renaissance) and late Stuart to Early Georgian period and is notable for its formal gardens, laid out in grand style in the late 17th century.

12.30 Lunch in the Snug, Tiltyard Café, Hampton Court Palace.
(extra cost – on application)

14.00 Depart from Hampton Court Palace.

15.00 Kensington Palace was the birthplace of Queen Victoria and has been a Royal Residence in more recent times of Diana, Princess of Wales and other members of the Royal family. The tour will include the opportunity to view 'Victoria Revealed' a new permanent exhibition which explores Queen Victoria's life and reign through her own words.

EVENING TOURS – OPTIONAL

The following tours are proposed as optional extras which can be added on subject to availability and schedules to any of the day itineraries.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF ARMS AND HM TOWER OF LONDON

18.00 Tour of Royal College of Arms The College of Arms is located on land bequeathed to 'heralds' by Queen Mary Tudor in 1555. The original building was raised to the ground in the Great Fire of London, but happily the records were not lost and now reside along with later documents in the current building, built in 1671-88.

The College of Arms is the official repository for coats of arms and pedigrees of English, Welsh, Northern Irish and Commonwealth families and their descendants.

Heralds run their own private practices to carry out genealogical research, advisory services and heraldic work on behalf of fee-paying clients. Often the work involves clarifying the rights to assume an existing coat of arms or working on requests for grants of arms.

As interest in family history grows, many people turn to the heralds to provide documented proof of family ancestry. Coats of arms are granted by Letters Patent from the senior heralds or Kings of Arms, as they are known.

Grants may be made to corporations as well as individuals.

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Heralds have been associated with households of royalty and nobility since the 12th Century. In early times they might perform duties as diplomats, messengers or army staff officers and possess great knowledge of the symbols used to adorn shields and banners. Today, the heralds continue the tradition of collating and recording family history to ensure this unique collection is preserved for all. Recording of new and updated material is equally vital for future generations of historians and genealogists.

COSTS

Costs are based on a group of ten.

19.30 Depart Royal College of Arms by foot for Swan at the Globe Restaurant for dinner. Swan at the Globe is a contemporary British restaurant located at Shakespeare's Globe and is situated directly opposite St Pauls Cathedral on the bank of the River Thames.

(extra cost – on application)

ROYAL JEWELS

18.30 Guests arrive at HM Tower of London for private viewing of the Crown Jewels. Drinks and canapés are served during the tour.

COSTS

Costs are based on a group of ten.

20.00 Guests depart for Northbank Restaurant for dinner. The Northbank Restaurant offers contemporary British Cuisine in a friendly relaxed setting and is located beside the Millennium Bridge on the bank of the river Thames **(extra cost – on application)**.

EVENING AT NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY (THURSDAYS OR FRIDAYS ONLY)

'THE QUEEN: ART AND IMAGE'

18.30 Tour of **The Queen: Art and Image**. To mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in 2012, the National Portrait Gallery is staging an innovative touring exhibition bringing together sixty of the most remarkable and resonant images of Elizabeth II. The exhibition includes formal painted portraits, official photographs, press images and works by contemporary artists and explores the evolution of the way The Queen has been portrayed during the sixty years of her reign.

COSTS

Costs are based on a group of ten.

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20.00 Dinner at the Portrait Restaurant (**extra cost – on application**).

ADDITIONAL SPECIAL OPTIONS (PRICES ON APPLICATION)

PRIVATE EVENING TOUR OF BUCKINGHAM PALACE (AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER ONLY)

For any clients wishing to visit London during **August and September**, we would propose to offer a further evening option - a private tour of Buckingham Palace and Gardens. Please note that tours accommodate a maximum of **25 people on any one tour**.

Costs on application

PHOTOGRAPH SESSION WITH THE ROYAL PHOTOGRAPHER HUGO BERNARD

For any clients wishing to do so it is possible to arrange a private sitting and photograph session with Hugo Bernard who was commissioned to take photographs at HRH the Prince of Wales' and The Duchess of Cambridge's Wedding. **Costs on application**