



WORLD HERITAGE SITE

Discover, Explore and Be Inspired



Group Visits 2016

BUY ONE DAY, GET 12 MONTHS FREE

A Warm Welcome

Whether your group is looking for an experience infused with history and the great outdoors, or special events and themed talks & tours, Blenheim Palace has it all.

Receive a warm welcome into the home of the 12th Duke and Duchess of Marlborough and the birthplace of Sir Winston Churchill. Wonder at this masterpiece of 18th century Baroque architecture. Explore our World Heritage Site with over 2000 acres of 'Capability' Brown landscaped Parkland and Formal Gardens.

Highlights for 2016 include the first ever Countryfile Live event, the introduction of new 'Upstairs' and 'Downstairs' tour experiences inside the Palace, and a range of events and activities centred around the life and work of 'Capability' Brown. We aim to offer your group an enriching day out and hope that they will take pleasure in exploring this national treasure.

Blenheim Palace is Britain's Greatest Palace and offers visitors a precious time, every time.

The Palace

With over 300 years of history to discover, Blenheim Palace delivers an awe-inspiring experience for groups. The Palace sets the delicate detail of its stunning portraits, tapestries and furniture against the scale and ambition of its interior architecture, characterised by ornate ceilings and striking stonework.





Park and Formal Gardens

Blenheim Palace sits amongst more than 2000 acres of beautifully landscaped Parkland and Formal Gardens.

Parkland

Admire the beautiful scenery within the spectacular Parkland landscaped by Lancelot 'Capability' Brown, with an unrivalled combination of unspoilt natural beauty, wildlife and historical monuments.

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Formal Gardens

A collection of stunning gardens including the Water Terraces, Rose Garden, Secret Garden, Churchill Memorial Garden and The Duke's Italian Garden.

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The Pleasure Gardens

Includes the Butterfly House, Lavender Garden, Marlborough Hedge Maze and the 'Blenheim Bygones' Exhibition and can be reached by the miniature train* every 30 minutes from the Palace (daily during the main season), or a 15 minute walk.

**Small additional charge, 50p single journey, under 5s ride free.*

Shop and Eat

Our cafés and restaurants cater for all tastes, serving locally sourced, fresh food every day. We have a range of dining options for groups, from a light bite to formal dining and Afternoon Tea, which can all be arranged by making a prior reservation. For menus, prices and to book please contact our Group Sales Team.

Our exclusive shops offer a wide variety of souvenirs and locally made products, with many ranges exclusive to Blenheim Palace. Whether it's a gift for a loved one or a treat for yourself, you are sure to find the perfect reminder of your visit to take home.





Tours and Exhibitions

Enrich your visit with any of our huge range of specialist tours and fascinating exhibitions.

State Room Tours

(30 - 40 minutes)

English-speaking guided tours of the State Rooms run daily, except on Sundays and Bank Holiday weekends, when a free-flow system operates. These tours are included in the price of a ticket but if your group would prefer a private guide (English or foreign language), these can be booked at a supplementary fee of £38 per guide. (30 people maximum per guide).

Private Apartment Tours

Discover the rooms in which the Marlborough family have lived for generations, and learn how family life at Blenheim Palace has changed over the past 300 years with this exclusive tour of 'The Duke of Marlborough's Private Apartments'. New for 2016, visitors have the opportunity to see the Duke's Master Bedroom and Dressing Room.

Please note this tour is not accessible for wheelchair or buggy users, incurs an additional charge, must be booked on the day and is subject to seasonality and availability.

New 'Upstairs' and 'Downstairs' Tours

We have two new tour experiences for visitors in 2016. For the first time in our history, the bedrooms used by the family and their illustrious guests across the Palace's history can be explored. In addition, tours of the areas historically and still used by household staff run daily, giving an insight into life 'downstairs'.

These tours incur additional charges, must be booked on the day and are subject to availability.

Celebrating 300 years of Capability Brown

The year 2016 marks the 300th anniversary of the birth of celebrated landscape architect, Lancelot 'Capability' Brown. Blenheim Palace is one of the finest examples of Brown's work, and from 13th February - 2nd May 2016 we will have a new temporary exhibition that will share his work here across the time he was commissioned (1763 - 1774) with a range of never-before-seen elements. We will also host a range of other activities and events, including a dedicated trail and specialist talks and tours.



The Churchill Exhibition

(30 - 40 minutes)

Sir Winston Churchill was born at Blenheim Palace in November 1874. Our dedicated exhibition, which was reinvigorated in 2015, is set around the room in which Churchill was born and reveals a personal side of our 'Greatest Briton' through photos, extracts from his diaries, artefacts and a number of other fascinating elements.

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'Churchills' Destiny – The story of two great war leaders'

Set in the old stables, this exhibition celebrates the parallels of two successful military leaders, Sir Winston Churchill and his ancestor the 1st Duke of Marlborough, for whom Blenheim Palace was built.

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Blenheim Palace: The Untold Story

(40 minutes)

A fascinating interactive visitor experience bringing to life events of the Marlborough family and the household staff over the past three centuries. The experience is an automated tour with audio and visual narrative throughout. Language translations are available at the entrance.

Please note this experience is not suitable for wheelchair and buggy users. A short film of the experience is available in our Indoor Cinema.

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Buggy Tours

We have a range of buggy tours available, including a scenic trip round the Queen Pool complete with historical anecdotes and a photography tour of the Formal Gardens.

These tours are subject to weather conditions and incur additional charges.



Themed Talks and Tours for Groups

Themed talks and tours are a perfect way to offer your group a more specialised experience, packaged to include refreshments on arrival, a talk on your chosen subject and a private tour of the Palace.

Themed talks and tours for groups look at some of the personalities, periods and significant developments at Blenheim Palace in more detail.

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2016 Talks and Tours

- 'Capability' Brown: Visionary or Vandal?
- WWI at Blenheim Palace: Tales from the Trenches
- Sarah the Indomitable Duchess
- Running a Great Estate
- 300 years of the Palace's History
- Lights, Camera, Action! Filming at Blenheim Palace
- Odd Men and Necessary Women
- WWII at Blenheim Palace: Evacuees and Espionage
- Sir Winston Churchill and Blenheim Palace
- Paintings and Portraits
- The Military Marlboroughs
- Restoration and Conservation
- Christmas at Blenheim Palace (festive season only)

For further information and a full list of themed talks and tours please contact the Group Sales Team.



Events

There is something for everyone to enjoy in our busy year-round calendar. Highlights for groups include...

Temporary 'Capability' Brown exhibition
13th February - 2nd May

Cotswolds Art and Antique Dealers Association (CADA) Antiques Fair*
21st - 24th April

The Blenheim Palace Food Festival
28th - 30th May

Her Majesty The Queen's 90th Birthday Celebration
12th June

Nocturne Live Concerts in the Great Court*
23rd - 26th June

The Blenheim Palace Flower Show
17th - 19th June

The Pre'50 American Auto Club 'Rally of the Giants'
10th July

Battle Proms Picnic Concert*
16th July

Countryfile Live*
4th - 7th August

Blenheim Palace Festival of Transport
28th - 29th August

Salon Privé Supercar Show
3rd September

Blenheim Palace International Horse Trials*
17th - 20th September

Luna Open Air Cinema*
16th - 18th September

Blenheim Palace Festival of Literature, Film and Music*
22nd - 25th September

Christmas at Blenheim Palace
5th November - 18th December

Living Crafts for Christmas
17th - 20th November

For more information and a full list of events please visit www.blenheimpalace.com

** Separate admission charges apply.*



Helpful Information

Booking

To ensure that your visit to Blenheim Palace is as both enjoyable and efficient as possible, we would like to request that you book your visit in advance.

Please contact our Group Sales Team:

Tel: 01993 815600

Email: groups@blenheimpalace.com

Payment Methods

Upon arrival, tour leaders should go to the Flagstaff Visitor Information Point to arrange payment and collect tickets. A single payment is necessary for an entire group to qualify for group rates. Cheques should be made out to 'Blenheim Visitors'. Major credit cards and debit cards are accepted. Tour and Coach Operators wishing to set up an accounts system with us should contact the Groups Sales Team in advance.

- Groups constitute a minimum of 15 paying visitors
- Children under five years are admitted free of charge
- Blue Badge Guides, Carers and coach drivers are offered complimentary admission to the Palace, Park and Gardens. In addition, coach drivers will be given a £5 voucher for use in any of our on-site cafés.

Accessibility

Every effort is made to ensure that our visitors are able to enjoy their visit to the Palace. The State Rooms are accessible by wheelchair via an electric lift and those with walking difficulties may borrow one of the Palace's wheelchairs for the State Rooms tour. Wheelchairs and mobility scooters are available free of charge on a first come, first-served basis (a small refundable deposit is required for mobility scooters).

To see our full access statement please visit our website.

Buy One Day, Get 12 Months Free

Ticket for the Palace, Park and Gardens can be converted to Annual Passes for free! This allows unlimited entry to Blenheim Palace for an entire year from the time of purchase, plus free or discounted entry to a number of our events.

For full details and terms and conditions visit
www.blenheimpalace.com

Opening Times 2016

Opening Hours	
Park	9.00 – 18.00 or dusk if earlier
Formal Gardens	10.00 – 17.30
Palace	10.30 – 17.30 (last admission 16:45)

Opening Dates	
Main Season	13th – 21st February
	25th March – 30th October
Low Season	22nd February – 24th March
	31st October – 18th December*

Admission Prices 2016

Main Season	
Palace, Park & Gardens	2016
Adult	£14.80
Concession	£12.50
Child	£7.70
Park & Gardens	
Adult	£8.30
Concession	£6.60
Child	£3.80
Low Season	
Palace, Park & Gardens	2016
Adult	£12.30
Concession	£10.70
Child	£6.90
Park & Gardens	
Adult	£6.50
Concession	£5.00
Child	£2.50

*Prices and opening times are subject to change. *Excluding the Living Crafts for Christmas weekend when high season prices apply.*

Themed Talk and Tour Prices 2016 (includes Palace entry)

	Groups High Season	Groups Low Season
Adult	£23.30	£20.80
Concession	£21.00	£19.20
Child	£16.20	£15.40

Planning Your Journey

By Road

Eight miles north-west of Oxford, on the A44 Evesham Road, Blenheim Palace is easily accessible from London and Birmingham.

Journey Durations

From Oxford 20 minutes; from central London one hour 30 minutes; Stratford upon Avon 45 minutes; Bath one hour 30 minutes.

By Train

Trains run regularly from London Paddington, Marylebone and Birmingham to Oxford.

For all rail enquiries visit: www.nationalrail.co.uk or call: 08457 484950

By Bus

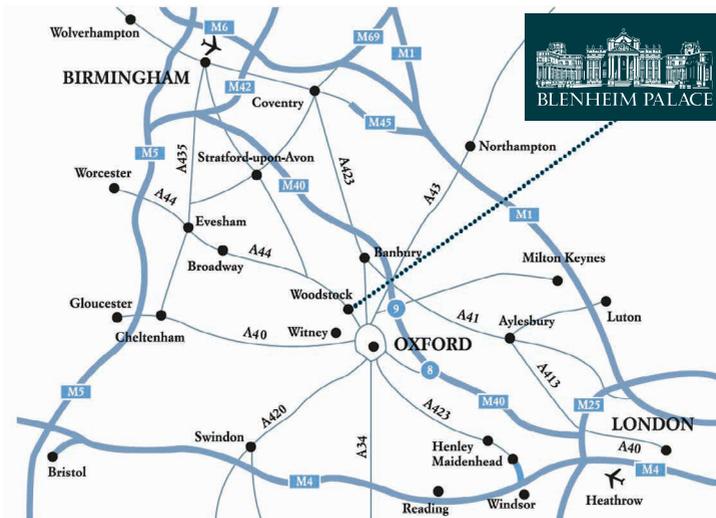
The S3 bus service to Woodstock runs every 30 minutes from Oxford Train Station and Gloucester Green bus station and stops at the Palace gates. For bus/coach enquiries visit: www.stagecoachbus.com or call: 01865 772250

Parking

Free car and coach parking is available in the grounds.

Woodstock

Blenheim Palace is situated in Woodstock, a picturesque town that boasts boutique hotels, shops and restaurants in a historic setting. For more information visit www.wakeuptowoodstock.com or www.visitoxfordandoxfordshire.com



For more information and to book

visit www.blenheimpalace.com call 01993 815600

or email groups@blenheimpalace.com

Blenheim Palace | Woodstock | Oxfordshire | OX20 1PP

Blenheim Palace reserves the right to change any of its opening hours and events or to restrict access at any time without notice. You are strongly advised to check the relevant details before visiting.