

HATFIELD HOUSE

Group Visits 2016



www.hatfield-house.co.uk



Welcome to Hatfield House and Gardens

This fine Jacobean House was built by Robert Cecil, chief advisor to Queen Elizabeth I. It has been in the Cecil family for over 400 years and is the home to his descendants, the 7th Marquess and Marchioness of Salisbury, who live in and care for the House today.

Our 2016 visitor season begins on Saturday 26 March through until Friday 30 September. The House is ideally situated for group visits - just 21 miles north of London, easily reached by train and coach being only a few minutes from the A1 motorway.

We look forward to welcoming your group to Hatfield House.



Discover the House

The History of Hatfield House

From 1607-11, Robert Cecil, 1st Earl of Salisbury built Hatfield House adjoining the site of the Old Palace of Hatfield. The House was splendidly decorated for entertaining the Royal Court, with state rooms rich in paintings, fine furniture and tapestries.



Visitors can see superb examples of Jacobean craftsmanship throughout Hatfield House, such as the Grand Staircase with its fine carving and the rare stained glass window in the private chapel.

On display in the House are many historic mementoes collected by the Cecils, one of England's foremost political families.

Explore the Gardens

The Garden dates from the early 17th century when Robert Cecil employed John Tradescant the Elder to collect plants for his new home. Tradescant travelled all over Europe to bring back trees, bulbs, plants and fruit trees, which had never previously been grown in England.

Enjoy the West Garden's pleached lime walk, beautiful blue and silver border and the fascinating Longitude dial along with the Old Palace Garden. Take a walk down through the mature beech and oak trees of the Woodland Garden. Bluebells, wild flowers and narcissi cover the ground in the spring and there is a growing collection of magnolias, camellias, prunus, sorbus and malus alongside the paths. 19th century rhododendrons still survive and there are many late-flowering shrubs like styrax, eucryphia hoheria and halesia as well as a magnificent hydrangea walk where many varieties of hydrangea paniculata line the grass paths to the fledgling Yew House.



East Garden

The East Garden is located on the private side of the House and was laid out by the 5th Marquess of Salisbury. This part of the Garden has the 17th century 'New Pond' and elegant parterres, topiary, rare plants are a delight for the gardening enthusiast



and for those wishing to spend a quiet time in idyllic surroundings. The East Garden is open on Wednesdays only by kind permission of Lady Salisbury.

Enjoy the Park

Hatfield House is the centre of a large agricultural estate with extensive parkland. Visitors can enjoy marked walks through the woodland and by the tranquil riverside. Pick up a leaflet on arrival from one of our kiosks.



Veteran Tree Trail

In the Park there are some hugely imposing oak, hornbeam and beech pollards. The Estate takes great pride in this natural heritage and has a policy of encouraging natural regeneration from these trees and creating new pollards for future generations to appreciate. Visitors can purchase a booklet detailing the history of the trees and follow a trail around the Park, taking in not only the Veteran Oaks but some of the newly created woodlands, such as Jubilee Wood. The Queen Elizabeth Oak Tree marks the place where the young Princess Elizabeth first heard of her accession to the throne.

Hatfield Park Farm

www.hatfieldparkfarm.co.uk

Our farm on the west side of Hatfield House shows the animals in a natural countryside setting. The farm features animals such as donkeys, pigs, sheep, cows and ponies as well as many types of ducks, chickens and geese. There are seasonal demonstrations including lambing and sheering.

Guided Tours

Why not book a guided tour of Hatfield House for your group

A dedicated guide will take your group on a journey through over 400 years of history of the Jacobean House.

These pre-booked tours last for an hour and there are various timeslots available throughout the day. The tour cost is £40 for up to a maximum of 30 people (excluding admission).

The photograph below shows the Marble Hall where your guided House tour will begin.



Please note: House tours are not available on arrival. Pre-booking is essential.

Tudor Old Palace tours

Guided tours of the Old Palace are available on various dates throughout the year. Limited tickets can be purchased **on arrival only** on a 'first come, first served' basis. Tickets are priced at £3 per person.



The history of Hatfield House began in about 1485 when John Morton, Bishop of Ely, built Hatfield Palace. It was a large quadrangle of russet brick to the west of the present house and the side which includes the Great Hall still stands. Hatfield is most associated with Elizabeth I who spent much of her childhood at Hatfield. In November 1558, Elizabeth was proclaimed Queen and held her first Council in the Great Hall.

St Etheldreda's 12th century church

Open most afternoons, the adjoining church is the resting place of three Prime Ministers. Robert Cecil has a monument, designed by Maximilian Colt, in the Salisbury Chapel.



Food and Drink

The Coach House Restaurant

Located in Stable Yard, the restaurant serves a wide variety of delicious food throughout the day. From morning coffee on arrival, light lunches and cooked meals, plus cream teas and cakes. Snacks, drinks and ice creams are also available.



Want to plan a menu?

The restaurant can help you with your requirements. Catering enquiries or bookings should be directed to the restaurant emailing christian.nesbitt@compass-group.co.uk



Hospitality

www.hatfieldhousehospitality.co.uk

The Old Palace and contemporary Riding School can be hired for private group events, weddings and business presentations / conferences. Hospitality at Hatfield House is provided by Leith's and guests are assured of excellent cuisine and service. Please call the team on 01707 262055 for details.

Shopping

Stable Yard

Open almost all year round and just a few minutes from junction 4 of the A1 motorway, Stable Yard makes an ideal stopping off point.

There is no admission charge and parking is free.

There are a range of exclusive retailers offering unique products in a unique location.

The shops have been lovingly created from an area which used to play home to the royal horses.



Monthly Weekend Markets

Vintage, Antiques and Collectors Market

On the third Saturday of each month, find a quality range of items ranging from jewellery to furniture to the unusual.



Sunday Farmers Market

On the following day is the Farmers Market with its fine ales, artisan cheese, local honey, flavoured English fruit gins, sausages, savoury pies, bread, cakes and seasonal vegetables.

For more information about the individual retailers and monthly markets, please visit their dedicated website www.stableyardshops.co.uk

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the group rate and minimum group size?

The group rate is £13 per person for the House, Park and West Garden or £7 per person for the Park and West Garden only. Group rates are available for groups of 20 or more adults or seniors paying in advance. These tickets are not eligible to upgrade to a season ticket. Group tickets are not available on arrival. The supplement ticket for the East Garden (Wednesdays only) is available in advance or on the day at a cost of £4 per person.

Do you offer free places?

We offer free entry for the group organiser and your coach driver. We also provide the driver with a refreshment voucher for the restaurant.

How do I book my visit?

To make a booking, please complete and return the booking form on the back page or email Cherise Fairman - c.fairman@hatfield-house.co.uk

When is payment due?

To obtain the group rate, payment is due no later than two weeks prior to your visit. This can be made by debit / card by calling 01707 287052 or by cheque made payable to Gascoyne Holdings Ltd and sent to Group Bookings, The House Office, Hatfield House, Hatfield, Herts AL9 5NQ.

What is the cost for parking?

Parking is free along with access to the restaurant and Stable Yard retail area.

Can I make arrangements for catering?

Catering enquiries or bookings should be directed to the restaurant by calling 01707 262030 / 262055 or email christian.nesbitt@compass-group.co.uk

Disabled access:

We make every effort to enable wheelchair users and visitors with other disabilities to enjoy their visit. A limited number of wheelchairs are available for use in the House (not outside) and there is a small lift which can accommodate standard size wheelchairs. A special assistance vehicle is available to transport visitors from the Coach Park to the House. A full access statement is available on our website.

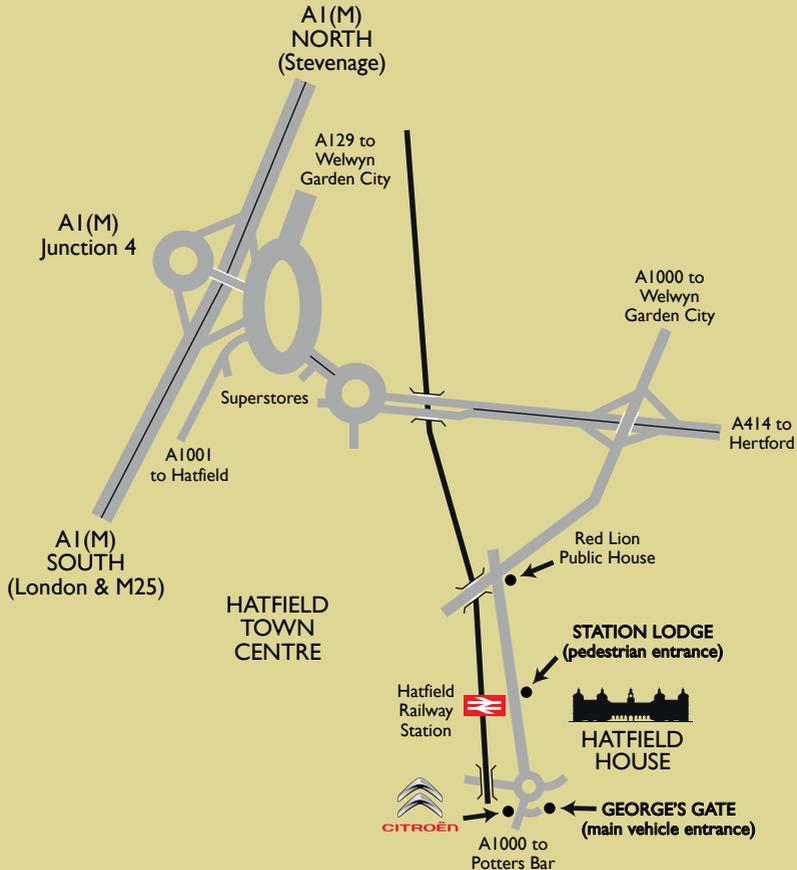
How to Find Us

Hatfield House is located 21 miles north of London.

M25 junction 23, A1(M) junction 4, 2 miles.

Signed posted off A414 & A1000.

Visitor coach and car park is located on the Great North Road (AL9 5HX)



Please note:

The visitor facilities at Hatfield House can from time to time be disrupted due to maintenance, filming or preparations for major events. Whilst every effort to minimise disruption will be made, we reserve the right to close, re-schedule or withdraw the visitor facilities without notice.

The Old Palace is often closed for private functions.

Visitor Information

Visitor Season : Saturday 26 March - Friday 30 September 2016

www.hatfield-house.co.uk Tel no: 01707 287010

Location

21 miles north of London - M25 junction 23, 7 miles

A1(M) junction 4, 2 miles - Signed off A414 & A1000

Coach and car park postcode : AL9 5HX

Entrance on Great North Rd near Hatfield Train Station (Kings Cross 20mins)

Coach and car park postcode : AL9 5HX

Hatfield House, Great North Road, Hatfield, Hertfordshire AL9 5NQ

Opening Times

Hatfield House : 11am - 5pm (last entry 4pm)

Park : 10am - 5.30pm

West Garden : 10am - 5.30pm

East Garden : 11am - 4pm (Wednesdays only)

Restaurant : 10am - 5pm (hot food served 12-3pm)

Stable Yard shops : 11am - 5.30pm

Hatfield Park Farm : 10am - 5.30pm

Prices	Group	Adult	Senior	Child
Hatfield House, West Garden & Park	£13.00	£16.00	£15.00	£8.00
West Garden & Park	£7.00	£10.00	£9.00	£6.00
East Garden supplement (Wednesday only)	£4.00	£4.00	£4.00	£4.00
Hatfield Park Farm	£5.00	£5.00	£5.00	£2.00

	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	BH
Hatfield House	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
West Garden & Park	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
East Garden	x	x	✓	x	x	x	x	x
Shops & Restaurant	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hatfield Park Farm	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Group Booking Form 2016

Name of group: _____

Organiser's name: _____

Organiser's address: _____

Postcode: _____

Tel: _____

Mobile: _____

Email: _____

Date of visit: _____

Estimated time of arrival: _____

Number in group (approx): _____

Guided house tour: **YES / NO** (maximum 30 people per tour)

Ticket option: _____

Special requirements: _____

Please detach and return this form to:
**Group Bookings, The House Office,
Hatfield House, Hertfordshire AL9 5NQ**

Tel: 01707 287052

Email: c.fairman@hatfield-house.co.uk

Events calendar 2016

Throughout the year, there is an exciting programme of events suitable for groups of all ages and interests. Please see our website for a full list of events and contact the organisers of each event for information on group bookings.

Living Crafts : 5-8 May

www.livingcrafts.co.uk - 02392 863871

Living Crafts is the premier craft event in Europe with a broad range of both contemporary and traditional crafts. Join hundreds of designer-makers promoting the best of British crafts.

Garden Show : 4 & 5 June

www.battenburgevents.co.uk - 01487 814800

Garden plants, tools, equipment, specialist nurseries, gardening question time, fine foods and lifestyle.

Battle Proms : 23 July

www.battleproms.com - 01432 355416

Pack up the hampers and champers for an unforgettable evening of sublime music and breathtaking displays set on the Queen Elizabeth Oak Field. A celebration of classical music with fireworks, spitfire, cannons and cavalry.

Folk by the Oak : 24 July

www.folkbytheoak.com - 01432 355416

A festival of folk's finest acts gathered for one uplifting summer day of music. Join in with the activities, browse the stalls, dance along or simply kick back and enjoy a whole day of exceptional folk and acoustic music.

Art in Clay : 19-21 August

www.artinclay.co.uk - 0115 987 3966

The national Pottery and Ceramics Festival showcasing some of the finest ceramics currently being made by individual makers in the UK and Europe.