

Special Events

For more information and to purchase tickets visit www.blenheimpalace.com

12th Feb – 25th March

Gladys Deacon – 'An Eccentric Duchess' 1921 – 1934 Special Exhibition in the Long Library. PPG

10th April

The Orvis Fly Fishing Fair
Separate admission applies.

11th – 15th April

Oxford Active Spring Kids Camp
Separate admission applies.
www.oxfordactive.co.uk

22nd – 23rd April

The Great Blenheim Palace Easter Egg Challenge. Easter Weekend P&G

24th – 25th April

Peppa Pig & George plus Ben & Holly from Ben & Holly's Little Kingdom P&G

29th April

A 'Royal' Joust! P&G

30th April – 2nd May

Blenheim Palace Jousting Tournament (May Bank Holiday) P&G

6th – 8th May

Picnic Film Event
Evening outdoor cinema.
Separate admission applies.

28th – 30th May

Art, Design & a Taste of Summer (Whitsun Holiday)
Advance tickets available.
www.livingcrafts.co.uk P&G

4th – 5th June

Blenheim Triathlon
www.theblenheimtriathlon.com

8th – 19th June inclusive

12 nights of 'Twelfth Night' by The Oxford School of Drama
Separate admission applies.

11th June

Junior Sculling Regatta
Separate admission applies.

16th July

Battle Proms Evening
Picnic Concert
Separate admission applies.
www.battleproms.com

22nd – 24th July

CLA Game Fair
Separate admission applies.
www.gamefair.co.uk

5th – 7th August

Blenheim Palace
Jousting Tournament
P&G

21st August

The Breast Cancer Care's Bike Blenheim Palace – A Festival of Cycling
www.bikeblenheimpalace.com
P&G

28th – 29th August

Classic Car Show
(August Bank Holiday)
P&G

8th – 11th September

Fidelity Blenheim Palace International Horse Trials
Separate admission applies.
www.blenheim-horse.co.uk

15th – 18th September

The Independent Woodstock Literary Festival
Separate admission applies.
www.woodstockliteraryfestival.com

25th September

Mini & VW Show P&G

2nd October

BHF Blenheim Palace Half Marathon
Separate admission applies.

22nd – 30th October

October Half Term
Halloween Entertainment
PPG + P&G

12th Nov – 16th Dec

Christmas at Blenheim Palace
PPG + P&G

18th – 20th November

Living Crafts for Christmas
Advance tickets available.
www.livingcrafts.co.uk P&G

16th December

Blenheim Palace and Formal Gardens closed for the winter.
Park remains open daily (except Christmas Day).

All events listed are provisional bookings. The details of these events may change. Please check prior to your visit.

PPG Palace, Park & Gardens ticket required to access event

P&G Park & Gardens ticket required to access event

PPG + P&G Denotes activity inside the Palace as well as the Park & Gardens.

Great ways to engage with Blenheim Palace

Buy One Day, Get 12 Months Free in 2011

The Blenheim Palace free Annual Pass is the ultimate ticket for great value days out. When you buy a single day ticket to the Palace you can convert it into an Annual Pass - for free. Simply convert your Palace ticket at the kiosk in the East Courtyard or online at www.freeannualpass.com within 7 days of your visit. Not valid for a Park & Gardens ticket. For full terms and conditions visit www.blenheimpalace.com or ask a member of staff for details.

Friends of the Blenheim Palace Foundation Charity

This premium membership is perfect for frequent visitors who wish to support us in our work to maintain and improve Blenheim Palace for the future. Their contribution is important to ongoing restoration and conservation. Friends receive special benefits and access to exclusive events as well as great value entry for 12 months from date of purchase including unlimited access to all public areas within the Palace, special exhibitions, and 2000 acres of Park and Gardens.

Most daytime events are included within 'Friends' tickets. Details of special offers, plus news of exclusive evenings and events, will be outlined in the quarterly 'Friends of Blenheim Palace' newsletters and on the website.

- 10% discount at any café.
- Access to exclusive Friends Hospitality Room (Please ask a member of staff for details)
- Monthly exclusive Friends Events (including Summer Garden Party and Christmas Reception)
- 10% discount at any shop. (Not valid for purchase of 'Friends of Blenheim Palace' Membership Ticket)

Membership can be purchased at Flagstaff Gift Shop by filling in the application form on a Friends leaflet. If purchasing on the day or for up to seven days after visiting, your entry will be refunded*. Alternatively, download a form from the website and email a recent photo to friends@blenheimpalace.com or call 01993 810555 to speak to an operator. For terms and conditions of use visit www.blenheimpalace.com

* On production of a valid ticket.

Information

Opening Times

- Palace & Formal Gardens open daily until 30 October 2011 and then Wednesday to Sunday inclusive from 2 November to 16 December.
- Park is open daily from 9am to 6pm (last entry 4.45pm), except Christmas Day.
- Park opens at 9am, the Formal Gardens at 10am and the Palace at 10.30am.
- Last admission to the Palace, Park and Pleasure Gardens is at 4.45pm. The Palace and Pleasure Gardens close at 5.30pm, the Gardens and Park at 6pm. We request that all cars have left the premises by 6.30pm.

Disabled Access

The majority of the Palace and Gardens experience is accessible for wheelchair users. Toilet facilities in the Palace and at the Pleasure Gardens have been specially adapted. The Gardens are accessible via the Fisherman's gate.

Specific information and gate code can be collected at Flagstaff Information Point. Facilities are available for disabled visitors to view a short film 'Blenheim Palace: The Untold Story' next to the Indoor Cinema.

Buy One Day, Get 12 Months Free!

WELCOME TO BLENHEIM PALACE

• A WORLD HERITAGE SITE •





Welcome to Blenheim Palace

My wife and I are delighted that you have visited Blenheim Palace and we look forward to sharing with you the treasures of our historic home and its magnificent surroundings.



The Palace and its formal gardens and park were created a World Heritage Site in 1987 and recently a great deal of restoration and conservation work has been undertaken, despite the lack of any external funding. This year two major projects will take place: the repair and redecoration of every window in the Great Hall, and the restoration of the South Front steps of the Palace.

Your visit makes an important contribution to the ongoing restoration and conservation programmes which are necessary to ensure the Palace and its wonderful grounds are preserved for future generations.

We are very proud to be a member of the Treasure Houses of England – a collection of the finest heritage properties in the Country. We hope that your visit to Blenheim Palace will inspire you to visit these magnificent houses and you will find details of the Treasure Houses group within this leaflet.

Please enjoy your visit and if you have any questions please feel free to ask our staff for assistance.

Thank you for joining us today, thank you for your continued support and we hope that you enjoy your visit.

Marlborough.



Highlights of your visit

Visiting the Palace

Climb the steps in the Great Court to enter the Palace through the grand oak doors. From the Great Hall a guide will direct you through to one of the following Palace experiences.

The State Rooms

Guided tours of the State Rooms, graced with priceless portraits, exquisite porcelain, and magnificent tapestries, are available throughout the season except Sundays, Bank Holidays and very busy days when a free flow system will be in operation. *The tour takes between 30 and 40 minutes.* The tour ends in the Long Library exiting via the Chapel. Please return to the Great Hall to start your next experience. Music is played in the Library or Chapel on most Sunday afternoons.

The Churchill Exhibition lies to the west of the Great Hall and gives a fascinating insight into the life of Sir Winston Churchill. Please make your way through the exhibition before beginning the State Rooms tour.

'Blenheim Palace: The Untold Story' 300 YEARS OF ENTICING TALES

This permanent visitor experience brings to life dramatic events of the family and servants over the last 300 years. *(Allow up to 40 minutes).*

Located upstairs in the Palace, the entrance is reached by the Great Staircase from the Great Hall. The experience is self-guided, and a range of language translations are available at the entrance. The end of the route brings you to the Water Terraces Café. Please return to the Great Hall to start your next experience.

We regret that this route is unsuitable for wheelchairs and pushchairs. Please ask for information on an alternative facility at the Flagstaff Information Point.

Private Apartments

Tours of the apartments, where the family still lives, are available during the summer months. Situated in the East Wing, *the tours take approximately 30 minutes* and are open at the discretion of the family. Please ask at the nearest ticket point for availability. A small extra charge applies. The tour is not suitable for children under five and wheelchair users.

Souvenir Guide Books

Guidebooks are on sale at the entrance gates, in the Great Hall or any of the shops. The attractive guidebook contains extensive information on the history of the Palace, Gardens and Park and makes a wonderful keepsake of your visit.

Park & Gardens

There is so much to see and enjoy when visiting the Park and Gardens.

Indoor Cinema

Located in the Stables, the Indoor Cinema is now screening a variety of programmes including special documentaries and footage from films shot at Blenheim Palace. *Allow up to an hour.*

Churchill's Destiny

Set in the Stables, the exhibition celebrates the story of two great Churchills. *Allow up to 20 minutes.*

The Gardens and Park

Entry to the gardens is next to the Churchill Shop in the Great Court.

The Formal Gardens

The Secret Garden lies to the east of the South Lawn, past the Italian Garden. The Rose Garden, Temple of Diana, Arboretum and Cascade lie to the west of the South Lawn. *Allow at least an hour.* Walking shoes are recommended for the path around the Lake and newly restored Dam and Cascade.

The Pleasure Gardens

A train runs daily during the main season and at weekends during the low season. It leaves every 30 minutes from Flagstaff to the Pleasure Gardens, which boasts the Marlborough Maze, the Butterfly House, Giant Draughts and Chess and an Adventure Play Area. 'Blenheim Bygones' exhibition is open next to the shop. The Pleasure Gardens are approximately 15 minutes walking distance from the Palace. Parking is available. *Allow between 30 minutes and an hour.*

Audio Garden Tour

This extensive audio guide of the Gardens can be enjoyed at varying lengths to suit your needs. Handsets at £3 are available at the Churchill Shop.

Themed and Garden Tours

A series of fascinating tours about the personalities and special collections within the Palace and Gardens are available to book for groups or on selected dates for individuals. Led by the Palace's experts, the subjects include:

- Odd Men and Necessary Women – Servants of a Great Palace
- Sir Winston Churchill
- An Historical Walk Through the Gardens

For full details, prices, and booking, visit www.blenheimpalace.com or call 01993 811091. Tours must be pre-booked and are not included within the admission charges



Blenheim Palace Buggies

See the finest views in England the easy way. A 7 seat buggy at Flagstaff takes you on a 20 minute tour of the Lake and Park. Subject to weather conditions. Please check at Flagstaff Information Point. (Small additional charge).

Dogs

Dogs are welcome in the Park on leads but are not allowed in the Courtyards or the Gardens. Please clean up after your dog.

The right to close the Palace, the Park and the Gardens or to change prices at any time without prior notice is reserved.

Please check prior to your visit. The right to withdraw facilities or to cancel or change the dates of the events without notice is reserved.