



BLenheim PALACE

The Education Team would like to thank you for booking a visit to Blenheim Palace. Here are some general information that you might find useful.

Opening hours for 2019:

	Winter Hours 8 th January – 15 th February	Normal Hours 16 th February – 19 th November
Park:	9.00-18.30 or dusk if earlier	9.00-18.30
Visitor Centre:	9.30-17.30	9.30-18.00
Palace:	10.30 – 16.30 (last admission 15.45)	10.30-17.30 (last admission 16.45)
Formal Gardens:	10.30 – 15.30	10.00-18.00
Pleasure Gardens:	10.30-15.30 (last admission 15.00)	10.30-17.30 (last admission 17.00)

Please check on our website for the latest amendments:

<https://www.blenheimpalace.com/visit-us/opening-times/>

Toilet facilities:

Flagstaff area:	Inside the Gift Shop
Palace area:	Next to the Water Terrace Café
Pleasure Gardens:	Inside the Deli/Café and next to the Bygone Exhibition

Suggested itineraries:

Your group is welcome to arrive earlier than their booked tour and to explore the Park and Gardens. There are some suggested walks illustrated on the map. Here are some estimated times for each walk:

Walk around Queen Pool (Lake):	1.5 miles/45 minutes
Walk around the Park Perimeter:	4.6miles/120 minutes
Walk to the Cascades & Lake:	1 mile/45 minutes
Formal Gardens:	1.5miles/45 minutes

Suggested activities:

There are indoor and outdoor trails that you can download and print from our website:

<https://www.blenheimpalace.com/visit-us/education-team/lead-visit/trails.html>

Other attractions:

- The Untold Story: Automated 45-minute tour
- Churchill Exhibition: Inside the Palace
- Churchill's Destiny Exhibition: In the Stables
- Indoor Cinema: In the Stables. It screens an alternative option to the Untold Story for visitors with accessibility issues

Train:

- The train operates daily (weather permitting) from the school Easter holidays until October half-term, outside of these dates it operates only at weekends and in school holidays.
- It costs 50p per person (aged 5 and over) per ride. It is not bookable in advance. When all four carriages are in working order, we can transport sixty-four passengers at a time. Please note that other visitors may wish to use the train at the same time as you.
- From the Palace Station (Flagstaff area), it departs on the hour and half past the hour from 11.00 to 17.00. From the Pleasure Gardens Station it departs at quarter to and quarter past the hour from 11.15 to 17.30. Please note that there is no train at 17.15.



BLenheim PALACE

Guidelines:

Blenheim Palace is a World Heritage Site and a working Estate. Due to its international status we ask that students respect all areas open to visitors. We request that accompanying adults remain with their group at all times during the visit, both inside and outside the Palace, and that they communicate to the rest of the group the following guidelines.

We would appreciate your cooperation and ask that the children/students leave their belongings on the coach when possible. If they opt to carry their bag with them, please make sure they carry them on their front or in their hands, not on their back. For very young schoolchildren, we suggest that you invite them to use the toilet facilities before you start the visit.

If there is a wheelchair-user in the group, access to the Palace will be via a staff-operated lift. Our Access Statement can be read here: <https://www.blenheimpalace.com/visit-us/plan-your-day/accessibility.html>. **Please retrieve the gate code from Flagstaff Information Point on arrival** for access to the Formal Gardens. You can also request the code by phoning 01993 810 530.

Outside the Palace:

- The Italian Garden beside the South Lawn is for the Family's private use so please avoid venturing into this area.
- Please do not touch any of the Palace, Courtyard or garden ornaments and statues.
- Please do not climb on any of the Palace's structures.
- Do not spit chewing gum out onto the ground in any part of the Gardens, Park or Palace Courtyards.
- When riding on the train everyone must remain seated. Do not try to gain access to the train once it is moving.
- In the Maze please keep to the paths and in no circumstances try to push through the hedges.
- The Formal Gardens and Palace are NO SMOKING areas.
- In the Palace shops please respect the other visitors and Palace employees at all times, and act in a courteous manner. We reserve the right to limit the number of students entering the Palace shops at any one time.

Inside the Palace:

- Please carry bags on the front or in your hands, not on the back. This is to avoid accidentally damaging furniture, paintings, ornaments, etc.
- No chewing gum.
- Photography is allowed but please switch off the flash.
- Please turn off your mobile phones.
- No ink pens, felt tips, etc. If you need to write notes, please use a pencil.
- If children/students behave in a way which causes disruption to other visitors or in any manner which concerns the Palace staff, then they will be asked to leave without refund.
- If physical damage is caused by a student group, then the School/Organisation/Company will be notified and invoiced for the repair work.
- If you have arranged to have access to the Education Room during your visit, please make sure to leave the room in the same state as you find it. Cleaning implements are available in the room. Please switch off the lights/heaters when leaving the room.

Contact details:

Education Team 01993 810 535

Other contact details:

(if we are unavailable)
Groups Sates Team 01993 815 600
Operations Team 01993 810 530

We hope you all enjoy your visit!