

DAY TRIPS FROM LONDON

The Hampton Court day guide

One page for Hampton Court Palace: what it is, what to see, what fits in the time you have, how to get there by train, and where to find toilets and food.

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

1

Check how long your tour gives you at each stop. Your tour's page lists the stops and the time at each one.

2

On the stop's page, tap how long your tour stops there: the route shows what fits.

3

Set a phone alarm 10 minutes before you need to be back at the bus.

INSIDE PAGE

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Times are typical visit lengths, not a timetable. Opening hours and prices change: check the full guide online before you go.

Hampton Court Palace

Henry VIII's palace

WHY STOP HERE

A red-brick Tudor palace on the Thames, built by Cardinal Wolsey and taken by Henry VIII. Inside are the Great Hall, the royal kitchens and the Chapel Royal. Outside are gardens and a famous maze. Go by train from London Waterloo and plan at least three hours.

DON'T MISS

Anne Boleyn's badge in the Great Hall

Her badge and initials in the Great Hall. Look up at the carved and painted details; ask a member of staff where to find them.





SO FAR	YOUR ROUTE · STOP WHEN "SO FAR" REACHES YOUR TIME
25 min	**The Great Hall and the Haunted Gallery** · 25 min here · in the entry ticket DON'T MISS — The Great Hall has a magnificent ceiling and holds Anne Boleyn's badge and initials. The Great Watching Chamber, where the King's bodyguards stood, and the Haunted Gallery lead on from it.
45 min	**Henry VIII's private rooms** · 20 min here · in the entry ticket — The King's Presence Chamber, his official throne room, then the Privy Chambers, the bedroom and the Secret Lodgings, where Henry VIII lived away from the public court.
65 min	**The Tudor World in the Wolsey Rooms** · 20 min here · in the entry ticket — The oldest rooms in the palace, with two floors of paintings and objects about life at the Tudor court and the early years of Henry's reign.
85 min	**Henry VIII's Kitchens** · 20 min here · in the entry ticket — The busiest kitchens in Tudor England, where royal meals and feasts were cooked.
95 min	**The Chapel Royal** · 10 min here · in the entry ticket — A working chapel with the vaulted ceiling Henry VIII prayed under, seen from the Royal Pew above.
125 min	**The gardens** · 30 min here · in the entry ticket — The Privy Garden, the Wilderness, the Rose Garden and the Great Fountain Garden, with a view down the Long Water.
155 min	**William III's Apartments** · 30 min here · in the entry ticket — The grand Baroque rooms of William III and Mary II, up the King's Staircase.

GETTING THERE	Hampton Court is an easy train ride from London Waterloo, and the palace is a short walk from the station. You do not need a tour to go. Take a train from London Waterloo to Hampton Court station. Trains run about every 30 minutes. Tap in with Oyster. Hampton Court is in zone 6, and Oyster is accepted. Walk from the station to the palace. It takes about five minutes. Our pick: Aim to arrive before 11:00, when the palace is quietest.
TICKET	Yes. The palace, the maze and the Magic Garden need a ticket, and the gardens are free on a few dates. A free audio guide comes with entry. Book a timed ticket in advance in busy months.

More days out from London

Each region has its own page, with every day trip to compare.

Ready to choose a tour?
See every Hampton Court day trip side by side. seebeyondthecity.com/london/places/hampton-court-palace/#compare



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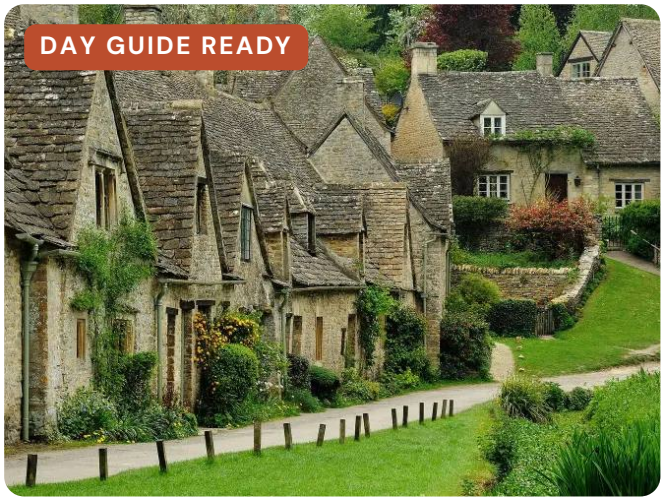

THE COTSWOLDS

Cotswold villages & market towns

Bibury · Bourton-on-the-Water · Stow-on-the-Wold
Up to about 153 km · 95 miles

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KENT

Sources

Where each page's facts come from, by stop. Each name is a link to the source.

HAMPTON COURT PALACE

Historic Royal Palaces: Henry VIII's wives, six queens, six women

Historic Royal Palaces: suggested itineraries

Historic Royal Palaces: opening and closing times

Historic Royal Palaces: eating at Hampton Court

Historic Royal Palaces: accessibility

Historic Royal Palaces: getting here

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