

## THE HOUSE

## THE GARDENS

## THE PLACE

## HOW TO FIND US

## OPENING TIMES & PRICES

## VISITOR INFORMATION

### *Home to Kings and Noblemen*

As one of England's oldest family homes, Penshurst Place has passed through the hands of royalty and nobles for more than six centuries.

Following time in the ownership of Henry VIII, in 1552 Penshurst Place was gifted to the influential Sidney family – a well known family member being the poet and courtier Sir Philip Sidney. Today, a direct descendant, Viscount De L'Isle MBE is custodian of Penshurst's future.

Retaining the warmth and character of a family home, the sturdy medieval gothic sandstone and handsome Tudor brick make this one of the best-preserved examples of a defended manor house in England.

Revealing the medieval heart of Penshurst Place is to see the magnificent Baron's Hall, completed in 1341. The adjoining staterooms contain wonderful collections of fine portraits, paintings, furniture, porcelain, tapestries and armour.

### *Truly English Gardens*

These famous historic formal gardens are the jewel in the crown of Penshurst Place. With records dating back to 1346 they are one of the oldest in private ownership and a superb example of Elizabethan garden design.

With 48 acres of grounds, the 11 acre walled garden provides an intimate series of garden 'rooms' with a variety of form, foliage and bloom throughout the year. There are the ebullient bulbs in spring, the stunning long Peony Border in late May, thousands of roses and lavender in the summer and a profusion of colour in the autumn.

#### DOUBLE HERBACEOUS BORDER REDESIGN

The final stage of the unique restoration project of the double herbaceous border is taking place this spring. Redesigned by Chelsea Gold Medalist George Carter, the new border will have stone benches set within it and historic varieties of apple trees, to delight and enchant our visitors.

### *A Place to Explore*

OUR TOY MUSEUM was created by Yootha Rose, a founder member of the National Toy Museum, and includes generations of family toys.

THE ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND AND WOODLAND TRAIL are perfect places for children to let off steam.

THE GARDEN TEA ROOM offers a selection of freshly cooked hot and cold menus, as well as traditional cream teas. A kiosk serving drinks and ice creams is in the adventure playground open at peak times.

OUR GIFT SHOP is full of perfect gift ideas, books, cards and traditional toys to suit all pockets. Located at the visitor entrance, it is also open all year.

THE PENSHURST PLACE ESTATE is set within the High Weald and offers a rich landscape in which to walk. Walking trails available from the Gift Shop which take in the village and historic church with the Sidney Family chapel.



Free car and coach parking. Cycle racks available.



**BY ROAD**  
From M25 Junction 5 follow A21 to Tonbridge, leaving at HILDENBOROUGH exit; then follow brown tourist signs.  
From M20/M26 Junction 2a follow A25 (Sevenoaks), A21 for HILDENBOROUGH, then follow brown tourist signs.

**BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT**  
Train from London Charing Cross to Tunbridge Wells or London Victoria station to Edenbridge then bus (231 & 233) excludes Sundays.  
Train from London Charing Cross to Tonbridge, then taxi to Penshurst (approx. 6 miles).

**BY BICYCLE**  
Cycle to Penshurst Place via Tonbridge on the cycle path route No 12. Arrive by cycle and receive £1 off normal adult admission prices – or £4 off the family day ticket. Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer.

Penshurst Place, Penshurst, Tonbridge, Kent TN11 8DG

#### OPENING TIMES FOR 2011

##### HOUSE & GARDENS

**Weekends** 19 February – 27 March  
10.30am – 4.30pm or dusk (house last entry 4pm)

**Weekdays** 21 – 25 February  
Gardens, Adventure Playground, Tea Room & Toy Museum only

##### HOUSE & GARDENS OPEN DAILY

from 28 March – 30 October

##### Gardens & Adventure Playground

10.30am – 6pm (last entry 5pm)

**House & Toy Museum** 10.30am – 4pm

**Garden Tea Room** 10.30am – 5pm

**Gift Shop** OPEN ALL YEAR 10.30am – 6pm during open season

10.30am – 4.30pm during closed season (see events for late nights)

**Parkland** open all year

Penshurst Place reserves the right to amend opening times.

#### ENTRANCE PRICES FOR 2011

	House, Gardens & Grounds	Gardens & grounds only
Adults	£9.80	£7.80
Children aged 5-16 (under 5s max 2 free per adult; thereafter £2.50 per child)	£6.20	£5.80
Family day ticket (2 adults + 2 children)	£26.00	£23.00
Garden Season Ticket (cardholder + one guest)		£41.00
Family Garden Season ticket (2 adults + 2 children or 1 + 3) up to 5 children on a ticket at £6.50 per child	£67.00	
Adult group non guided (15+ adults)	£7.50	£6.50
Child group non guided (15+ children)	£4.50	£4.00

#### BOOKED GUIDED TOURS FOR GROUPS (15+)

Tour prices include entrance to House and Gardens

	Adults	Children (aged 5-16)
House Tour	£9.50	£5.00
Garden Tour	£9.50	£5.00
House & Garden Tour	£15.00	£9.00



## CONTACT US


Tel: 01892 870307


Email: [enquiries@penshurstplace.com](mailto:enquiries@penshurstplace.com)


For Group enquiries please contact our Head of Visitor Services at [groups@penshurstplace.com](mailto:groups@penshurstplace.com).

**Penshurst Place & Gardens, Penshurst, Tonbridge, Kent TN11 8DG**

#### FURTHER INFORMATION

 Gardens – wheelchair accessible route. Partial access to House with DVD available to view remaining staterooms. Wheelchairs available and can be booked in advance. A disabled access leaflet is available on request which details all our facilities.

 We regret that dogs are not allowed in the grounds except for guide dogs and hearing dogs.

 Picnic areas are available in the grounds and the venture playground.

Or visit our website [www.penshurstplace.com](http://www.penshurstplace.com)

Front cover image credit:

Day bed in Queen Elizabeth Room  
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# WELCOME TO OUR EVENTS PROGRAMME 2011

## SEASONAL GARDENING WORKSHOPS WINTER: PRUNING

WEDNESDAY 16TH MARCH 9.30AM-2PM

IN ASSOCIATION WITH HADLOW COLLEGE



A series of three seasonal garden workshops where you can gain top tips from our Head Gardener and an experienced Hadlow College Horticulture lecturer. The topic of this workshop will be pruning. See July and October for further workshops. £55.00 per person including lunch. Book all three workshops for £150. **To book or find out more call 01892 870307 or visit the Gift Shop.**

## ARMADA! LIVING HISTORY PRESENTATION

SATURDAY 26TH MARCH - SUNDAY 27TH MARCH 12 NOON - 4PM

Come and experience Tudor England at Penshurst Place, whilst outside the militia prepare to ward off the invasion of the Spanish Armada. **House ticket required for entry to some of the activities (garden season ticket holders free entrance).**

## EASTER SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

SATURDAY 9TH APRIL - MONDAY 25TH APRIL

Come and make take part in some craft activities (12noon - 4pm) and do the Spring trail around the gardens.

## ST GEORGE AND THE BABY DRAGON

EASTER SUNDAY 24TH APRIL & MONDAY 25TH APRIL 2PM - 3.30PM

Join St George and discover how he found the dragon when it was a baby and help him save the village! Storytelling for all the family to celebrate St Georges Day this weekend.

## WEALD OF KENT CRAFT SHOW

SATURDAY 30TH APRIL - MONDAY 2ND MAY 9.30AM - 5.30PM

A quality outdoor craft show for all the family with up to 250 artist craftsmen displaying and demonstrating. Joint entrance ticket to Craft Show & Penshurst Place available to purchase in advance (Groups 1 ticket free for every 10 purchased) from ICHF **01425 277988** or visit **www.ichf.co.uk**.



## GO WILD ABOUT THE COUNTRYSIDE

SATURDAY 28TH MAY - SUNDAY 5TH JUNE 12 NOON - 4PM

Springwatch is here so time to join us for some countryside activities.

**BANK HOLIDAY SUNDAY 29TH & MONDAY 30TH MAY 12 NOON - 4PM**

Find out more about the natural environment from the Wildthing 'discovery zone' and settle down to the classic tale of Wind in the Willows (2pm - 3.30pm).

## GLORIOUS GARDENS AT PENSURST PLACE

WEDNESDAY 1ST JUNE - SUNDAY 5TH JUNE

A special time to visit the gardens when the redesigned herbaceous border will be replanted and the peony border should be in bloom.

## HEAD GARDENER'S TOURS

FRIDAY 3RD JUNE - SATURDAY 4TH JUNE 2.30PM - 4.30PM

Enjoy a private tour with our Head Gardener, Cory Furness, and find out more about the Herbaceous Border project and future plans for the garden. Followed by a cream tea. Tickets £17.50 per person. Call **01892 870307** or visit the Gift Shop to book.

## POTTERING IN THE POTTING SHED

SUNDAY 5TH JUNE 2PM - 3.30PM

Children can bring along their favourite toy animal to meet Beatrix Potter and to hear about some familiar characters. Then help to pot up some plants in her potting shed. Storytelling for children, from aardvark productions.

## MACMILLAN CHARITY SPONSORED WALK

SUNDAY 12TH JUNE 11AM

Join a sponsored walk for all the family and help people affected by cancer. Choose either a 2.5 or 8 mile route through the estate surrounding Penshurst Place. To register call **01622 600050**, email **penshurstplace-walk@macmillan.org.uk** or register online at **www.macmillan.org.uk/walking**.

## PRIMAVERA CHAMBER ENSEMBLE

SUNDAY 19TH JUNE 7.30PM

Programme includes the Mozart Clarinet Quintet, Arensky Variations on a Theme of Tchaikovsky, and the Schubert String Quintet played in the magnificent medieval Baron's Hall. Tickets at £25 also include a glass of wine in the interval, available by post from Primavera Trust, Bumbles, The Lees, Boughton Aluph TN25 4HX **01233 622971**.

## SEASONAL GARDENING WORKSHOPS SUMMER: PROPAGATION

WEDNESDAY 13TH JULY 9.30AM - 2PM

IN ASSOCIATION WITH HADLOW COLLEGE



A series of three seasonal garden workshops where you can gain top tips from our Head Gardener and an experienced Hadlow College Horticulture lecturer. The topic of this workshop will be propagation. See March and October for further workshops. £55.00 per person including lunch. Book all three workshops for £150. **To book or find out more call 01892 870307 or visit the Gift Shop.**

## TACOMA YOUTH CHORUS

THURSDAY 21ST JULY 3 - 4PM IN THE BARON'S HALL

Come along to hear this acclaimed youth choir from northwest Washington State, USA perform classical, sacred and world music as part of their international concert tour of Europe. Voluntary collection in aid of The Canterbury Gift - for the conservation and development work of Canterbury Cathedral (house ticket required).

## SUMMER HOLIDAY EVENTS

### BACK TO REGENCY

SATURDAY 23RD JULY - SUNDAY 3RD SEPTEMBER

DAILY 10.30AM - 5PM

Come and enjoy some games from the past as we go back in time this summer to the Regency period.

### PORCUPINE PARTY

SUNDAY 24TH JULY 4PM

Special event for season ticket holders. Join us for some fun and games. Don't forget to bring your porcupine badge. Please RSVP by 1st July 2011 to **enquiries@penshurstplace.com** or call **01892 870307**.



**EVERY SUNDAY FROM 31ST JULY - 21ST AUGUST 2PM - 4PM**

Join aardvark productions on the accession of the Prince Regent in 1811 as they take us through the regency period - a colourful time in history with outlandish fashion and entertainment.

With Huxley's Birds of Prey Centre displays from 12 noon with flying at 3pm.

## AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY

SUNDAY 28TH AUGUST - MONDAY 29TH AUGUST 12 NOON - 4PM

Join Hands on History at the height of the Peninsular War where Wellington is winning victories. Demonstrations and displays based on the life of a soldier during the Napoleonic wars.

## OTHER SUMMER EVENTS:

### MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

SUNDAY 21ST AUGUST 2011 7PM

International professional Theatre Set-Up present their Elizabethan costumed 'Much Ado About Nothing', in the Baron's Hall. Tickets on sale from mid April and available by calling **01732 770929** or **01892 515675** or visit **www.thebookingshop.com**. **Please note due to the nature of the venue, seating is not tiered.**

## WEALD OF KENT CRAFT SHOW

FRIDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER - SUNDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER 9.30AM TO 5PM FRIDAY TO SUNDAY (SATURDAY 5.30PM).

Another chance to come along to a quality outdoor craft show for all the family with up to 250 artist craftsmen displaying and demonstrating. Special offer joint entrance ticket to Craft Show & Penshurst Place available to purchase in advance (Groups 1 ticket free for every 10 purchased) from ICHF **01425 277988 www.ichf.co.uk**.



## SEASONAL GARDENING WORKSHOPS AUTUMN: PUTTING THE GARDEN TO BED

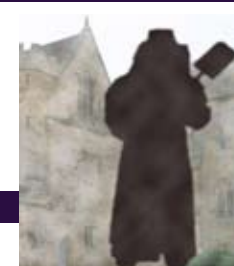
WEDNESDAY 19TH OCTOBER 9.30AM - 2PM

IN ASSOCIATION WITH HADLOW COLLEGE



A series of three seasonal garden workshops where you can gain top tips from our Head Gardener and an experienced Hadlow College Horticulture lecturer. The topic of this workshop will be putting the garden to bed. See March and July for further workshops. £55.00 per person including lunch. Book all three workshops for £150. **To book or find out more call 01892 870307 or visit the Gift Shop.**

## SPOOKY OCTOBER HOLIDAY HALLOWEEN ACTIVITIES



MONDAY 24TH OCTOBER - SUNDAY 30TH OCTOBER

With our spooky trail and crafty activities (12 noon - 4pm).

**SUNDAY 30TH OCTOBER 2PM - 3.30PM**

Join the two peasants on their search for something not too scary... storytelling from aardvark productions with a fancy dress competition at 4pm.

## CHRISTMAS AT PENSURST PLACE



### GIFT SHOP OPEN DAILY

31ST OCTOBER TO 24TH DECEMBER 10.30AM TO 4.30PM

### LATE NIGHT SHOPPING

WEDNESDAYS: 16TH, 23RD & 30TH NOVEMBER AND 7TH & 14TH DECEMBER UNTIL 8PM.

Do some peaceful shopping in our Gift Shop, with 10% off all purchases made on late night evenings (excluding stamps and vouchers). **Free parking and refreshments**

### FATHER CHRISTMAS MAKES AN EARLY DELIVERY TO PENSURST PLACE

FIRST THREE WEEKENDS IN DECEMBER - SATURDAY & SUNDAY 3RD & 4TH, 10TH & 11TH, 17TH & 18TH

10.30AM - 12.30PM AND 1.30 - 3.30PM

Step through the garden gates into Father Christmas's magical grotto. Tickets £5 and no booking required.

**Most of our events are free to garden ticket holders except where stated a ticket is required.**

Though we endeavour to run all the events as we have planned, this may be affected by unforeseen circumstances or adverse weather conditions. Please do contact us before visiting to avoid disappointment.

For full details of our events visit our website **www.penshurstplace.com**.



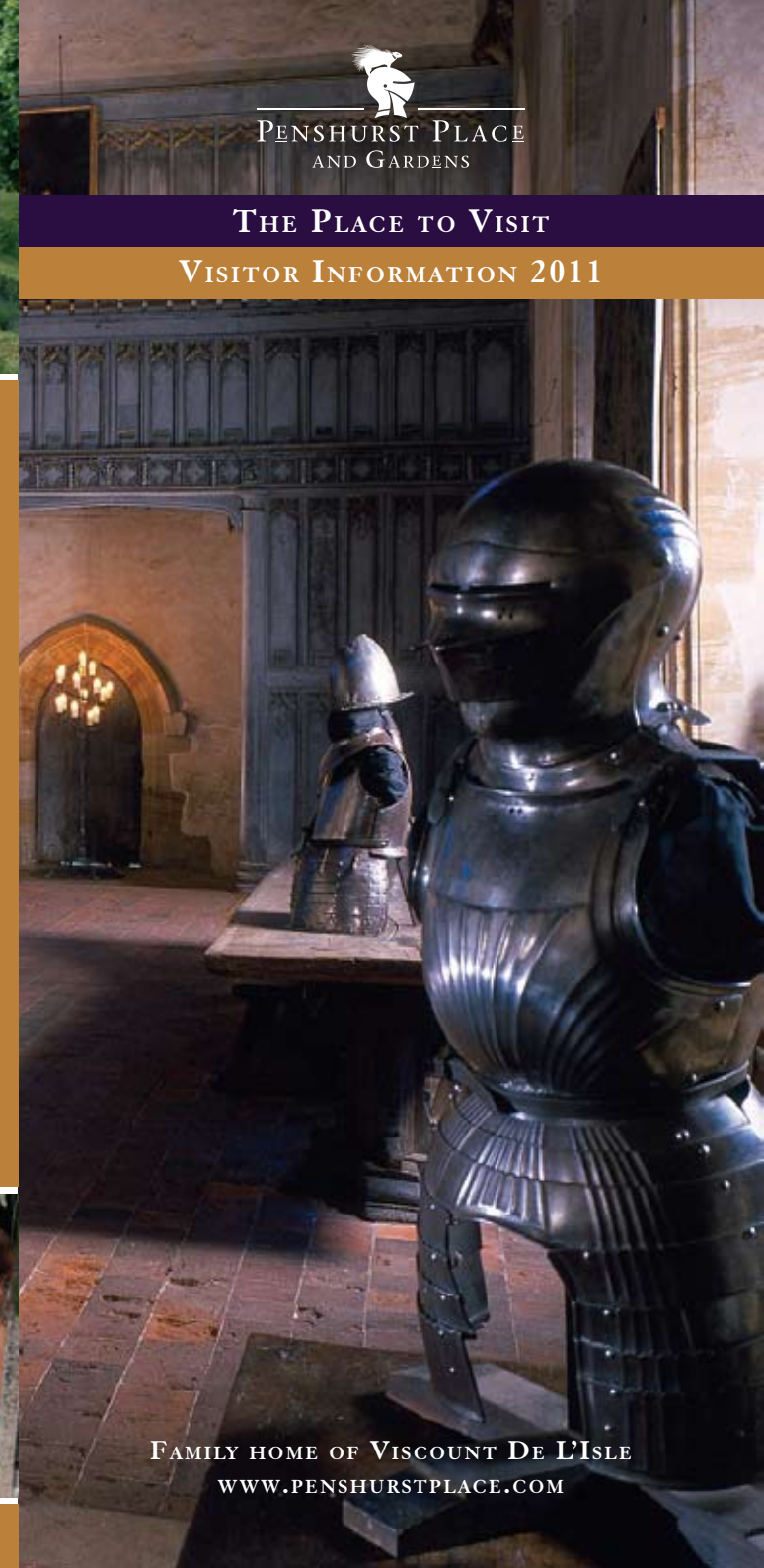
Whether for business or pleasure, Penshurst Place & Gardens provides an idyllic setting for special private and public events.

The rooms for hire within the House comprise the awe-inspiring Baron's Hall, the charming Sunderland Room and the cosy Buttery. With thousands of acres of ancient parkland estate, there are also opportunities to hire areas for larger events.

Available for exclusive hire throughout the year, we can also offer exquisite fine dining from Leith's for events such as:

- Civil ceremonies, wedding receptions civil partnerships and renewal of vows
- Banquets, formal dinners, balls, parties and champagne receptions
- Corporate and private hire activity events which can involve a wide range of outdoor pursuits
- Meetings, conferences, product launches, training, seminars, business breakfasts and team-building days.

To discuss your requirements in more detail, please contact the Banqueting & Events department on **01892 870307** or email **banqueting@penshurstplace.com**.



THE PLACE TO VISIT

VISITOR INFORMATION 2011

FAMILY HOME OF VISCOUNT DE L'ISLE  
WWW.PENSURSTPLACE.COM