



PENSHURST PLACE  
AND GARDENS



THE HOME WHERE HISTORY LIVES



[www.penshurstplace.com](http://www.penshurstplace.com)



## THE PLACE TO VISIT

One of England's oldest family homes, Penshurst Place has passed through the hands of royalty and nobles for over six centuries, including Henry VIII. In 1552 it was gifted to the influential Sidney family. Today, a direct descendant, Viscount De L'Isle MBE is custodian of Penshurst's future.

At the heart of this medieval masterpiece is the **Baron's Hall**, built in 1341. The adjoining **State Rooms** contain a wonderful collection of tapestries, furniture, portraits, porcelain and armour.

# THE PLACE TO EXPLORE

The historic **formal gardens** are the jewel in the crown of Penshurst Place. With records dating back to 1346 they provide a superb example of Elizabethan garden design. 11 acres of walled and yew-hedged garden 'rooms' provide a variety of form, foliage and bloom throughout the year.

Set within the High Weald, the ancient **historic parkland** of the Penshurst Estate is a rich mix of landscapes, habitats and activities. There are two self-guided **walking trails** available that also take in the village of Penshurst, alongside a **local cycle route**.



## THE PLACE TO PLAY

The **Toy Museum** provides a collection of toys from Yootha Rose - a stage designer, artist and royal toymaker, as well as toys from generations of the Sidney family.

Children can also let off plenty of steam in our traditional **Adventure Playground** and find out more about the woodland environment in the nearby **Woodland Trail**.



## THE PLACE TO EAT

Set within the Gardens of Penshurst Place, the **Garden Restaurant** offers a selection of quality upmarket home-cooked lunch menus during our seasonal opening hours.

The **Porcupine Pantry**, located next to the main Visitor Entrance and Gift Shop, is open all year, providing hot and cold light menu choices with sweet pastries and savoury items baked on the premises.



## THE PLACE TO SHOP

Located in a beautifully converted 19th century barn next to the Visitor Entrance, our wonderful **Gift Shop** is free to visit all year. It stocks a range of gift ideas, jewellery, clothing, kitchen and garden items, toys, books, cards and local Kentish produce.

There is also a **Plant Centre**, next to the Gift Shop, stocking a range of plants found in the Gardens at Penshurst Place.



## THE PLACE FOR EVENTS

Penshurst Place & Gardens provides an idyllic setting for **special private and public events** such as weddings, formal dinners, parties, corporate events and parkland activities. Available for exclusive hire throughout the year, we can also offer exquisite fine dining from our caterers Leith's.

**Group visits** are also welcome with special group prices and tailored packages available.



# WHAT'S ON: EVENTS



Family/Children Event



Adult Event



Other Event

## SPY HUNT AT PENSHURST PLACE

**15th – 23rd February**  
**10.30am – dusk**

Pretend to be a WW1 spy and hunt down the missing objects of Penshurst in the Gardens and Adventure Playground with this fun children's trail.

## WAR WOUNDS MAKE-UP WORKSHOP

**19th February**  
**4pm – 6pm**

Use professional make-up to create fake bullet wounds of a war soldier and then discover how they were bandaged in WW1. For ages 7+

**Tickets £10**  
[penshurstplace.com/etickets](https://penshurstplace.com/etickets)

## SPRING STROLL & LUNCH

**16th March**  
**11am – 2pm**

Journey across the beautiful Penshurst Estate and learn about its Tudor history. Followed by a delicious 2 course roast dinner in our Garden Restaurant.

**Tickets £22**  
[penshurstplace.com/etickets](https://penshurstplace.com/etickets)

## THE GREAT ARMADA ADVENTURE

**22nd – 23rd March**  
**12noon – 4pm**

Experience life at Penshurst Place as the militia prepares to ward off the Spanish Armada. Skilled costumed characters invite visitors to join them in the State Rooms as they prepare the Penshurst Place household for invasion.



*Most events are included in the admission prices except where stated. Though we endeavour to run all events, this may be affected by unforeseen circumstances or adverse weather conditions. Please contact us before visiting to avoid disappointment. For full event details visit [www.penshurstplace.com/whatson](http://www.penshurstplace.com/whatson)*

## **MOTHERING SUNDAY**

**30th March**

**12noon – 4pm**

Children can treat their Mums to a handmade Mother's Day poetry card or present her with a hidden Morse code message on a necklace in our Education Room. Plus a special Mother's Day lunch menu will be available in our Garden Restaurant.

## **EASTER HOLIDAY FUN**

**5th – 21st April**

**Trail 10.30am – dusk**

**Crafts 12noon – 4pm**

Take part in our 'Easter carrier pigeon egg trail' and reveal the hidden message. Plus create your own carrier pigeon or soldier bonnet. With 3 showings of storytelling on Easter Sunday 20th and Monday 21st from 2pm.

## **MAY BANK HOLIDAY FUN**

**4th – 5th May**

**Activities 11am – 5pm**

**Crafts 12noon – 4pm**

With sessions every hour on the hour with The Bushcraft Company, learn the role of a WW1 soldier with fire lighting, shelter building and scavenger hunting. With craft activities from 12 noon.

## **WEALD OF KENT CRAFT & DESIGN SHOW**

**3rd – 5th May**

**9.30am – 5pm**

Find unusual handmade crafts with over 200 UK artists. Combined ticket to the Craft Show and Penshurst Place available in advance.

**Tickets**

**[ichf.co.uk](http://ichf.co.uk)**



# WHAT'S ON: EVENTS

## SPRING HOLIDAY FUN

**24th May – 1st June**  
**Activities 11am – 5pm**  
**Crafts 12noon – 4pm**

Step into Spring with our craft activities. On 25th & bank holiday 26th May try WW1 paintballing, or dress up in WW1 uniforms and have your family photo taken.

**WW1 Paintballing £2.50**  
**per 12 balls, pay on the day.**



## GLORIOUS GARDENS WEEK

**1st & 8th June, 2pm: Head Gardener's Tour**

Enjoy a tour with our Head Gardener followed by a delicious afternoon cream tea. Tickets £20.

**2nd June, 2pm - 3pm: Floristry Demonstration**

Join Sarah Bateup, the Commercial Florist at Hadlow College, for a floristry demonstration in our gardens.

**4th June, 11am - 1pm: Photography Workshop**

Bring your camera and learn how to capture the finer details of our gardens. Hosted by garden photographer Leigh Clapp. Tickets free, pre-booking necessary.

**6th June, 2pm: Lady De L'Isle's Garden Tour**

Enjoy a tour of the gardens with Lady De L'Isle, followed by a delicious afternoon cream tea. Tickets £25.

[penshurstplace.com/etickets](http://penshurstplace.com/etickets)



## THE GLOBE IN OUR GARDENS

**8th June**  
**11am – 5pm**

A rare opportunity as Shakespeare's Globe Theatre comes to Penshurst Place. Wander the gardens and watch as a team of actors rehearse live for their evening performance of Lady Mary Wroth's 'Love's Victory'.





# WHAT'S ON: EVENTS

## THE GLOBE PERFORMS 'LOVE'S VICTORY'

**8th June  
5pm**

A première performance of 'Love's Victory' from The Globe Theatre; written c.1620 by Lady Mary Wroth, the niece of Sir Philip Sidney.

**Tickets**  
[shakespearesglobe.com](http://shakespearesglobe.com)



## FATHER'S DAY

**15th June  
12noon – 4pm**

Present your father with a penny pendant medal or handmade card in our Education Room. Also try WW1 paintballing, or dress up in WW1 uniforms and have your family photo taken. With speciality beers served in our Garden Restaurant.



## ARMED FORCES DAY

**28th June  
10.30am – 6pm**

As part of Armed Forces Day, to raise public awareness of the contribution made to our country by those who serve and have served in Her Majesty's Armed Forces, Penshurst Place will be waiving admission prices for members of the Armed Forces.



## AN EVENING OF MUSIC

**29th June  
7.30pm**

Join the Primavera Chamber Ensemble for a performance of Richard Strauss: Sextet from Capriccio, Mozart: Clarinet Quintet and Tchaikovsky: Souvenir de Florence.

**Tickets £25**  
[macatbumbles@aol.com](mailto:macatbumbles@aol.com)



# WHAT'S ON: EVENTS

## GARDEN SEASON TICKET HOLDERS EVENING

**10th July  
6.30pm**

An invitation to Garden Season Ticket holders to attend the annual garden party, hosted by Viscount & Viscountess De L'Isle.

*RSVP by 26th June  
01892 870307*

## PORCUPINE PARTY

**20th July  
4pm**

Family Season Ticket holders are invited to our annual Porcupine Club party with the usual fun and games. Also includes storytelling: Sir Phillip Sidney and the link with the Porcupine.

*RSVP by 6th July  
01892 870307*

## SUMMER SUNDAYS

**27th July – 31st August  
Crafts 12noon – 4pm  
Storytelling from 2pm**

Create your own walkie talkie cups or model horses and join in with light-hearted WW1 storytelling from Aardvark Productions at 2pm, 2.45pm and 3.30pm. Summer Sundays only.

## SUMMER MAIZE MAZE

**24th July – 7th September  
13th & 14th September  
10.30am – 6pm**

Our fabulous Maize Maze returns again for a third year. Step inside our field of maize and see if you can find your way out again. Lots of eco fun for all the family! Last entry 5pm.



# WHAT'S ON: EVENTS

## BUSHCRAFT SUMMER CAMPS (NEW)

**24th July – 7th September**

The Bushcraft Company will be holding 6 summer camps at Penshurst from Thursdays to Fridays. Tree climb, cook on a campfire, swim in the lake and play games.

**Book**  
[thebushcraftcompany.com](http://thebushcraftcompany.com)

## AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY FUN

**24th & 25th August  
Bushcraft 11am – 5pm**

Sessions every hour on the hour with The Bushcraft Company. Learn the role of a WW1 soldier with fire lighting, shelter building and scavenger hunting. With storytelling at 2pm, 2.45pm and 3pm.

## WEALD OF KENT CRAFT & DESIGN SHOW

**5th – 7th September  
9.30am – 5pm**

Find unusual handmade crafts with over 200 UK artists. Combined ticket to the Craft Show and Penshurst Place available in advance.

**Tickets**  
[ichf.co.uk](http://ichf.co.uk)

## AUTUMN AMBLE & LUNCH

**5th October  
11am – 2pm**

Journey across the beautiful Penshurst Estate and learn about its Tudor history. Followed by a delicious 2 course roast dinner in our Garden Restaurant.

**Tickets £22**  
[penshurstplace.com/etickets](http://penshurstplace.com/etickets)



# WHAT'S ON: EVENTS

## SPOOKY HALF TERM

**18th October – 2nd November**  
**Trails 10.30am – dusk**

**25th October – 2nd November**  
**Crafts 12noon – 4pm**

Find our tree spy faces and war themed pumpkins in the gardens. Plus, enjoy the half term with our spider hats, Halloween masks, gas masks and colouring in activities.



## HALLOWEEN THEATRICAL MAKE-UP WORKSHOP

**30th October**  
**9.30am – 11.30am**

Use prosthetic make-up to horrify your friends and family with this special workshop. For ages 7+.

**Tickets £10**  
[penshurstplace.com/etickets](https://penshurstplace.com/etickets)



## HALLOWEEN STORYTELLING & FANCY DRESS

**31st October**  
**Storytelling from 2pm**  
**Fancy Dress 4pm**

Gather around in our Medieval Buttery and enjoy not too scary storytelling from Aardvark productions at 2pm, 2.45pm and 3.30pm. Followed by a fancy dress competition.



## CHRISTMAS WREATH WORKSHOP

**3rd December**  
**10am – 12.30pm**

Held in our medieval rooms, indulge in a coffee and mince pie whilst creating a Christmas wreath with Sandra Belton from Unique Floral Designs.

**Tickets £40**  
[penshurstplace.com/etickets](https://penshurstplace.com/etickets)



# WHAT'S ON: EVENTS

## CHRISTMAS GIFT SHOP

**3rd November  
until Christmas Eve  
10.30am – 4.30pm**

Discover handmade hampers, Christmas trees and estate Grown mistletoe. Receive 10% off on late night Wednesdays from 19th November – 17th December, 4.30pm – 8pm. Terms apply, see website for details.

## FATHER CHRISTMAS IN NARNIA GROTTO

**Saturdays 29th November, 6th, 13th & 20th December  
9.30am – 5pm**  
**Sundays 30th November, 7th, 14th & 21st December  
10.30am – 5pm**

**Monday 22nd & Tuesday 23rd December 9.30am – 5pm**

Walk through the wardrobe into Narnia and be lead by Mr Tumnus. Includes a garden trail, Narnia face painting, craft activities, time with Father Christmas and a candy cane and present.

**Tickets £9.50** *(must be pre-booked, accompanying adults free)*  
[penshurstplace.com/etickets](http://penshurstplace.com/etickets)

## PENSHURST FARMERS MARKET

**1st Saturday every month  
9.30am – 12noon**

The Times named Penshurst Farmers' Market in its list of top ten markets in the UK, with over 40 stalls offering the best local food and drink. Set in the car park of Penshurst Place, with a special Christmas market in December.



# OPENING TIMES FOR 2014

**OPEN SEASON:** WEEKENDS FROM 15<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY TO 30<sup>TH</sup> MARCH. HALF TERM  
17<sup>TH</sup> TO 21<sup>ST</sup> FEBRUARY. DAILY FROM 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH TO 2<sup>ND</sup> NOVEMBER.

**CLOSED SEASON:** 3<sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER TO 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER (EXCLUDING 25<sup>TH</sup> & 26<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER).

HOUSE	12noon – 4pm ( <i>open season only; closed between 17th &amp; 21st February</i> )
GARDENS & GROUNDS	10.30am – 6pm ( <i>or dusk if earlier; open season only; last entry 1 hour before closing</i> )
ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND	10.30am – 6pm ( <i>open season</i> ) 10.30am – 4.30pm ( <i>closed season weekends, Season Ticket holders only</i> )
TOY MUSEUM	12noon – 4pm ( <i>open season only</i> )
GARDEN RESTAURANT	10.30am – 5pm ( <i>open season only; last orders 15 minutes before closing</i> )
GIFT SHOP	10.30am – 6pm ( <i>open season</i> ) 10.30am – 4.30pm ( <i>closed season</i> )
PORCUPINE PANTRY	9am – 6pm ( <i>open season</i> ) 10am – 4.30pm ( <i>closed season</i> )
PARKLAND	Open all year to walkers and cyclists

# ENTRANCE PRICES FOR 2014

INDIVIDUAL PRICES	ADULT	CHILD	FAMILY	FAMILY
	<i>16 and over</i>	<i>age 5-16</i>	<i>2 adults + 2 children 1 adult + 3 children</i>	<i>2 adults + 1 child</i>
<b>HOUSE, GARDENS &amp; GROUNDS</b>	<b>£10.00</b>	<b>£6.50</b>	<b>£28.00</b>	<b>£24.00</b>
<b>GARDENS &amp; GROUNDS ONLY</b>	<b>£8.00</b>	<b>£6.00</b>	<b>£25.00</b>	<b>£20.00</b>

*For cyclists and those travelling by public transport £1 off entry per person*

## ANNUAL SEASON TICKETS



<b>INDIVIDUAL SEASON TICKET</b> ( <i>Cardholder + 1 guest</i> )*	<b>£45.00</b>
<b>FAMILY SEASON TICKET</b> ( <i>2 adults + 2 children or 1 adult + 3 children</i> )	<b>£70.00</b> ( <i>£7 per additional child, maximum of 5 children per card</i> )

*\*Free entrance for up to 2 children under 5 per card holder, per visit; £2.50 per additional child thereafter.*

*Terms and conditions apply – available on application.*



# HOW TO FIND US

## 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 to Edenbridge then bus (231 & 233) excludes Sundays.
-  Train from London Charing Cross to Tonbridge, then taxi to Penshurst (6 miles).

# CONTACT US

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

T: **01892 870307** E: [enquiries@penshurstplace.com](mailto:enquiries@penshurstplace.com) E: [www.penshurstplace.com](http://www.penshurstplace.com)



## IMAGE CREDITS

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Richard Sheppard; Hands on History;  
Aardvark Productions; The Bushcraft Company;  
ICHF; Shakespeare's Globe; Viscount De l'Isle;  
Armed Forces Day; Primavera; Jason Dilling.