

At Penshurst Place, we appreciate the benefits outdoor space can have upon one's health, and now that we have permission to reopen the gardens and grounds, we would like to assure you of the changes we have made to help keep you safe, and what you can do to help us.

Please also be aware that to uphold safety measures, the following changes have been made to our facilities:

- The Adventure Playground is closed
- The Woodland Trail is closed
- The Adventure Playground Kiosk is closed
- The House and Toy Museum are closed
- The Garden Restaurant is closed

The Porcupine Pantry Cafe at the Visitor Entrance is open from 9:30am - 4:30pm (food served until 4pm).

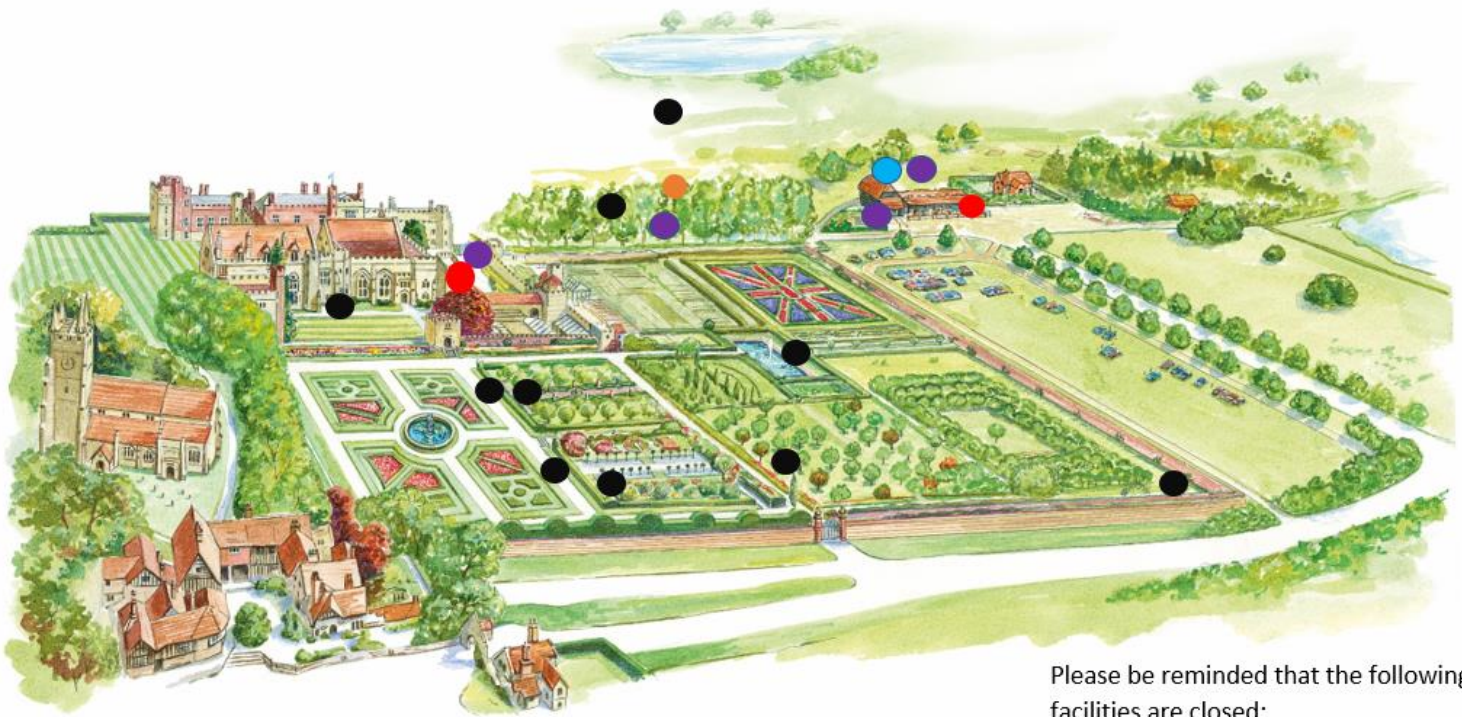
The Gift Shop is open from 10am - 4.30pm.

What we have done:

- Moved to an online only ticketing system
- Added marked waiting points for the visitor entrance queue
- Closed the playground and woodland trail to reduce cross-contamination risk
- Moved picnic benches into Lake Park
- Installed hand sanitising stations across the site including at the visitor entrance
- Installed PPE screens at the visitor entrance
- Left as many doors as possible open to limit your need to use and touch handles
- Spread benches and picnic tables across the site to limit proximity
- Closed every other cubicle and urinal and basin to limit the number of people in the toilets at any one time
- Locked open toilet entrance doors and install modesty screens in their place
- Increased the toilet cleaning schedule
- Created separate entrances and exits for the gardens and visitor entrance

What you can do to help us:

- Please ensure you arrive with your ticket either printed out, or ready to show on your phone. For the short term, we will not be selling tickets at the Visitor Entrance.
- If you have reserved a free ticket as part of a partner promotion or are a season ticket holder, you must bring with you your season ticket, membership card or coupon as well as your tickets. If you do not bring your season ticket, membership card or coupon **we will not be able to verify your membership and therefore will not be able to admit you access**
- Season ticket holders will have the time we have been closed due to Covid-19 (not including our normal closed season) added to their pass
- Please keep 2 metres apart from anyone not in your household at all times
- If you are experiencing any new symptoms associated with Covid-19, please do not try to visit Penshurst Place or any other public spaces
- Please use hand sanitiser stations wherever possible, especially if you have made use of shared facilities such as toilets or benches
- Please only stay as long as your booked slot allows. Splitting the day into two slots and limiting sales in both allows us to safely manage our visitor numbers and create more space for social distancing.



-  **Hand Sanitiser Station**
-  **Available Toilets**
-  **Picnic Area**

-  **Accessible Toilet and Nappy Changing Area**
-  **Benches**

Please be reminded that the following facilities are closed:

- Adventure Playground
- Woodland Trail
- House
- Stable Yard Toilets
- Garden Restaurant
- Toy Museum

A note from our Head Gardener, Tony Wiseman.

It is no secret that the last few months at Penshurst Place have been quiet to say the least! We were not immune to the sudden loss of visitor income, and so with difficulty the decision was made to furlough some of the gardening team, leaving just a hard-working colleague and myself.

Faced with a much smaller number of team gardening hours, we went back to basics and refocused on garden maintenance, such as weeding, edging, and cutting the grass. This meant we didn't have much time to concentrate on other jobs that ordinarily the team would consider essential, like implementing new planting, growing, propagation, and managing new projects such as the proposed new Terrace at the end of the Church Terrace or the Woodland Trail Glade.

It has not been easy to turn a blind eye to, or to have to reschedule, work we had planned for this year – the amount of growth on the Blue and Yellow Border that needs to be cut back for instance, is starting to make my eye twitch a little, but equally it is not harming the border so can be left for a little while whilst we focus on maintaining the overall look of the gardens.

It's lovely to see people enjoying the gardens again, and we hope you have a wonderful visit among the new seasonal blooms.

Tony Wiseman
Head Gardener