

Kelmarsh Hall & Gardens



www.kelmarsh.com

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A unique experience is waiting for you and your group at Kelmarsh in 2008

House Tours

A guided tour of the Hall takes approximately 45 minutes – 1 hour.

• **House Tour**

This is a very popular tour with our visitors which weaves in an overview of the history of the Hall with the story of its former occupant, Nancy Lancaster. Nancy inspired the development of the English Country House style, which is strongly reflected in both the designs within the Hall and the gardens. The secret of Nancy Lancaster's success is an assured sense of scale, boldness and an instinctive understanding of how to make a house mellow, elegant and unpretentious. This tour of the Hall is an opportunity to experience that style. Guides will weave in the stories of the other former occupants through the history of the Hall including the Georgian Hanbury family and the Victorian influences of the Naylor family. Collectively this makes a very interesting tour which lets visitors experience first hand the story of Kelmarsh.

An exclusive exhibition brought to you by Kelmarsh Trust and Croome Estate Trust

A guided tour of the Croome Collection takes approximately 1 hour.

• **NEW Croome Court Collection – treasures revealed**

This exhibition and guided tour showcases some of the unique paintings, furniture and porcelain with which George William 6th Earl of Coventry furnished his home at Croome Court in Worcestershire. The 6th Earl commissioned some of the best known cabinet makers in Britain to furnish his home, including Mayhew & Ince, France & Badburn, Vile & Cobb, Chippendale and Sefferin Alken. Artists include Allan Ramsay, Richard Wilson, Francesco Zuccarelli and Filipo Lauri. Landscape designs and architectural drawings are also on display created by Lancelot 'Capability' Brown and Robert Adam. The Croome collection is displayed on the First Floor at Kelmarsh in a variety of room settings, including a Drawing Room, Dining Room, Gallery, Print Room and selection of Bedrooms. The superb quality of the individual pieces within the collection together with the fact that many of the original bills of sale and correspondence between the 6th Earl and his craftsmen still exist, combine to make this a fabulous collection not to be missed.

Garden Tours

A guided tour of the gardens takes approximately 1 hour 15 minutes.

• **Garden Tour**

Find out about how the gardens have developed from their 18th century origins, see the influences of Nancy Lancaster, Norah Lindsay and Geoffrey Jellicoe in shaping the landscape. During the tour you'll hear about its many features, including the West Meadow and Terrace, Double Borders, Sunken Garden and scented Rose Garden. Plus you'll learn about our plans for the future and the practicalities of maintaining and enhancing these beautiful gardens.

• **NEW Secrets of the Walled Garden**

Discover the 18th century context of this unique triangular space and how it has been used throughout the subsequent centuries. The presence and history of the vinery and pineapple pits will demonstrate some of the horticultural aspirations of the households, and their interest in cultivating exotic and rare plants.

Costs : Private Group Tours

Admission prices for the following tours: are given below:

House tour Croome Court Tour Garden Tour Walled Garden

- Guided tour of the house and admission to the gardens: £6.00. The minimum number for a private guided tour of the House is 12 people.
- Guided tour of the Gardens only: £6.00. The minimum number for a tour of the Gardens is 12 people.
- Guided tour of both House and Gardens: £10.00. The minimum number for a tour of both House and Gardens is 12 people.
- Admission to the Garden during the morning (when we are not open to the public): £5.00.

Croome Collection Tours:

- Guided tour of the Croome Court Collection and admission to the gardens: £6.00.
- Guided tour of both the Croome Court Collection and the House: £12.00.

Smaller groups can be accommodated, prices on application. There is plenty of parking, including room for a coach.

Kelmarsh Gardens and timing your visits

Remember that the Kelmarsh gardens and landscape changes with the seasons too, so the following is a brief guide to some of the features and displays that you and your group might see on your visit....

Early Spring

- Mid April/early May: Pots of bulbs, especially tulips
- Late April: Pastel herbaceous plantings with tulips and foxgloves in the sunken garden. Naturalised Fritillaria Meleagris along verges and drive.

Summer

- June-July: Herbaceous double border in pastel shades in the style of Norah Lindsay
- Late June/early July: Rose gardens especially old fashioned roses
- July: Walled Garden – cut flower borders, very colourful display.
- Late July: Long border.

Late Summer/Autumn

- July-September: Cut flowers border in walled garden, very colourful August and September
- September: 60 metre long border. Vibrant colours in a grand cottage style (which reflects Norah Lindsay/Nancy Lancaster approach to planting)

For information, should members of your group wish to visit Kelmarsh Hall & Gardens on an individual basis - Public openings and costs for 2008

House open:

Thursday afternoons 2pm (last House tour 4.30pm) April to September 08 (inclusive)

Gardens open:

Afternoons only -Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday – Easter Sunday 23rd March 08 to end of September 08 (the Kelmarsh tea room is open on these days too!)

House £5.00, cons £4.50, child £3.00
Gardens £4.00, cons £3.50, child £2.50