

Rockingham Castle



Location:

Rockingham Castle, Rockingham, Market Harborough, Leics. LE16 8TH
Tel: 01536 770240 Fax: 01536 771692

Email: estateoffice@rockinghamcastle.com
www.rockinghamcastle.com



Summary:

Enjoy England Award for Excellence 2008
Regional Gold Award Winner for Best Small Visitor Attraction



Rockingham Castle stands on the edge of an escarpment giving dramatic views over five counties & the Welland Valley below. Built by William the Conqueror, the Castle was a royal residence for 450 years. In the 16th century Henry VIII granted it to Edward Watson and for 450 years it has remained a family home. The predominantly Tudor building, within Norman walls, has architecture, furniture and works of art from practically every century including, unusually, a remarkable collection of 20th century pictures. Charles Dickens was a regular visitor to the Castle and based Chesney Wolds in Bleak House on Rockingham.



Surrounding the Castle are some 18 acres of gardens largely following the foot print of the medieval castle. The vast 400 year old "Elephant Hedge" bisects the formal 17th century terraced gardens. The circular yew hedge stands on the site of the mot & bailey and provides shelter for the Rose Garden. Below the Castle is the beautiful 19th century "Wild Garden" replanted with advice from Kew Gardens during the early 1960's. Included in the gardens are many specimen trees & shrubs including the remarkable Handkerchief Tree.



Opening hours & Admission Prices:

From 8th April to the end of May

Sundays & Bank Holiday Mondays

June to September

Tuesdays, Sundays & Bank Holiday Mondays. Closed 5th June.

Open 12 noon – 5pm. Grounds open at 12 noon. Castle opens at 1pm

[Group visits](#)

Adults £8.00 (on open days)

Adults £10.00 (private guided tour)

Other facilities:

Free coach parking is available adjacent to the Castle. A member of the Castle staff will meet your coach on arrival and give a short introduction and orientation to the Castle. Walkers House Restaurant serving lunches and teas from locally sourced produce. Gift Shop. Disabled WC. Audio tour available.

How to get there:

1 mile North of Corby on the A6003

For further information, booking or digital images for use in brochures please contact:
Trish Griffiths, Rockingham Castle, Rockingham Village, Market Harborough, Leicestershire LE16 8TH

Doddington Hall



Location: Doddington Hall & Gardens, Doddington, Lincoln, Lincolnshire, LN6 4RU
Tel. +44 (0)1522 694 308 fax. +44 (0)1522 687 213
E-mail. info@doddingtonhall.com www.doddingtonhall.com

Summary:



Doddington Hall is a very fine, late Elizabethan Mansion, completed in 1600. It was built by Robert Smythson for Thomas Tailor, who was the Registrar to the Bishop of Lincoln. Doddington's high symmetrical outlines and huge windows symbolise the security and confidence of Queen Elizabeth's prosperous age.

The Hall is still a lived-in and loved family home, alive with history and interest. It has never been sold or cleared out and boasts a wonderfully varied collection of furniture, textiles, porcelain, paintings and household items of all types accumulated over the last 400 years.



There are six romantic acres of wild and walled formal gardens at Doddington which provide a continuous pageant of colour from earliest spring until autumn. Restored in 2007, the walled Kitchen Garden now grows fresh produce for the Farm Shop and Café and is open to visitors on a regular basis.

Opening hours & Admission Prices:



Gardens only - public opening

12th Feb–1st April 2012 & throughout Oct, Sundays only, 11am – 4pm. **Private Groups are welcome at other times also (except Saturdays) by prior arrangement.**

House & Gardens – public opening

8th April (Easter Day) – 28th Sept 2012, Suns, Weds & BH Mons, 1pm-5pm. Gardens open at 11am. **Private Groups are welcome at other times also (except Saturdays) by prior arrangement.**

Admission: Gardens only

Group Rate* (adults & seniors, min 20 people) private visit: £7.75

Admission: House & Gardens

Group Rate* (adults & seniors, min 20 people) private visit: £9.50

** Group Visit discounts available on public open days (Weds, Sun, BH Mon)*

Other Facilities:



Popular Doddington Hall Farm Shop & Cafe, Restaurant, Gift Shop, Garden and Nature Trails. Free coach parking available close to public entrance. Free entry for coach drivers & complimentary tea, coffee & cake available in Gatehouse Tearoom. Free familiarisation visits welcome to drivers & group visit organisers on open days.

Award-Winning facilities for disabled visitors. These include sensory tours of the House & Gardens; entertaining audio-tours with induction loops; full wheelchair access to the Gardens and to ground floor of Hall; 360° panoramic, Virtual Tour of upper floors of Hall for those who are unable to make the stairs. Knowledgeable & helpful guides always on duty.

How to Get There:

Doddington lies five miles west of Lincoln on the B1190. It is signposted from the A46 Newark to Lincoln Road & from the A57 between the A1 & Lincoln.

For further information, bookings or digital images for use in brochures please contact:

Nicky Wilson, House Manager, Doddington Hall & Gardens, Doddington, Lincoln, LN6 4RU
Tel. 01522 812 510 Email. info@doddingtonhall.com

Burghley



Location: Burghley House, Stamford, Lincolnshire, PE9 3JY
Tel. +44 (0)1780 752451, fax. +44 (0)1780 480125
E-mail. burghley@burghley.co.uk, www.burghley.co.uk

Summary: One of the largest and grandest houses of the first Elizabethan age, Burghley was built and designed by William Cecil, Lord High Treasurer to Queen Elizabeth I, between 1555 and 1587, and is still lived in by his descendants. Used in the recent films *Pride and Prejudice* and *The Da Vinci Code*, Eighteen State Rooms house a huge collection of great works of art, including one of the most important private collections of 17th century Italian paintings, the earliest inventoried collection of Japanese ceramics in the West and wood carvings by Grinling Gibbons and his followers. There are also four magnificent State Beds, fine examples of English and continental furniture and important tapestries and textiles. The Brewhouse Interpretation Centre features an audio visual introduction to the house and family along with an annually changing exhibition.



The house is surrounded by historic parkland laid out by Capability Brown and incorporates a modern sculpture park (13 acres). The Garden of Surprises is a recreation of a Tudor trick garden complete with revolving Caesars heads and spurting fountains to delight and amuse all ages.

Opening hours & Admission Prices:



Burghley House, The Brewhouse Interpretation Centre, The Sculpture Garden & The Garden of Surprises:

17th March – 28th October 2012. Open daily (except Fridays) 11 am to 5 pm.
Last admission 4.30 pm

House, Brewhouse interpretation centre, Sculpture Garden & Garden of Surprises

Group Rate (Adults & Seniors): £11.00

Guided Tours 10.30am or 3.30pm: £1.50 extra per person

(subject to availability, minimum of 20 per group)

Audio Guides: £2 extra per person for advance group bookings only

The Sculpture Garden & The Garden of Surprises

Group Rate (Adults & Seniors): £5.90



Orangerie Restaurant, Gift Shop and Capability Brown's Deer Park which is open to the public free of charge. Coach parking for these areas is free for comfort breaks on route. Private South Gardens are open for the fantastic display of spring flowers in April. Drivers and Couriers are welcome to enter and eat for free. Familiarisation visits welcome.

Free coach parking is available close to the house entrance. Disabled toilet facilities. All of the State Rooms and the Orangerie Restaurant are on the first floor and are accessible via two chair lifts. Movable ramps are available for use in other areas.

How to Get There: Burghley is situated one mile from Stamford, 20 minutes north of Peterborough on the A1.

For further information, booking or digital images for use in brochures please contact:

Susanna Plummer, Burghley House Stamford PE9 3JY,

01780 752451

susanna.plummer@burghley.co.uk

Belvoir Castle



Belvoir Castle

Location:

Belvoir Castle, Leicestershire , NG32 1PE
Tel. +44 (0)1476 871002, fax. +44 (0)1476 870443
E-mail. info@belvoircastle.com www.belvoircastle.com



Summary:



The family home of the Duke and Duchess of Rutland. Built by the 5th Duke and Duchess in 1819, the Castle enjoys breathtaking views over the Vale of Belvoir and houses an impressive collection of period art and furniture. The grounds around the Castle are extensive and relaxing, while the playground will keep children occupied for many hours. Beautiful formal gardens feature 17th century Cias Cibber statues. The Duchess's Spring Gardens are designed to look spectacular all year round. A haven of tranquility in secluded woodland near the Castle, the Duchess's Spring Gardens are set in a natural amphitheatre with the freshwater springs which give them their name. The 10th Duchess began the garden restoration process which the present Duchess is now continuing. The gardens are carefully planned to ensure plants are in bloom all year round.

Opening hours & Admission Prices:



Open every Monday & Sunday in May, June, July and August **except the following:**
Closed on: June 24th and 25th, July 22nd.
Also open on Tuesday June 5th and Thursday July 19th.

Entry to the Castle is by guided tour at a time to be pre-arranged with your group.
Group prices: Adults £12, Concessions £10, Children £7

Please refer to the website www.belvoircastle.com or email harvey@belvoircastle.com for more information

Other Facilities:

Gift shop, light refreshments and disabled facilities available.

Access:



Free coach parking available. On arrival please report to the ticket office in the car park. Groups arriving by coach at the public car park ticket office should be aware that, unfortunately, there is no means of access to the Castle other than by a 5 minute walk up a relatively steep hill.

Coach drivers and couriers are admitted free of charge and can obtain a voucher from the ticket office for complimentary refreshments.

How to Get There:

The Castle is situated west of Grantham between the A52 and A607 and is well signposted.

For further information, booking or digital images for use in brochures please contact:

Harvey Proctor, Belvoir Castle, Leicestershire NG32 1PE 01476 871023

Grimsthorpe Castle



Location:

The Estate Office, Grimsthorpe, Bourne, PE10 0LY
Tel. +44 (0)1778 591205, fax. +44 (0)1778 591259
E-mail ray@grimsthorpe.co.uk
Web www.grimsthorpe.co.uk



Built for a visit by Henry VIII in 1541, the imposing Castle sits amongst rolling Lincolnshire countryside surrounded by formal gardens, extensive woodland and a

50-acre lake.

There is the chance to soak up the atmosphere and 'Spirit of Place' in a building that has been home to the same family since 1516 and is filled with fine furniture, paintings and tapestries. Groups are usually given a one-hour guided tour of the castle, with one guide for every 10-12 visitors. Remember to allow some time to explore the extensive gardens.



Consider taking a guided tour of the park in your coach.

The 3,000 acres of Grimsthorpe Park encompass rolling pasture, landscaped lakes and historic oak woodland, little changed since the visit of Henry VIII. It includes the site of a 12th century Cistercian abbey, the grand designs of 18th century landscape architects and a centuries-long association with the Castle. Natural history is diverse, with three species of wild deer, teeming bird life on the lakes, ancient trees, rare flowers and butterflies. The tour is a one-hour journey into the hidden areas of the Park and is particularly popular with visitors who have limited mobility. A member of the estate management team will accompany your coach.



Grimsthorpe Castle, Park & Gardens:

April – September 2012. Group visits any day by arrangement (except Fridays & Saturdays), subject to availability. Allow at least two hours for your visit.

Group Rate (Adults & Seniors) :from £7.95

Including guided Park Tour

Group Rate (Adults & Seniors) : from £8.95

Coach House Tea Room & Gift Shop. Free Coach parking. Free admission for Driver and Courier. £5 catering voucher for driver. Familiarisation visits welcome.



Access: Coach parking is available close to the house if required There are two sets of lavatories, both with facilities for disabled people. Tea room, gardens and grounds are mostly accessible for wheelchairs. There are gravel paths close to the house. Visitors in wheelchairs are welcome to visit three ground-floor rooms in the castle. There is a 'virtual' tour of the first floor rooms available to view on our laptop computer.

A wheelchair is available at the ticket reception for visitor use and folding walking stools can be borrowed at the castle.

How to Get There: Grimsthorpe is situated on the A151 between Colsterworth and Bourne, approximately 10 minutes' drive east of the A1.

For further information and to make a booking please contact:

Ray Biggs at: The Estate Office, Grimsthorpe PE10 0LY.

01778 591205

ray@grimsthorpe.co.uk