

HEVER CASTLE



2020

Groups & Travel Trade Guide

Discover more at hevercastle.co.uk/groups

AN EXPERIENCE TO REMEMBER

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Introduction

Hever Castle & Gardens has a long established reputation for offering excellent service to group travel organisers, schools, student groups and the travel trade. With discounted admission rates for groups of 15 or more (paying) persons and a host of group benefits and special packages, Hever Castle & Gardens provides the perfect setting for a group day out.

A dedicated member of staff will assist you with your planning and will guide you every step of the way to ensure that your group visit is a memorable one.

Group Benefits

- + Discounted admission rates
- + Free visit for group leader and coach driver
- + Free parking
- + Free meal voucher for coach driver
- + Dedicated member of staff to help plan the perfect day
- + Special group menus
- + Special group packages
- + Special packages for schools



Castle

Dating back to the 13th century, Hever Castle was the childhood home of Anne Boleyn, second wife of Henry VIII and mother of Elizabeth I.

Its splendid panelled rooms contain fine furniture, tapestries, antiques and an important collection of Tudor portraits regarded by historian David Starkey as 'one of the best collections of Tudor portraits after the National Portrait Gallery'. Two beautifully illuminated prayer books on display in the Book of Hours room belonged to Anne Boleyn and bear her inscriptions and signature.

Spanning more than 700 years, the history of Hever Castle is rich and varied. The original medieval defensive Castle, with its gatehouse and walled bailey, was built in 1270. In the 15th and 16th centuries it was the home of one of the most powerful families in the country, the Boleyns, who added the Tudor dwelling within the walls. Hever later passed into the ownership of another of Henry VIII's wives, Anne of Cleves, and from 1557 onwards it was owned by a number of families.

Much of what you see today is the result of the remarkable efforts of a wealthy American, William Waldorf Astor, who used his fortune to restore and extend the Castle in the early 20th century. A section of the Castle is dedicated to its more recent history.

New for 2020 – Multimedia Guide now included in admission price

Be guided through the rooms of the Castle, discover more about their contents and learn about the restoration of the Castle.

Multimedia guides are available in English, French, German, Dutch, Russian and Chinese. A children's multimedia guide in English is also available.



Dining Hall



Gardens

Discover magnificent award-winning gardens set in 125 acres of glorious grounds at Hever Castle. Marvel at the Pompeian Wall and classical statuary in the Italian Garden; admire the giant topiary chess set in the Tudor Garden and inhale the fragrance of over 4,000 rose bushes in the quintessential English Rose Garden.

The Loggia, overlooking the 38-acre Lake, is the perfect spot to relax before exploring the many cascades, grottoes and fountains. A stroll along the Long Border, Diana's Walk, Blue Corner and Rhododendron Walk provide colour and interest throughout the year. Wander further afield and enjoy Sunday Walk and Church Gill Walk that follow the course of a stream through peaceful woodland.

Images: 1 Loggia, 2 Tudor Garden, 3 Rose Garden, 4 Blue Corner.



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Private Guided Castle Tours

Tours are currently only available in English and last approximately one hour. Private Guided Tours must be booked in advance and start at 10am or 10.30am.

Take a tour of the Castle with an experienced and highly knowledgeable member of the team to learn about the Castle's rich and varied history. Discover all about those that have owned, lived and worked at the Castle and how it is conserved today. Enjoy detailed facts about the splendid panelled rooms, their fine furniture, tapestries, antiques and an important collection of Tudor paintings.

Private Guided Castle Tours must be pre-booked and are conducted outside of normal opening hours. Visitors are divided into groups of no more than 25, with one tour guide per group.

Images: 1 Entrance Hall, 2 Drawing Room, 3 Oratory,
4 King Henry VIII's Bedchamber.



Private Guided Garden Tours

Tours are only available in English and last approximately one hour.
Private Guided Tours must be booked in advance.

Garden Tour*

Take a tour of the gardens with one of the Hever Castle gardening team. Discover more about the work that goes on today to conserve, restore and improve the gardens. Your tour guide will be happy to answer any questions you have about the gardens and the flora and fauna within them.

Garden History Tour

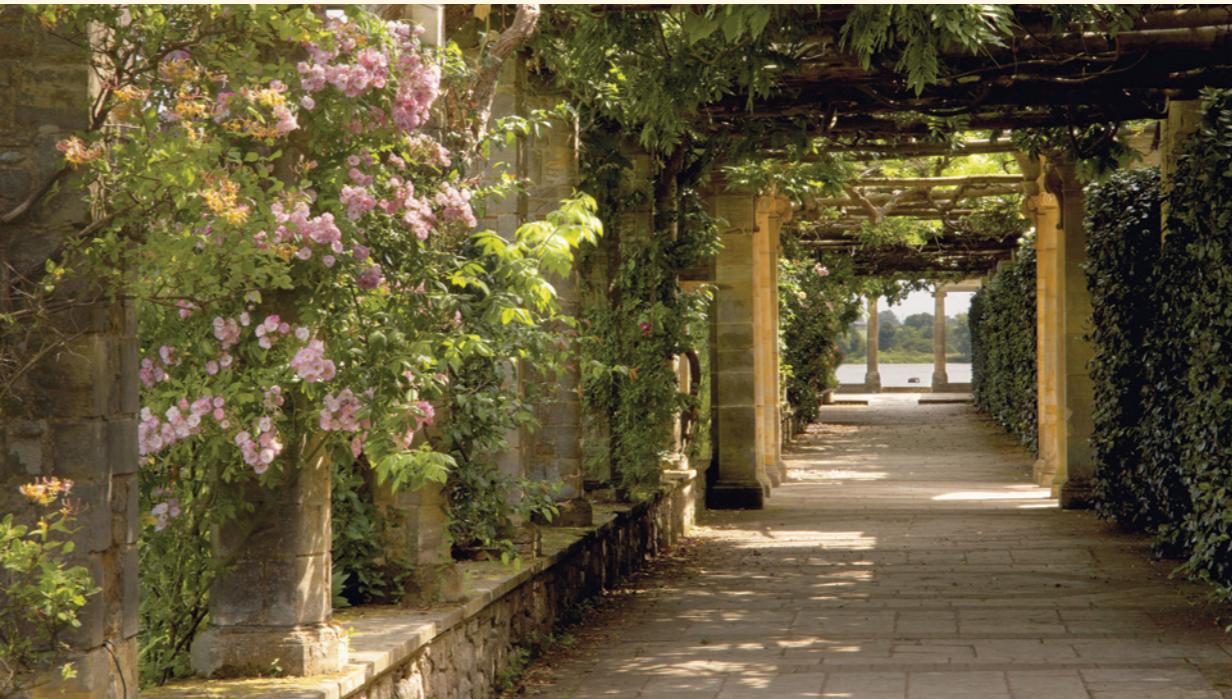
Enjoy a Garden Tour, which traces the restoration and development of the stunning gardens from Tudor times to the present day. Learn about the beautiful gardens that were laid out between 1904 and 1908 and designed to display William Waldorf Astor's Italian statuary.

Turn over to learn more about tours with our Head Gardener.

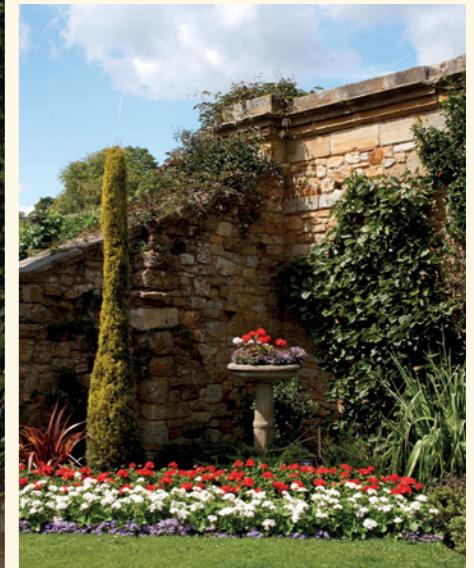
*Weekdays only

Images: 1 Pergola Walk, 2 Pompeian Wall, 3 Rose Garden, 4 Tudor Garden.

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Specialist Tours

Hidden Hever

Experience a unique private tour offering the chance to discover additional rooms of the Castle usually closed to visitors.

This tour is at 10am for up to 15 adults only per session. Tours are only available in English and last approximately one and a half hours. Please discuss accessibility with us prior to booking.

Groups of 4 people or less can only book 4 weeks ahead.



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School Visits

Hever Castle & Gardens welcomes schools from the UK, Europe and all over the world and is the perfect day out for an informative educational experience outside the classroom.

Choose from a self-guided visit that now includes a multimedia guide, a private guided tour or a workshop.

	CHILD (5 - 15)	STUDENT (16 - 19)	ADULT**
Self-guided with worksheets*	£5.65	£11.15	£14.15
Self-guided with WWI or WW2 Haversacks*	£5.65	£11.15	£14.15
Castle Private Guided Tour	£7.35	£15.90	£14.15
Time Travellers Tour & Workshop	£8.35	-	£13.80
Romans Tour & Workshop	£8.35	-	£13.80

*New for 2020 – multimedia guide now included.

**Adults will be admitted free of charge on a 1:6 or 1:10 ratio depending on the age of the children.
Children must not be left unattended at any time.





Yew Maze



Attractions

Miniature Model Houses

Discover the fabulous Miniature Model Houses collection that illustrates the development of English country houses through the ages, from Tudor to Victorian times.



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Lake

The Lake provides a tranquil location to take a peaceful walk away from the Castle and Gardens. The magical lakeside locations of the Italian Loggia and Japanese Tea House not only provide delightful points from which to view the Lake, but are wonderful vistas from the Lake itself and Lake Walk.

Garden Exhibition

Learn about Astor's Garden Legacy and the creation, restoration and development of the gardens from Tudor times to the present day. Unearth fascinating facts about the gardens, scroll through 'then' and 'now' images on iPads and discover stunning views of Hever from the air.

Play Areas

Play in a nine-metre tall castle with its own moat, drawbridge, dining hall and three turrets. Discover a natural play area with a giant sandpit, climbing frames, swings, aerial runway and special area for the under 5s.

Mazes

Visitors of all ages enjoy the challenge of finding their way through the Water Maze and the 100 year old Yew Maze.

Image: 1 Miniature Model Houses



Eating

From cakes made in our Castle kitchen and Kentish ice cream, to light bites and delicious lunches, there is something for everyone, whatever your appetite. Discover a choice of two restaurants, a cafe and kiosks dotted around the grounds*.

Or bring your own picnic to enjoy at one of the many suitable areas. Only one mile from the Castle's main entrance is The Waterside Bar, Restaurant & Terrace overlooking the Golf Courses which is available for breakfast, brunch and lunch.

GROUP MENUS	
Arrival refreshments	Morning coffee/tea with home baked biscuits.
Group Set Lunch	Choose from a selection of one, two and three course menus all served with bread and butter, jugs of water and coffee/tea.
Tudor Afternoon Tea	Homemade mini scones, clotted cream and jam and coffee/tea.
Anne Boleyn Afternoon Tea	Homemade mini scones, clotted cream and jam, mini cake selection and coffee/tea.
Lady Astor Afternoon Tea	Finger sandwiches, homemade mini scones, clotted cream and jam, mini cake selection and coffee/tea.

Find out more at hevercastle.co.uk/groups

*Seasonal opening times



Shopping

Both the Hever and Courtyard Shops provide a wonderful selection of products to explore – from seasonal plants, local food and drink, to china, books, unique gifts and mementos of your time at Hever.

You'll be inspired by our exciting range to suit all tastes, ages and budgets. Many reflect the Castle's colourful history while others showcase the best of classic and contemporary design.

Find out more at hevercastle.co.uk/shop

Images: 1 & 2 Hever Shopping, 3 Moat Restaurant



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What's On

A varied programme of events is available to groups throughout 2020.

Full details of all events are available at: hevercastle.co.uk/whats-on

This is a small selection of events that are particularly popular with groups.

EVENT	DATES
Snowdrop Walk	From Feb 8 2020
Dazzling Daffodils	Mar 16 – 22 2020
Tulip Celebrations	April 21 – 26 2020
Hever in Bloom	Jun 29 – Jul 5 2020
Craft Fair	Sep 10 – 13 2020
Autumn Colour	From Oct 1 2020
Christmas at the Castle	Nov 21 – Dec 24 2020

Images: 1 Hever in Bloom, 2 Christmas at the Castle



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Tulip Celebrations



Plan Your Day

To enjoy all that Hever Castle & Gardens has to offer we recommend around three to four hours for your visit.

To help you plan your day, please refer to the timings below.

TIMING YOUR VISIT	
ATTRACTI ONS	HOURS
Castle	1 hr
Gardens & Grounds	1 ½ hrs
Miniature Model Houses	½ hr
Shopping & Eating	1 hr
Garden Exhibition	½ hr
KSY Military Museum	½ hr
Mazes	½ hr (each)

Please consider access to the Castle and grounds according to your individual needs. You can seek advice from our Group Visits Coordinator or visit the website for al full access statement.

Wheelchairs are available for hire and a mobility buggy operates throughout

the day between the Main Entrance and Information Centre.

It is not possible to use mobility scooters or pushchairs in the Castle and wheelchairs cannot be taken upstairs. For your own safety we advise wheelchair and mobility scooters keep to the hard surfaced shingle paths.



Opening Times

Gardens open at 10.30am – Castle opens at 12 noon.

Private Guided Castle Tours are conducted outside of normal opening hours, commencing at 10am and 10.30am, and must be pre-booked.

DATE	LAST ENTRY	FINAL EXIT
EARLY SPRING SEASON 2020		
Feb 8 – Mar 29 (Daily)	15:00	16:30
MAIN SEASON 2020		
Mar 30 – Oct 24 (Daily)	16:30	18:00
WINTER SEASON 2020		
Oct 25 – Nov 1 (Daily)	15:00	16:30
Nov 2 – Nov 20 (Wed – Sun)	15:00	16:30
CHRISTMAS SEASON 2020		
Nov 21 – Dec 8 (Wed-Sun)	16:30	18:00
Dec 9 – 23 (Daily)	16:30	18:00
Dec 24 (Daily)	15:00	16:30
WINTER WALKS 2020/21		
Dec 27 – Jan 3 (Daily)	15:00	16:30



Group Prices

(15 or more paying persons**)

	ADULT	SENIOR	STUDENT (16 - 19)	CHILD (5 - 15)
Castle & Gardens	£14.15	£13.35	£11.15	£5.65
Gardens Only	£11.70	£11.25	£9.30	£5.15
Castle Private Guided Tour	£21.40	£21.40	£15.90	£7.35
Castle Private Guided Tours & Garden Tour			£31.85	
Head Gardener Tour*			£20.00	
Garden Tour**			£17.50	
Garden History Tour**			£17.50	
Hidden Hever Tour***			£67.50	

*Add £2.15 for Castle entry for the Head Gardener Tour

**Add £2.10 for Castle entry for the Garden Tour and Garden History Tour

***Hidden Hever Tour is for groups of up to 15 people

FIT rates are available on request

All prices shown above include Garden entry



How to Book

To save time on arrival and to make your group visit a memorable one, it is recommended that you book in advance via our Group Visits Coordinator.

When you visit as a group the total cost must be paid in a single payment and group rates can only be applied if your group comprises of 15 persons or more, and you all arrive in the grounds together.

On arrival, your group organiser will be directed to the entrance to confirm numbers and collect tickets on behalf of the group.

We accept all major debit and credit cards (not Diners), cash (pound sterling only) and cheques (payable to Hever Castle Limited). You can also pre-pay via bank transfer and invoice (for Credit Account Customers only, details upon application).

Telephone

+44 (0)1732 861701

Email

groups@hevercastle.co.uk



HEVER CASTLE & GARDENS

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How to find us

Centrally located on the Kent, Surrey and Sussex borders, just 20 minutes from junctions 5 and 6 of the M25.

Address

Hever Castle, Hever,
Edenbridge, Kent TN8 7NG

Contact us on

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t. +44 (0)1732 861701

Discover more at
hevercastle.co.uk

