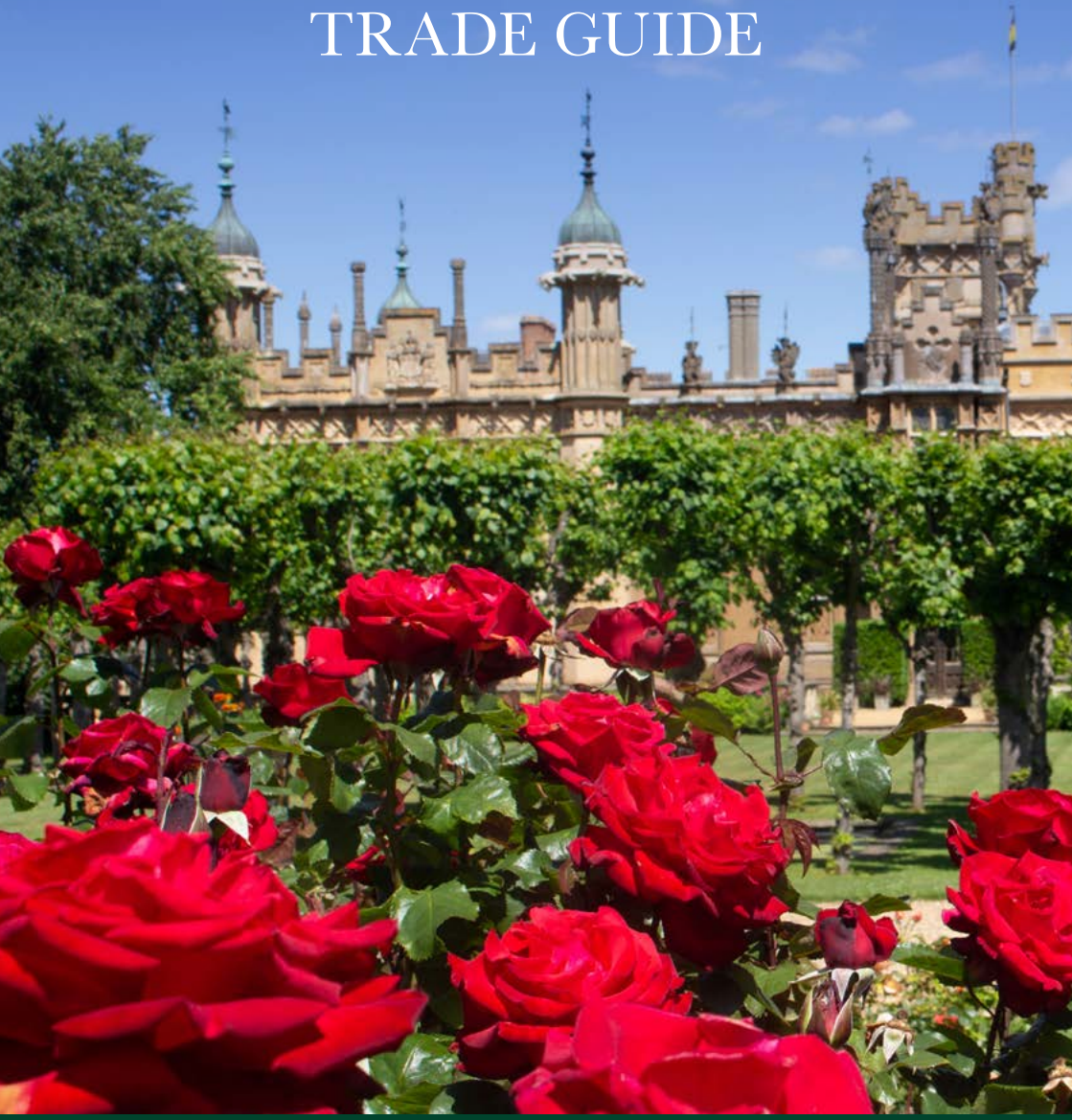
KNEBWORTH HOUSE,
GARDENS & PARK

GROUP AND TRAVEL TRADE GUIDE



VISIT HERTS

www.knebworthhouse.com | 01438 810931

HISTORIC HOUSES



WELCOME

Set in 250 acres of beautiful rolling Hertfordshire countryside with 28 acres of Formal Gardens, Knebworth House has been home to the Lytton family for over 19 generations, making for an extraordinary walk through 500 years of local and British history. Stories and heirlooms reflect the family's contribution to literature, politics, and foreign service. Visits from people as diverse as Charles Dickens, Winston Churchill and Queen Elizabeth I have also added to Knebworth's rich heritage.

GROUP BENEFITS

- Group rates
- One-to-one service from a dedicated Group Bookings Coordinator
- Free place for the group organiser (for groups of 20+)
- Free admission and a refreshment voucher for coach drivers on open days
- Free onsite coach parking
- Private specialist tours and talk options available on request[A]
- Group discount on Knebworth guide books
- Dining options available
- Private garden tour with a gardener[A]
- 1 free ticket for a familiarisation visit on an open day* (once final payment has been made)

*Non-event days [A]Additional charge applies

500 YEARS OF HISTORY

Sir Robert Lytton bought the manor of Knebworth in 1490. He supported Henry VII at the Battle of Bosworth and became Under Treasurer to the Household and close confidant. The House was completed by 1563 and remained virtually unaltered until the 19th Century.

Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton, Victorian novelist, playwright and politician, who penned the lines 'it was a dark and stormy night' and 'the pen is mightier than the sword', transformed the Tudor house into a Victorian Gothic fantasy, with domes, turrets and gargoyles. H. E Kendall designed these extensive alterations, with interiors by John Crace and John Hardman. This followed on from the significant changes that his mother made, having previously demolished three wings of the House.

There have been gardens at Knebworth House since at least the 17th Century, but the present layout dates largely from the Edwardian era. The architect Sir Edwin Lutyens, who married into the Lytton family, simplified the ornate beds and statuary of the Victorian garden with lawns and avenues of pollarded lime trees. Lutyens created 'garden rooms' with each area having a different feel depending on the planting.

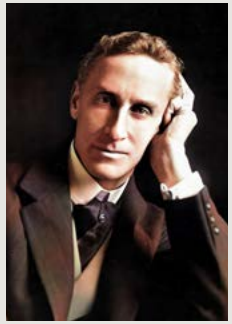
The Lytton women have a long history of fighting for the emancipation of women. Most well-known is Suffragette Lady Constance, who turned away from her aristocratic roots, enduring prison and force-feeding in her fight for women's votes. She wrote about her ordeal in "Prisons and Prisoners" (1914), which became widely read and was influential in prison reform.



Sir Robert Lytton



Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton



Victor Bulwer Lytton, 2nd Earl



Lady Constance Lytton



GUIDED TOURS

Come and discover the home of the Lytton family with a fascinating tour full of stories and treasures from the past 500 years.

Most pre-booked group tours are guided and take approximately one hour. Tours will include the Banqueting Hall, Library and Dining Parlour along with The State Drawing Room and main Bedrooms.

We can offer the following tour formats:

Knebworth House and the Lytton Family

This tour tells the story of the House and the family for whom it has been home for over 500 years.

The Lytton Ladies

Focusing on some of the remarkable ladies of the House, whose characters have left their mark on both Knebworth and British History.

Film Tour

Knebworth House has made starring appearances on the big screen in major feature films, series and music videos with highlights including Batman, The Crown and The King's Speech. Daytime and evening tours are available.

Formal Garden Tours

Guided tours of the Formal Gardens are offered at an additional charge of £3.50 per person for groups of 20+. These tours take approx. 45 mins to 1 hour. Every Wednesday afternoon in July the first 20 visitors who pre-register at the Gift Shop can enjoy a free tour of the Gardens with a member of the Gardens Team.

Free-Flow Days

On event days and Sundays throughout July and August, guests may explore the House at their own leisure. There will be Room Stewards available to answer questions in addition to room information sheets. House tours can be accommodated earlier in the day for pre-booked groups of 20+.









ATTRACTIONS

Exhibitions

Our Exhibition space has been split into three different areas showcasing 'Rock Concert History of Knebworth Park', 'On Location at Knebworth House' and 'The Lytton Family in India'.

The Watchman's Tower

The tower was originally used by the night Watchman but had been out of use since the 1950s and never been open to the public until 2020.

Knebworth House Education and Preservation Trust is grateful to have secured grants from Historic England, the National Lottery Heritage Fund and the Historic Houses Foundation to enable a two year project to restore the exterior and interior of the Tower. Visitors can now climb the staircase, which is made from Oak from the Knebworth Estate, in order to reach the top viewing platform where they can enjoy stunning views of the local area.

Dinosaur Trail

Take a walk on the wild side and explore the Dinosaur Trail in the Wilderness with over 70 life-sized model dinosaurs - very popular with young visitors.

Maze

The Edwardian Maze has been a children's favourite for many generations.

Adventure Playground with Fort Knebworth

The popular outdoor facility, with its slides, climbing equipment, and mini fort, continues to give hours of enjoyment to children. Under cover tables and toilets are on site. The refreshment kiosk is available on open days but must be booked in advance on closed days.

Events

Each year Knebworth Park hosts a varied programme of special events which include the Hertfordshire Garden Show in May, Medieval Jousting in June, and the ever popular annual Classic Car Show in August.

SAMPLE MENU

Lunch Menu

Pulled ham and leek pie, mustard mash
Chicken breast served on a bed of roasted vegetables
Feta and sun blushed tomato quiche, new potatoes and salad (v)
Beef chilli, rice, nachos and sour cream
Pea and spinach risotto, rocket and parmesan salad (v)
Apple crumble and custard
Sticky toffee pudding
Fresh fruit salad

Morning Refreshments

Tea and biscuits
Tea or filter coffee with freshly baked biscuits

Morning bakery
Tea or filter coffee with pastries

Afternoon Refreshments

Tea and cake
Tea or filter coffee with a slice of cake

Cream tea
Scone, jam and clotted cream served with tea or filter coffee

Afternoon tea
Selection of sandwiches, miniature cakes, scone with jam and clotted cream, served with tea or filter coffee







FOOD & DRINK

Garden Terrace Tea Room

On public open days, our self-service style Garden Terrace Tea Room offers a selection of homemade soup, afternoon teas, cakes, sandwiches, locally produced hot and cold lunches and freshly prepared salads.

Group Set Lunches

Groups of 20 or more guests have the additional option of booking a special menu to be served within a reserved area.

There is a menu available for groups visiting on a closed day that do not wish to book and pay for refreshments in advance.

Tea and Coffee

For all groups pre-ordering and pre-paying for a two-course lunch from the Pre-Booked Group Menu, complimentary tea and filter coffee will be served after your meal.

Cream Teas and Traditional Afternoon Tea

Enjoy a delicious cream tea served with homemade jam and clotted cream. The afternoon tea menu includes a selection of finger sandwiches, freshly baked scones with clotted cream and homemade jam, mini tea fancies, tea and coffee.

SHOPPING

The Knebworth House Gift Shop stocks a range of affordable gifts, souvenirs, seasonal plants for your garden and concert memorabilia, much of which is unique to Knebworth.

Guide Books

A beautifully illustrated, full colour guide to Knebworth House, Gardens and Park is available at a discounted rate of £3.00 if pre-ordered and prepaid for 21 days prior to your visit. Guide books are also available to purchase in the House and Gift Shop on the day for £4.00.



PLAN YOUR VISIT

Knebworth House welcomes groups both large and small; the minimum group size is just 16 paying guests, providing you are visiting on a general public open day*. Groups of 20 or more guests have the option of visiting on a closed day.

You are welcome to spend as long or as little time in each area as you like, the timings below are guidelines, with the exception of guided tours, which last one hour.

*Groups of fewer than 20 (i.e. 16+) will be allocated a public tour time. Exclusive house tour is not guaranteed.

Attraction	Suggested Timings
House Tour	1 hour
Exhibition Space	30 minutes
Garden Tour	1 hour
Dinosaur Trail and Wilderness Garden	45 minutes
Park and Adventure Playground	3 hours
Maze	10 minutes
Free time in Knebworth Gardens	1 hour

Opening Dates (Dates may be subject to change)

Please view our current opening dates on our website or speak to a member of our Group Bookings team on **groupbookings@knebworthhouse.com**

Opening Hours

Park, Gardens, Adventure Playground, Gift Shop, Dinosaur Trail and Garden Terrace Tea Room.	10:30 am
House and Exhibition Space.	11:30 am
Last admission for all areas is 4:00 pm for a 5:00 pm close. House tours can be accommodated from 10:30 am for a pre-booked group of 20+ guests.	



PRICES & HOW TO BOOK

Group Admission Charges

During published visitor open days and times. (Minimum of 16 guests)

	Excluding House	Including House
Adults	£15.00	£22.50
Senior Citizen	£15.00	£22.00
Child	£15.00	£22.00

Group Admission Charges

During closed days.
(Minimum of 20 visitors between 10am-6pm) (Minimum of 50 visitors between 6pm-9pm)

	Excluding House	Including House
Adults	£16.00	£23.50
Senior Citizen	£16.00	£23.00
Child	£16.00	£23.00

Make your booking by completing the online booking form on the website (**www.knebworthhouse.com/group-visits**) or contact our Group Bookings Coordinators on **01438 810931** or **groupbookings@knebworthhouse.com**.

Once a confirmed booking has been made, the organiser may book an appointment for a familiarisation visit with a Group Bookings Coordinator to ensure that everything runs smoothly on the day - these take place Mon-Fri 9.30am - 3.30pm, alternatively 1 free ticket can be issued to the group organiser so they can come at their own leisure once payment has been made.

Payment: Final numbers are due 18 days prior and payment is required 14 days prior to your visit. We accept payment by BACS, cheque, and debit/credit card.

We regret that we are not able to offer refunds. **Late bookings require immediate payment by card.** Normal admission will be charged for any additional visitors on the day, we will not accept cheques on the day.

Promotional offers and membership cards cannot be used for group bookings.

HOW TO GET TO KNEBWORTH HOUSE



Contact us

For more information please visit our website:
www.knebworthhouse.com/group-visits
or contact our Group Bookings Coordinators.

Phone: **01438 810931**

Email: **groupbookings@knebworthhouse.com**

VisitEngland QUALITY ASSURED VISITOR ATTRACTION

VISIT HERTS

HISTORIC HOUSES

BY ROAD

Knebworth House & Park are accessed direct from the Junction 7 roundabout of the A1(M) motorway at Stevenage South, 29 miles north of London. There are signs on both carriageways of the motorway.
Use postcode: SG1 2AX

BY RAIL

Non-stop Inter-City and local services run to Stevenage station from London's Kings Cross, Cambridge, York, Leeds, Newcastle, Edinburgh and Glasgow. Arrive in 3 hours on the Eurostar. There is a taxi rank at the station. Please note there is no pedestrian access via our main entrance.

PARKING

There is plenty of onsite free parking for cars and coaches.

WHERE TO STAY

Details of local hotels and places to stay can be found on our website.

BY AIR

Luton Airport 11 miles (30 minutes)
Stansted Airport 28 miles (46 minutes)
Heathrow Airport 41 miles (54 minutes)
London City Airport 48 miles (61 minutes)
Gatwick Airport 77 miles (91 minutes)

ACCESSIBILITY

Essential companions accompanying any paying visitor may receive complimentary admission providing that they can present corresponding evidence to group bookings by email. A wheelchair is available for use from the Gift Shop. Assistance dogs are admitted in all areas. See Accessibility page on website.

KNEBWORTH HOUSE, GARDENS & PARK

The information contained in this brochure is correct at the time of going to press. The management reserves the right to make any changes to facilities offered and to close the ground and House, or any part thereof, without notice.