

23 September 2020

HRH Princess Beatrice of York's wedding dress goes on display at Windsor Castle

From Thursday, 24 September, a visit to Windsor Castle will include the special display of HRH Princess Beatrice of York's wedding dress, first worn by Her Majesty The Queen in the 1960s and designed by the renowned British fashion designer Sir Norman Hartnell.

The wedding dress is on display from Thursday in the State Dining Room, one of the Semi-State Rooms, which open to the public each year between September and March. Originally created as private apartments for George IV, the Semi-State Rooms are among the most richly decorated interiors in the Castle and are used by The Queen for official entertaining.

Princess Beatrice chose to wear a vintage dress loaned by Her Majesty The Queen for her wedding to Mr Edoardo Mapelli Mozzi on 17 July 2020. It is made of ivory *peau de soie* taffeta and hand embroidered on the bodice, waist and hips in crystals and diamantés, while the skirt is trimmed with a band of ivory duchess satin.

The original design by Sir Norman Hartnell was altered for Her Royal Highness under the direction of Miss Angela Kelly, Personal Advisor, Dresser and Curator to The Queen, and the British fashion designer Mr Stewart Parvin. The full-skirted silhouette was softened to give a more contemporary, simplified shape and short sleeves of triple organza were added to the straps and embroidered with vintage diamantés to match the original design. Each alteration made to the dress is reversible.

Sir Norman Hartnell designed many of the outfits worn by The Queen for official events and family occasions during the first half of her reign, including Her Majesty's wedding dress in 1947 and Coronation dress in 1953. The Queen first wore the taffeta gown in Rome during a State Visit in 1961. Her Majesty wore it again to the London premiere of the film *Lawrence of Arabia* in 1962 and for the State Opening of Parliament in 1966. The design of the dress is in keeping with Her Majesty's predominant style of State evening wear in the 1960s, and is an example of Hartnell's signature crinoline silhouette and love of embellishment.

The display at Windsor Castle also features Princess Beatrice's wedding shoes, made by Valentino, and a replica of Her Royal Highness's bouquet made from artificial flowers. The bouquet was designed by Patrice Van Helden, co-owner of RVH Floral Design, and contained trailing jasmine, pale pink and cream sweet peas, Royal Porcelina spray roses, pink O'Hara roses, pink 'wax flower' (*Chamelaucium uncinatum*), baby pink astilbe and sprigs of myrtle.

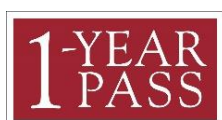
An official range of commemorative china and souvenir items to celebrate the wedding of Princess Beatrice and Mr Edoardo Mapelli Mozzi will go on sale from today. The exclusive design shows the couple's initials surmounted by the coronet of Princess Beatrice, surrounded by a bouquet of pink roses, peonies, lemon blossom and thistles, secured with the white rose of York.

Ends

The special display of HRH Princess Beatrice of York's wedding dress is part of a visit to Windsor Castle from 24 September to 22 November 2020. The Semi-State Rooms are part of a visit to Windsor Castle from 24 September 2020 until March 2021.

Tickets for Windsor Castle must be pre-booked in advance: www.rct.uk, +44 (0)303 123 7304. Windsor Castle is open to the public five days a week, Thursday to Monday, remaining closed on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

The official commemorative range of chinaware and souvenir items is available from Royal Collection Trust shops and online at www.rct.uk/shop.



Enjoy free re-admission for a year by asking us to treat your ticket purchase as a donation.

Images of the wedding dress display at Windsor Castle, the Semi-State Rooms and the commemorative range are available from <https://mediaselect.pa.media/>.

Images of the wedding of HRH Princess Beatrice and Mr Edoardo Mapelli Mozzi, and of Her Majesty The Queen wearing the dress by Sir Norman Hartnell in the 1960s, can be sourced from picture agencies.

For further information, please contact the Royal Collection Trust Press Office, T. +44 (0)20 7839 1377, press@rct.uk.

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Notes to Editors

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The Royal Collection is among the largest and most important art collections in the world, and one of the last great European royal collections to remain intact. It comprises almost all aspects of the fine and decorative arts, and is spread among some 15 royal residences and former residences across the UK, most of which are regularly open to the public. The Royal Collection is held in trust by the Sovereign for her successors and the nation, and is not owned by The Queen as a private individual.

Admission to Windsor Castle is managed by The Royal Collection Trust, a registered charity in England and Wales (1016972) and in Scotland (SCO39772).