

For immediate release: Wednesday, 26 October 2022

Celebrate Christmas at the official residences of His Majesty The King



The Christmas tree in St George's Hall
at Windsor Castle



The Christmas tree in the Throne Room
at the Palace of Holyroodhouse

This December, visitors to Windsor Castle and the Palace of Holyroodhouse will see the State Apartments transformed with shimmering Christmas trees, twinkling lights and an array of activities to enjoy over the festive season.

Christmas at Windsor Castle 24 November 2022 – 2 January 2023

- The highlight of the Christmas display at Windsor Castle will be a magnificent 20-foot-high Nordmann Fir tree in St George's Hall, grown nearby in Windsor Great Park and dressed with hundreds of iridescent ornaments.
- A resplendent Christmas tree will be on display in the Crimson Drawing Room, one of the most ornate rooms in the Castle and part of the Semi-State Rooms. Originally created as private apartments for George IV and used by members of the Royal Family for official entertaining, the Semi-State Rooms will open to visitors for the winter months from 24 November.
- The Waterloo Chamber, one of the largest and most impressive rooms in the Castle, will feature a sumptuous table display of decorative items from the Royal Collection beneath glittering chandeliers.
- Festive foliage and wreaths will adorn gates and lampposts in the Castle precincts, while spectacular garlands on the Grand Staircase will greet visitors as they enter the State Apartments.
- The Castle's Undercroft Café will offer a special festive menu throughout December.

- On the first three weekends in December, families visiting the Castle can participate in craft activities and workshops exploring how the Victorians celebrated Christmas.
- Visitors to the Castle on 8, 9 and 12 December will be treated to carols sung throughout the day by local community and school choirs beneath the Christmas tree in St George's Hall.

Christmas at the Palace of Holyroodhouse

1 December 2022 – 2 January 2023

- The festive decorations at the Palace of Holyroodhouse will include magnificently decorated Christmas trees in the Throne Room and Great Gallery, while the Great Stair leading to the historic State Apartments will be draped with twinkling velvet garlands, glistening berries and seasonal foliage.
- In the Royal Dining Room, the table will be laid with pieces from a silver service presented to King George V and Queen Mary in 1935 to mark their Silver Jubilee, and decorated with ivy, candelabra and spires of faux candied sugared fruits.
- In the Café at the Palace in the historic Mews courtyard, visitors can enjoy homemade mince pies, Christmas cake and mulled wine while surrounded by festive wreaths and garlands.
- Families visiting the Palace on 17, 22 and 23 December can enjoy short talks and take part in festive arts and crafts activities, including a chance to design their own greeting cards and Christmas crackers.

Buckingham Palace Exclusive Guided Tours

On selected dates throughout the winter, visitors can enjoy a special behind-the-ropes experience of the Buckingham Palace State Rooms in the company of an expert guide. All tickets include a copy of the Official Souvenir Guide. Guided tours suitable for families are also available.

Shopping

Browse for Christmas gift inspiration in the Royal Collection Trust shops or online at www.rct.uk/shop, where advent calendars, luxury hampers and festive food and drink make perfect presents.

Ends

Christmas at the official residences of His Majesty The King is from 24 November 2022 to 2 January 2023 at Windsor Castle, and from 1 December 2022 to 2 January 2023 at the Palace of Holyroodhouse. Exclusive Guided Tours of Buckingham Palace are available on selected dates from November to February.

For more information, to request images or to register for media facilities please contact the Royal Collection Trust Press Office, +44 (0)20 7839 1377, press@rct.uk.

Tickets and visitor information: www.rct.uk, Windsor Castle +44 (030) 123 7304, Palace of Holyroodhouse +44 (030) 123 7306.

Notes to Editors

Royal Collection Trust, a department of the Royal Household, is responsible for the care of the Royal Collection and manages the public opening of the official residences of The King. Income generated from admissions and from associated commercial activities contributes directly to The Royal Collection Trust, a registered charity. The aims of The Trust are the care and conservation of the Royal Collection, and the promotion of access and enjoyment through exhibitions, publications, loans and educational programmes.

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 his successors and the nation, and is not owned by The King as a private individual.

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