

BLenheim VISITORS

Palace open daily 10.30am to 5.30pm (last admission 4.45pm) from Mid March to the end of October. The Park is open daily 9am to 4.45pm throughout the year. There are ample coach and car parking areas close to the Palace entrance. Palace visitors may take a guided tour (5-10 minute intervals) or view the rooms independently. The tour of the Palace takes about an hour but at least another hour should be allowed to visit the Pleasure Gardens complex and see the Park and Gardens. Coach parties and groups are welcome (pre-booking is not required) and to help plan your visit copies of Notes for Party Organisers are available by post.

Dogs on leashes are admitted to the Park but not the Gardens or Palace (except Guide Dogs for the Blind or Hearing Dogs for the Deaf). Admission tickets to the Palace include the Tour, Churchill Exhibition, Park, Gardens, Parking, Butterfly House, Motor Launch and Train (subject to availability, weather conditions, periodic maintenance or mechanical breakdown) and use of Restaurants and Cafeterias. Entry to the Marlborough Maze (which includes free use of the putting greens with clubs and balls provided, the giant chess, giant draughts and the colour maze) and Rowing Boat hire are optional extras.

Administrator's Office, Blenheim Palace, Woodstock, Oxon OX20 1PX.
Tel: Woodstock (01993) 811325 (24 hour recorded information service).

BLenheim EDUCATION SERVICE

Blenheim has held the Sandford Award for an outstanding contribution to Heritage Education since 1982 and we offer a full educational service to all educational establishments. Full details from the Education Officer. Tel: 01993 811091.

BLenheim RESTAURANTS AND CAFETERIAS

Visitors may choose from the Indian Room Restaurant, which overlooks the Water Terraces, and where luncheon is served from 12 noon and afternoon tea from 3.30pm, the Water Terrace Buffet, which offers a wide selection of hot and cold food and is open from 10.30am to 5.30pm, or the Pleasure Gardens Cafeteria which is also a self service buffet. For groups and pre-booked private parties we offer the Courtyard Restaurant, seating up to 150. For further information and reservations please contact Town & County Catering, Blenheim Palace, Woodstock, Oxon OX20 1PX.
Tel: 01993 811274.

BLenheim BY ROAD AND RAIL



Blenheim Palace is at Woodstock, some 8 miles north of Oxford on the A44 Evesham road. Excellent road and rail networks mean easy accessibility by car, coach and train. About an hour's drive away are London (63 miles), Birmingham (54 miles), Cheltenham (44 miles), Stratford (36 miles), Heathrow (60 miles) and Birmingham Airport (50 miles). Frequent scheduled coach services (Oxford Tube 01865 772250 and City Link 01865 785400) depart from London Victoria to Oxford which is also the nearest main line railway station (Train enquiries 0345 484950). Buses (No. 20) run from Oxford Bus Station (George Street) to Woodstock, stopping at the Park Gate. There are a number of coach and tour operators running inclusive trips to Blenheim from Central London, amongst whom are:

Evan Evans	0181 332 2912
Frames Rickards	0171 637 4171
Golden Tours	0171 233 7030

The right to close the Palace and Park or to withdraw facilities or to cancel or change the date of events without notice is reserved.
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BLenheim PALACE

A World Heritage Site

HOME OF THE 11th DUKE OF MARLBOROUGH
BIRTHPLACE OF SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL



Open Daily 10.30-5.30pm

(last admission 4.45pm) Mid March-31st October

Inclusive ticket: Palace Tour, Churchill Exhibition, Park, Garden, Motor Launch, Train, Pleasure Gardens, Herb & Lavender Garden, Butterfly House, Nature Trail and Parking.
Optional: The Marlborough Maze and Rowing Boat Hire.
Gift Shops : Restaurant : Cafeterias : Coaches Welcome.

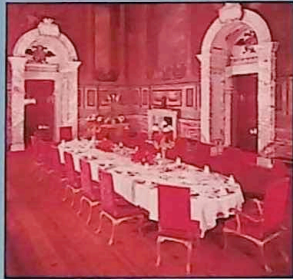


UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL
SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL
ORGANISATION

TREASURE
HOUSES
ENGLAND

The cumulative labours of Vanbrugh and 'Capability' Brown have succeeded at Blenheim in setting an Italian palace in an English park without apparent incongruity. The combination of these different ideas, each singly attractive, produces a remarkable effect.
(Extract from Sir Winston Churchill's Biography of Lord Randolph Churchill: by courtesy of Odham Press Ltd.)

BLenheim PALACE



Blenheim Palace was built for John Churchill, 1st Duke of Marlborough, in recognition of his great victory over the French at the battle of Blenheim, 1704. The Palace, designed by Sir John Vanbrugh, is set in 2,100 acres of parkland landscaped by 'Capability' Brown and is one of the finest examples of English Baroque. The collection comprises tapestries, paintings, sculpture and fine furniture set in magnificent gilded state rooms. The Long Library is of outstanding beauty, and measuring 183 feet in length, is one of the longest rooms in an English private house. It contains some 10,000 volumes and a magnificent four manual Willis Organ. Blenheim's Gardens are renowned and range from the formal Water Terraces, Italian Garden and Rose Garden to the natural charm of the Arboretum, Pleasure Grounds and Cascade.

THE CHURCHILL EXHIBITION



An Exhibition of Churchilliana which includes manuscripts, paintings, personal belongings, books, photographs and letters (mainly to his father - Lord Randolph Churchill). The Duke of Marlborough in association with Hallmark Cards Ltd., present 'Greetings from Sir Winston', a fine display of rare, unusual and antique greetings cards from the Hallmark Collection with a unique photographic collage covering the period of Sir Winston's life. The core of the exhibition is the simple room, once used by the 1st Duke's Chaplain (Dean Jones), where he was born on the 30th November 1874.

BLenheim GUIDE BOOKS

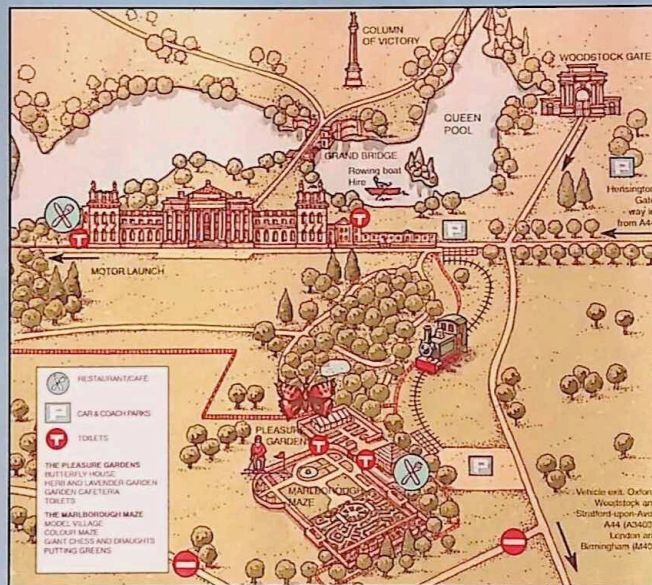
'Blenheim Palace' is a condensed history of the Marlborough family, the Palace and its contents. Produced in full colour, it is available from all Blenheim shops priced £3.50, or by post (£5.00 inclusive of post and packaging - cheques made payable to Blenheim Visitors Account) from the Administrator's Office, Blenheim Palace, Woodstock, Oxon OX20 1PX.

THE MARLBOROUGH MAZE



The Marlborough Maze is the world's largest symbolic hedge maze and is a must for visitors. Along with the putting greens, giant chess & draughts and the children's colour maze, it is in the Walled Garden, within the Pleasure Gardens complex which is some 600 yards from the Palace and also includes the Herb and Lavender Garden, Butterfly House, Garden Cafeteria and Shop. Pleasure Gardens, Maze and Butterfly House open daily 10am-6pm (last admission 5.30pm) from mid March to 31st October.

BLenheim PLAN



THE ORANGERY

Used as a picture gallery by the 1st Duke and a theatre by the 4th Duke, the Orangery, which overlooks the Italian Garden, has been luxuriously refurbished as a banqueting and function suite available throughout the year. In conjunction with the Spencer Churchill Conference Room, it is the ideal venue for seminars, conferences, product launches, luncheons and wedding receptions. For full details contact Town & County Catering: Tel: 01993 813874.



BLenheim LAKE

Blenheim Lake, created by 'Capability' Brown and spanned by Vanbrugh's Grand Bridge, is the home of many varied water fowl. Palace visitors may take a trip on the Motor Launch (from the Boat House within the Gardens) whilst the more energetic of them and park visitors may hire a rowing boat on Queen Pool. Coarse fishing enquiries please telephone 01993 811432.



BLenheim SHOPS

The Old Palace Dairy, with its 18th century butter cooler, makes an attractive setting for Blenheim's main shopping area - the Gift Centre, which also includes the new 'Country Kitchen' shop. A very wide range of gifts, souvenirs, films, preserves and sweets to suit all tastes are stocked. There is also the Book Shop in the Palace courtyard, and the Pleasure Gardens Shop. All Blenheim shops stock a full range of films. The Gift Centre is open daily 10am-5.30pm (mid March to end of October) and 11am-4pm 1st November to mid March (closed Christmas Day) Tel: 01993 811752.

