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Ham House and Strawberry Hill House - Thursday 5th September 2024

Price £35 (NT Members & affiliated organisations) or £49.25 to include coach, entry to Ham House with private garden history tour and Strawberry Hill House with guided house tour

On the banks of the River Thames, Ham House is one of London's secret treasures. Leased by William Murray from King Charles I in 1626, Ham House was transformed by William and later his daughter Elizabeth. Surviving the English Civil War and Parliamentary rule and home to Elizabeth's descendants for almost three centuries, the house you see today is a rare example of one of the great Stuart houses.

With superbly laid out formal gardens, a substantial 17th century collection of art objects, Ham reveals the glorious luxury of the restoration period in Britain. Find out how this amazing place is cared for and the lives and stories within. Wander through the cherry garden and the woodland wilderness, along the planned borders and to the kitchen garden. The private garden history tour (included) lasts half an hour, two groups, with one at 11 am and the second at 11.15 am. The House opens at 12 pm for a self-guided visit to marvel at the treasures, taking around half an hour.

Tea/coffee in the morning can be independently bought at the café or bring a flask. Lunch can be either at the café at Ham House or bring your own picnic to enjoy in the beautiful grounds. The Orangery Café is small and those who have not brought a picnic with them, would need to stagger when they take lunch there. Hot lunch options are served between 11.30 and 2.30 pm. We will aim to leave Ham House at 2 pm.

Entry to Ham House is **Free** for National Trust members, RHS members (main cardholder only) and ArtPass holders on presentation of membership cards on entry.

Strawberry Hill House and Garden has been open to visitors for over 250 years and was created by Horace Walpole in the 18th century. It is internationally famous as Britain's finest example of Georgian Gothic revival architecture and home to an increasingly important collection of paintings and objects. We will have a private tour of the House and will again be divided in two groups. There will be time for you to enjoy the garden after the included visit to the house.

The café will not be open, as Strawberry Hill House is closed to the general public, and no refreshments will be available so you will need to bring your own for the afternoon. We will aim to leave at 4.30 pm.

NUMBERS WILL BE LIMITED TO 40. CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS IS 1ST MARCH 2024

Instructions – please read carefully

To join this trip please complete the form below and send with your cheque payable to Guildford Area U3A (and a SAE **ONLY** if you do not have an email address) to **Ann Elms, High Hedges, Send Barns Lane, Send, Woking, GU23 7BT**. Please ensure your email address and telephone numbers are completed to enable us to confirm whether there is a place available or to contact you with a query. We aim only to send postal confirmation if you do not have an email address. Please take great care to complete your pickup point and the names of all other parties booked by you. All trips are only available to fully paid-up Guildford U3A members (for insurance purposes) and membership numbers must be given. Refunds cannot be given unless a replacement can be found.

Contact if needed: Ann Elms, annelms1@hotmail.com, Landline: 01483 222913 or Mobile: 07710 746236.

Pick up points: **A** Shalford Scout Hut Bus Stop 9.00 am, **B** Nightingale Rd/London Rd bus shelter 9.10 am, **C** Elgin Gardens bus shelter (near Burchatts Farm) 9.15 am, **D** bus shelter opposite BP garage, Burpham 9.20 am. Please check any parking restrictions at your chosen pick-up point.

Name		Home No.		Your Guildford U3A Membership No.	
		Mob No.			
Others booked by you on the visit				Their Guildford U3A Membership No.	
Email address					
Postal address					
Date	Outing	Cost	No. of places	Cheque total	Coach pickup times
Thursday 5th September 2024	Ham House & Strawberry Hill House Price if member of N. Trust, Art Pass, or RHS (Bring your membership pass) Price if non-member	£35 £49.25			A 9.00 B 9.10 C 9.15 D 9.20