

national trust hinton ampner

National Trust Hinton Ampner: A Guide to This Historic Hampshire Estate

National Trust Hinton Ampner is a stunning country house and garden located in Hampshire, England. Managed and preserved by the National Trust, Hinton Ampner offers visitors a unique blend of history, architecture, and natural beauty. Whether you are a history enthusiast, gardening aficionado, or simply seeking a tranquil escape, Hinton Ampner provides a rich experience that captures the essence of English heritage and landscape design.

In this comprehensive guide, we'll explore the history of Hinton Ampner, the features of its gardens and house, the activities available for visitors, and practical information to plan your visit. Discover why this estate remains a beloved destination for locals and tourists alike.

The History of Hinton Ampner

Origins and Early History

Hinton Ampner's history dates back centuries, with roots in medieval England. The estate's name is believed to derive from "Hyntone," meaning a farmstead or settlement, and "Ampner," a family name associated with the land.

- The earliest records of the estate trace back to the 13th century.
- The Dummer family became prominent owners in the 18th century, shaping much of the estate's development.

The Dummer Family and Architectural Development

The Dummer family played a significant role in transforming Hinton Ampner into the estate we see today.

- The 19th-century renovations: The estate was extensively remodeled during the Victorian era, featuring Gothic Revival architecture.
- The house we see today largely reflects 19th-century design influences, with a distinctive red-brick facade and ornate detailing.

The Estate's Transition to the National Trust

- In 1972, the estate was gifted to the National Trust, ensuring its preservation for future generations.
- Since then, ongoing conservation efforts have maintained and enhanced the estate's historical and natural features.

Exploring Hinton Ampner: House and Gardens

The Historic House

The Hinton Ampner house is a prime example of 19th-century architecture, showcasing elegant interiors and period features.

- Interior Highlights:
 - Opulent drawing rooms with antique furnishings.
 - A grand staircase leading to bedrooms decorated in period style.
 - Collections of art, ceramics, and decorative arts that reflect the estate's history.
- Public Access:
 - The house is open to visitors during specific times of the year.
 - Guided tours and informational displays help visitors learn about its history and architecture.

The Gardens and Grounds

Hinton Ampner is renowned for its beautifully landscaped gardens, spanning over 80 acres of rolling countryside.

Formal Gardens

The formal gardens are meticulously designed, offering color and interest year-round.

- Key features include:
- A sweeping parterre with vibrant flower beds.
- Topiary and clipped hedges creating structured vistas.
- Ornamental fountains and statues adding decorative touches.

The Rose Garden

A highlight in summer, the rose garden features a stunning array of roses.

- Varieties include climbing roses, shrub roses, and floribundas.
- Perfect for a leisurely stroll or photography.

The Woodland Walks

For those seeking tranquility and natural beauty, woodland paths wind through ancient trees and shaded areas.

- Ideal for nature walks and birdwatching.
- Seasonal displays of bluebells, wildflowers, and autumn foliage.

The Kitchen Garden

A working kitchen garden demonstrates traditional horticultural practices.

- Growing vegetables, herbs, and fruit.
- Often used to supply the estate's tearoom and restaurant with fresh produce.

Activities and Events at Hinton Ampner

Guided Tours and Educational Programs

- Learn about the estate's history, architecture, and horticulture through guided walks.
- Special talks and workshops are held throughout the year, covering topics like gardening, conservation, and local history.

Seasonal Events

Hinton Ampner hosts a variety of events that celebrate its heritage and natural environment.

- Spring Plant Fair: Featuring plant stalls, gardening advice, and expert talks.
- Summer Garden Parties: Including live music, outdoor dining, and family activities.
- Autumn Harvest Festival: Celebrating the season's produce with demonstrations and markets.
- Christmas Celebrations: Festive light displays, holiday markets, and seasonal teas.

Family-Friendly Activities

- Scavenger hunts and trail walks designed for children.
- Outdoor play areas and picnic spots.
- Themed activity days during school holidays.

Volunteer and Membership Opportunities

- The National Trust offers memberships that provide free entry and exclusive benefits.
- Volunteers can participate in estate maintenance, gardening, guided tours, and educational activities.

Practical Information for Visitors

Opening Hours and Access

- The estate is generally open from early spring to late autumn, with specific dates varying each year.
- The house may be closed during winter months, but gardens remain accessible.

Admission Fees

- Entry to the gardens is usually free for members.
- Non-members typically pay an admission fee to access the house and gardens.
- Discounts are available for seniors, students, and families.

Location and Directions

- Address: Hinton Ampner, Alresford, Hampshire SO24 9RG, England.
- The estate is accessible by car, with ample parking available.
- Public transport options include local buses and nearby train stations.

Facilities and Amenities

- On-site café serving teas, coffees, and light snacks.
- Gift shop offering souvenirs, gardening tools, and estate-themed merchandise.
- Accessible paths and facilities for visitors with mobility challenges.

Why Visit Hinton Ampner?

Hinton Ampner offers a quintessential experience of English country life, combining historic architecture, exquisite gardens, and scenic landscapes. Its well-preserved house and thoughtfully designed grounds make it an ideal destination for a peaceful day out, educational visits, or special events.

Highlights of Visiting Hinton Ampner

- Immerse yourself in history and architecture.
- Enjoy seasonal displays and botanical collections.
- Experience the tranquility of Hampshire's countryside.
- Participate in engaging activities and events.
- Support conservation efforts through memberships and volunteering.

Conclusion

The **National Trust Hinton Ampner** estate is a treasure trove of history, horticulture, and natural beauty. Its meticulously maintained house and gardens provide a captivating glimpse into England's cultural heritage. Whether exploring the historic interiors, wandering through colorful gardens, or participating in seasonal events, visitors leave with a deeper appreciation of this enchanting estate.

Plan your visit today and discover why Hinton Ampner continues to inspire and delight generations of visitors. From its rich history to its vibrant plant displays, this Hampshire estate remains a must-see destination for all who cherish heritage and natural beauty.

Meta Description: Discover the beauty and history of **National Trust Hinton Ampner**. Explore its

stunning gardens, historic house, and seasonal events in this comprehensive guide to one of Hampshire's most beloved estates.

Keywords: Hinton Ampner, National Trust Hampshire, historic house, gardens, Hampshire estate, visiting Hinton Ampner, Hinton Ampner events, Hampshire gardens, country house tours

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the history of Hinton Ampner managed by the National Trust?

Hinton Ampner is a historic country house and garden in Hampshire, managed by the National Trust. The estate dates back to the 18th century, with its current Georgian house built in the 1790s. It has been preserved to showcase its elegant architecture and beautiful landscaped gardens, reflecting its rich history.

What are the opening hours for Hinton Ampner managed by the National Trust?

Hinton Ampner is typically open to visitors from spring to autumn, generally from 10 am to 5 pm, with longer hours during peak summer months. However, opening times may vary seasonally, so it's best to check the National Trust website for current details before planning your visit.

Are there any special events or activities at Hinton Ampner?

Yes, Hinton Ampner hosts various events throughout the year, including seasonal garden tours, plant fairs, and outdoor theatre performances. The estate also offers family-friendly activities, workshops, and guided walks to enhance the visitor experience.

Is Hinton Ampner accessible for visitors with disabilities?

Hinton Ampner strives to be accessible to all visitors. There are accessible routes and facilities

available, including designated parking, accessible toilets, and wheelchair access to certain areas. It's advisable to contact the estate in advance for specific accessibility queries.

Can I bring my dog to Hinton Ampner?

Dogs are welcome at Hinton Ampner in designated areas, such as the gardens and estate grounds. They must be kept on a lead at all times and owners are responsible for cleaning up after their pets. Assistance dogs are very welcome throughout the estate.

Is there a café or shop at Hinton Ampner?

Yes, Hinton Ampner features a café offering light refreshments, tea, and cakes, as well as a shop selling souvenirs, garden plants, and gifts. The facilities aim to enhance visitors' experience during their visit.

What are the main highlights of the gardens at Hinton Ampner?

The gardens at Hinton Ampner are renowned for their stunning formal terraces, sweeping lawns, and vibrant borders. Highlights include the Italianate gardens, the rose garden, and the panoramic views over the Hampshire countryside, all designed to inspire and delight visitors.

How can I become a member of the National Trust to visit Hinton Ampner?

You can become a member of the National Trust by signing up online or at the estate. Membership offers unlimited access to Hinton Ampner and over 600 other properties across the UK, along with additional benefits such as discounts and event invitations.

Are there guided tours available at Hinton Ampner?

Yes, guided tours are often available, providing insights into the estate's history, architecture, and gardens. These tours are led by knowledgeable guides and are scheduled regularly during the open season. Check the National Trust website for current tour availability and timings.

What safety measures are in place at Hinton Ampner during the COVID-19 pandemic?

Hinton Ampner has implemented safety measures including social distancing, enhanced cleaning protocols, and mask requirements in indoor areas. Visitors are encouraged to book tickets in advance and follow the latest guidance issued by the National Trust to ensure a safe visit.

Additional Resources

National Trust Hinton Ampner: A Detailed Exploration of History, Gardens, and Heritage

Nestled in the rolling Hampshire countryside, Hinton Ampner stands as a quintessential example of English country estate charm, meticulously preserved and managed by the National Trust. This historic property seamlessly combines a rich architectural heritage, stunning gardens, and a tranquil rural setting, offering visitors a unique window into England's aristocratic past and its ongoing commitment to conservation. In this comprehensive review, we delve into the origins of Hinton Ampner, explore its remarkable gardens and grounds, examine its architectural features, and consider the significance of its preservation efforts.

Historical Background of Hinton Ampner

Origins and Early History

Hinton Ampner's history stretches back to the medieval period, with the earliest records indicating its existence as a small manor held by local landowners. The estate's name itself hints at its long-standing connection with the local area—'Hinton' derived from Old English meaning 'hill town,' and

‘Ampner’ linked to the family that owned the estate in later centuries. Over the centuries, the estate evolved through various owners, reflecting the changing social and economic landscape of Hampshire.

Architectural Development and the 19th Century Transformation

The most significant transformation of Hinton Ampner occurred in the 19th century when the estate was largely rebuilt in a neo-Georgian style. The current mansion, designed by architect Sir William Chambers and later modifications by Sir Herbert Baker, was constructed in the early 20th century, replacing earlier structures that had fallen into disrepair.

During the interwar period, the estate was owned by Ralph Dutton, 8th Baron Sherborne, who undertook significant renovations and landscaping to create the estate’s distinctive appearance. Dutton’s vision was to combine classical architecture with lush, formal gardens, resulting in a harmonious blend of built form and landscape.

Transition to the National Trust

In 1970, the estate was acquired by the National Trust, ensuring its preservation for future generations. The Trust’s stewardship has focused on conserving the historic buildings, restoring the gardens, and maintaining the estate’s natural beauty. This transition marked a significant turning point, transforming Hinton Ampner from a private aristocratic residence to a public heritage site accessible for education, recreation, and reflection.

The Architectural Marvels of Hinton Ampner

The Main House

Hinton Ampner's main house is a striking example of early 20th-century neo-Georgian architecture, characterized by its symmetry, classical proportions, and elegant brickwork. The building features a balanced façade with sash windows, a central portico, and a hipped roof, reflecting the architectural tastes of the period.

Inside, visitors can explore several rooms that have been carefully restored to reflect their original grandeur. These include:

- The Entrance Hall: Showcasing period woodwork and decorative details.
- The Drawing Room: Featuring traditional furnishings and artworks.
- The Dining Room: With a large fireplace and antique dining suite.

While the house is not open daily, guided tours and special exhibitions provide insights into its architectural features and history.

Outbuildings and Ancillary Structures

Complementing the main house are several outbuildings, including a former stable block now used for visitor facilities, and a charming tea room housed in a converted barn. These structures contribute to the estate's authentic rural atmosphere and support visitor engagement.

The Gardens and Grounds: A Visual Feast

Garden Design and Features

Hinton Ampner's gardens are renowned for their meticulous design, seasonal variety, and lush planting schemes. They exemplify the English country garden style, emphasizing natural beauty, color, and structural planting.

Key features include:

- The Formal Gardens: Symmetrical borders with vibrant perennial beds, topiary, and classical statues.
- The Rose Garden: Featuring fragrant varieties that bloom throughout the summer months.
- The Kitchen Garden: An active vegetable patch demonstrating traditional horticultural techniques.
- The Sunken Garden: A tranquil space with a reflective pond and ornamental planting.

The gardens are laid out to provide visual interest throughout the year, with each season offering different displays—from spring bulbs and summer blooms to autumn foliage and winter interest.

Tree Collections and Landscape Features

Beyond the cultivated gardens, the estate boasts an impressive collection of mature trees, including oaks, maples, and rare species. The landscape design incorporates sweeping lawns, woodland walks, and scenic views of the Hampshire countryside.

The estate's topography adds to its charm, with gentle slopes and vantage points that offer panoramic vistas. Paths meander through the grounds, encouraging exploration and discovery of hidden corners, sculptures, and historic features such as a ha-ha wall that creates a seamless transition between the garden and surrounding farmland.

Seasonal Events and Garden Activities

Hinton Ampner hosts a variety of seasonal events that highlight its horticultural heritage, including:

- Spring planting festivals
- Summer garden tours
- Autumn harvest celebrations
- Winter illumination events

These activities serve to educate visitors about traditional gardening techniques and local history, fostering a deeper appreciation of the estate's natural and cultural heritage.

Conservation and Preservation Efforts

The Role of the National Trust

Since acquiring Hinton Ampner, the National Trust has prioritized the conservation of both its historic architecture and its natural environment. This involves ongoing restoration projects, landscape management, and educational initiatives aimed at promoting awareness of heritage preservation.

Key conservation activities include:

- Structural repairs to the main house and outbuildings
- Restoration of historic garden features
- Management of tree health and woodland ecosystems
- Sustainable landscaping practices

Challenges Facing Hinton Ampner

Like many heritage sites, Hinton Ampner faces challenges related to climate change, funding, and visitor management. The estate must balance the need for conservation with the demands of public access and engagement.

Specific issues include:

- Protecting delicate plant species from extreme weather
- Maintaining historic structures against weathering and decay
- Managing foot traffic to prevent soil erosion and plant damage
- Securing ongoing funding for large-scale restoration projects

Community Engagement and Education

Hinton Ampner plays an active role in community education, hosting workshops, volunteer programs, and school visits. These initiatives aim to foster a sense of stewardship among visitors and local residents, ensuring the estate's ongoing preservation.

Visitor Experience and Practical Information

Accessibility and Facilities

Hinton Ampner is designed to accommodate a diverse range of visitors, with accessible paths, parking facilities, and visitor amenities. The estate provides:

- Guided tours and informational signage
- A well-equipped gift shop
- A cozy tea room serving locally sourced food
- Accessible toilets and parking for visitors with disabilities

Opening Times and Admission

The estate operates seasonally, with opening hours generally from spring to autumn. Admission fees contribute to maintenance and conservation efforts, with discounts available for members of the National Trust, children, and groups.

Planning Your Visit

Visitors are encouraged to explore at their own pace, taking advantage of the extensive grounds and scheduled activities. Photography is welcomed, especially during the vibrant seasons, and visitors are advised to wear suitable footwear for outdoor walking.

Conclusion: A Heritage Treasure in Hampshire

National Trust Hinton Ampner stands as a testament to the enduring value of heritage conservation and the timeless appeal of England's country estates. Its harmonious blend of historic architecture, beautifully maintained gardens, and scenic landscapes provides an enriching experience for visitors seeking both relaxation and cultural education. The estate's ongoing preservation efforts ensure that future generations can appreciate its beauty and historical significance, making Hinton Ampner not just a place of beauty, but also a symbol of England's rich cultural tapestry.

Whether exploring the elegant interiors, strolling through the vibrant gardens, or learning about its storied past, visitors leave with a deeper understanding of heritage, horticulture, and the importance of preserving national treasures. As a quintessential example of the National Trust's mission, Hinton Ampner continues to inspire a love for history and nature, securing its place as a beloved landmark in Hampshire's cultural landscape.

National Trust Hinton Ampner

national trust hinton ampner: Hinton Ampner National Trust Staff, 2000-01-01 The National Trust cares for the finest collection of historic buildings, gardens, parks, landscape and coastline in the world. Its famous and well-respected series of guidebooks provides the essential companion to your visit and a lasting souvenir of the experience. And now you can buy the guide before your visit. Authoritative texts and superb illustrations illuminate the history of the place and tell the stories of the people who have lived and worked there. Every guidebook sold goes to help the work of the National Trust. If you want to learn more about the property, go to www.nationaltrust.org.uk

national trust hinton ampner: Houses of the National Trust Lydia Greeves, 2021-04-29 This captivating book, fully revised and updated and featuring more NT houses than ever before, is a guide to some of the greatest architectural treasures of Britain, encompassing both interior and exterior design. This new edition is fully revised and updated and includes entries for new properties including: Acorn Bank, Claife Viewing Station, Cushendun, Cwmdu, Fen Cottage, The Firs (birthplace of Edward Elgar), Hawker's Hut, Lizard Wireless Station, Totterhoe Knolls and Treillick. The houses covered include spectacular mansions such as Petworth House and Waddesdon Manor, and more lowly dwellings such as the Birmingham Back to Backs and estate villages like Blaise Hamlet, near Bristol. In addition to houses, the book also covers fascinating buildings as diverse as churches, windmills, dovecotes, castles, follies, barns and even pubs. The book also acts as an overview of the country's architectural history, with every period covered, from the medieval stronghold of Bodiam Castle to the clean-lined Modernism of The Homewood. Teeming with stories of the people who lived and worked in these buildings: wealthy collectors (Charles Wade at Snowhill), captains of industry (William Armstrong at Cragside), prime ministers (Winston Churchill at Chartwell) and pop stars (John Lennon at Mendips). Written in evocative, imaginative prose and illustrated with glorious images from the National Trust's photographic library, this book is an essential guide to the built heritage of England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

national trust hinton ampner: National Trust School of Gardening Rebecca Bevan, 2021-04-13 'An accessible, informative guide for beginners, but full of ideas and tips for seasoned gardeners.' – Sunday Mirror Elevate your own green space and become a more confident and creative gardener with lessons from experienced National Trust gardeners in this comprehensive horticultural guide. The National Trust looks after hundreds of beautiful gardens of every imaginable shape and size across Britain – from the grandest country estate to the smallest cottage garden. They manage such internationally renowned gardens as Sissinghurst and Hidcote. National Trust garden staff receive countless questions from visitors about plants growing in the gardens and techniques that can be tried at home. This in-depth guide will pass on their wisdom and provide the answers you are looking for. This book is packed with images of National Trust gardens of all types, spanning over 300 years of horticultural heritage, to inspire keen amateur gardeners and aspirational novices to realise their green-fingered ambitions. Written by expert gardener Rebecca

Bevan, with the help of National Trust gardeners, the National Trust School of Gardening will make you feel confident about developing your garden rather than overwhelmed with unnecessary technical detail. From herbaceous borders to gardening sustainably, roses and climbers to growing under glass, each chapter provides snippets of horticultural history, examples of best practice from National Trust gardens, unique gems of wisdom from talented NT gardeners, and lots of easy-to-follow practical advice. Featuring a wide range of National Trust gardens both large and small, formal and informal, famous and undiscovered, high maintenance and low key. The topics covered and the insightful practical guides shared are easily applicable to private gardens, enriching even the tiniest urban spaces.

national trust hinton ampner: National Trust Comfort Food National Trust, Clive Goudercourt, 2020-09-08 In this cookbook, the National Trust serves up a hot soothing bowl of all your favourite comfort foods, inspired by the recipes from their cafés, which make the best of our delicious British seasonal produce. There are over 100 recipes for casseroles, soups, stews, pies and hot puddings, along with ideas for rustic salads, quick suppers and indulgent dinner party desserts. Along with the favourite dishes cooked in the National Trust cafés, there are recipes that have been found in National Trust archives, or link to the history of the places. In the Lake District, Lamb and Hawkshead Red stew celebrates two great local ingredients in one taste of home – Herdwick lamb and award-winning Hawkshead Red beer. During his time as Viceroy of India, Lord Curzon of Kedleston Hall might have encountered a chickpea and coconut curry typical of the southern region, a comforting meat-free alternative for veggies and vegans. Or indulge with the chestnut, rum and chocolate pavlova cake, inspired by the ancient chestnuts planted at Sizergh. Whatever the season, National Trust Comfort Food presents a wealth of regional and international dishes, each one devoted to our love for homely, comforting cooking. From colourful summer favourites such as goat's cheese gnocchi or panzanella made with ripe, summer tomatoes, or a picnic pie served with a tangy chutney, to winter warmers like venison stew or chicken and mustard casserole, these dishes are simple and irresistible.

national trust hinton ampner: The National Trust Book of Jam Sara Lewis, 2021-01-29 In the latest book in this bestselling series, food writer and cook Sara Lewis brings together 70 mouthwatering recipes for jams, marmalades and preserves. Whether it's the quintessential English strawberry (to dollop onto a scone!) or the more unusual minted marrow & blackberry jam, there is something for everyone. As well as delightful fruity jams like spiced apple & bramble, raspberry & rhubarb and High Dumpsy Dearie (a mixture of apples, pears, plums, ginger and lemon) there are tangy jellies such as sloe & blackberry or elderberry & orange, and curds such as gooseberry or St Clement's. Or why not try windfall apple butter on your toast? In addition, there are reduced sugar jams ideal for anyone trying to cut down sugar in your diet. There are recipes sourced from National Trust properties, making the most of their seasonal produce from their kitchen gardens. Enjoy the Oxford marmalade enjoyed by Churchill at Chartwell, or rose geranium and orange jelly made with fruit from the orangery at Saltram.

national trust hinton ampner: British and Irish Paintings in Public Collections Christopher Wright, Catherine May Gordon, 2006-01-01 This book sets a new standard as a work of reference. It covers British and Irish art in public collections from the beginning of the sixteenth century to the end of the nineteenth, and it encompasses nearly 9,000 painters and 90,000 paintings in more than 1,700 separate collections. The book includes as well pictures that are now lost, some as a consequence of the Second World War and others because of de-accessioning, mostly from 1950 to about 1975 when Victorian art was out of fashion. By listing many tens of thousands of previously unpublished works, including around 13,000 which do not yet have any form of attribution, this book becomes a unique and indispensable work of reference, one that will transform the study of British and Irish painting.

national trust hinton ampner: Great British Seasonal Walks National Trust, 2018-10-26 A glorious celebration of the seasons and the simple pleasures of walking from the archives of the National Trust. This pocket-sized book has a perfect country walk for every time of year. The 100

walks show you the highlights of every season, from the beautiful bluebell woods of spring and the wildflower meadows of summer to the spectacular colours of autumn and the stark grandeur of winter. The routes cover all of Britain (including Scotland) and they're all easy or moderate in their difficulty - ideal for relaxed strolls and families. As well a map and comprehensive directions, each walk has information about other fun activities in the area and nearby cafes and restaurants.

national trust hinton ampner: *The Rough Guide to Dorset, Hampshire & the Isle of Wight* Matthew Hancock, Amanda Tomlin, 2017-01-17 The Rough Guide to Dorset, Hampshire & the Isle of Wight is the ultimate travel guide to these beautiful and diverse regions of southern England. With detailed coverage of all the top attractions, you'll discover the hidden gems of the New Forest and South Downs National Parks and find the best beaches on the Isle of Wight and along the stunning south coast, which includes the famous Jurassic Coast. This guide features practical advice on what to see and do, with up-to-date reviews of the best hotels, bars, clubs, shops, and restaurants for all budgets. The Rough Guide to Dorset, Hampshire & the Isle of Wight also includes detailed walks and cycling routes, historical information, and the lowdown on the best places to sample local food and drink. Explore every corner of these regions with easy-to-use color maps to help make sure you don't miss a thing. Make the most of your time with The Rough Guide to Dorset, Hampshire & the Isle of Wight.

national trust hinton ampner: Heirs and Graces Eleanor Doughty, 2025-09-04 The fascinating new history of the British Aristocracy since the Second World War 'A deeply researched and highly entertaining account' - Julian Fellowes, creator of Downton Abbey 'This well-written, well-researched and fascinating book could not be better timed.' - Lord (Andrew) Roberts, author of Salisbury: Victorian Titan There are fewer than 5000 people who can genuinely claim to be members of the British aristocracy, and yet they loom large in the popular consciousness. We're fascinated by their houses and estates, their lives and loves, their foibles and eccentricities. And we entertain the strong suspicion that, while they may be fellow citizens, they are very far from being People Like Us. In Heirs and Graces Eleanor Doughty draws on her unparalleled access to a bewildering range of dukes, duchesses, earls and others to create a vivid picture of who they are and how they tick. En route she traces their progress from a post-war era when they and their like were described by one future Labour Chancellor of the Exchequer as 'selfish, depraved, dissolute and decadent' to their diverse current roles as guardians of vast ancestral mansions, farmers, financiers and much else beside. She looks at key rites of passage, from cradle, via boarding school to grave. And she tells stories of their ups and downs, and of the doings of the heroes and villains who fill their ranks. The result is a wonderfully rich, often amusing, always revealing account of the fortunes of the aristocracy over the past century and a series of fascinating glimpses into what it is like to be an aristocrat in Britain today.

national trust hinton ampner: Sir William Chambers John Harris, 1996-02-25 Published on the occasion of the exhibition, Courtauld Gallery, London 10 October 1996-5 January 1997, Natiobalmuseum, Stockholm 20 February-20 April 1997.

national trust hinton ampner: The Rough Guide to Dorset, Hampshire & the Isle of Wight (Travel Guide eBook) Rough Guides, 2017-01-16 From sweeping beaches to medieval forests, country pubs to seaside hotels, The Rough Guide to Dorset, Hampshire & the Isle of Wight is the ultimate guide to this stunning part of England. Our expert authors show you all the region's highlights and let you in on the secret spots locals love, with the fully updated listings shown on clear, full-colour maps. Alongside this you'll find gorgeous photography, fascinating historical background and vital practical information - everything from how to get around on public transport to when the best festivals are held. Discover the region's Jurassic geology, prehistoric sites, chocolate-box villages and literary landmarks, all in Rough Guides' trademark tell-it-like-it-is style. Whether you're interested in historic manors or wildlife walks, coastal cycle rides or farm-fresh food, The Rough Guide to Dorset, Hampshire & the Isle of Wight will help you make the most of your time in this beautiful region.

national trust hinton ampner: A Natural History of Ghosts Roger Clarke, 2012-11-01 A

natural history of the supernatural from Roger Clarke, lifelong investigator into England's creepiest real-life ghost stories 'Is there anybody out there?' No matter how rationally we order our lives, few of us are completely immune to the suggestion of the uncanny and the fear of the dark. The subject of whether ghosts exist has fascinated some of the finest minds in history and it remains a subject of overwhelming interest today. This is the first comprehensive, authoritative and readable history of the evolution of the ghost in the west, examining as every good natural history should, the behaviour of the subject in its preferred environment: the stories we tell each other. What explains sightings of ghosts? Why do they fascinate us? What exactly did the haunted see? What did they believe? And what proof is there? Taking us through the key hauntings that have obsessed the world from the poltergeist of Cock Lane through the true events that inspired *The Turn of the Screw* and the dark events of Borley Rectory right up to the present day, Roger Clarke unfolds a story of class conflict, charlatans and true believers. His surprising castlist ranges from Samuel Johnson to John Wesley, and from Harry Houdini to Adolf Hitler. Inspired by a childhood spent in two haunted houses, Roger Clarke has spent much of his life trying to see a ghost. Written as grippingly as the best ghost fiction, *A Natural History of Ghosts* takes us on an unforgettable hunt through the most haunted places of the last five hundred years and our longing to believe.

national trust hinton ampner: Ghosts Roger Clarke, 2024-05-01 A comprehensive history of the evolution of the ghost in the west, examining the behavior of the subject in the stories we tell each other. A New York Times Book Review Editor's Choice No matter how rationally we order our lives, few of us are completely immune to the suggestion of the uncanny and the fear of the dark. What explains sightings of ghosts? Why do they fascinate us? What exactly do those who have been haunted see? What did they believe? And what proof is there? Taking us through the key hauntings that have obsessed the world, from the true events that inspired Henry James's classic *The Turn of the Screw* right up to the present day, Roger Clarke unfolds a story of class conflict, charlatans, and true believers. The cast list includes royalty and prime ministers, Samuel Johnson, John Wesley, Harry Houdini, and Adolf Hitler. The chapters cover everything from religious beliefs to modern developments in neuroscience, the medicine of ghosts, and the technology of ghosthunting. There are haunted WWI submarines, houses so blighted by phantoms they are demolished, a seventeenth-century Ghost Hunter General, and the emergence of the Victorian flash mob, where hundreds would stand outside rumored sites all night waiting to catch sight of a dead face at a window. Written as grippingly as the best ghost fiction, *Ghosts: A Natural History* takes us on an unforgettable hunt through the most haunted places of the last five hundred years and our longing to believe. Praise for *Ghosts: A Natural History* Clarke tells this [the story that inspired Henry James's *The Turn of the Screw*] and many other gloriously weird stories with real verve, and also a kind of narrative authority that tends to constrain the skeptical voice within . . . [An] erudite and richly entertaining book. — New York Times Book Review A fascinating social history . . . exceptionally well written and researched. — Starburst Magazine Ghost-hunting gets a gentlemanly makeover in this meticulous history of hauntings. Clarke indulges his lifelong interest in the paranormal in this well-documented look at ghost stories and the people who have told them throughout history. — Kirkus Reviews

national trust hinton ampner: The House Party Adrian Tinniswood, 2019-11-05 A delightful journey through the glamorous story of the English country house party by the bestselling historian. Croquet. Parlour games. Cocktails. Welcome to a glorious journey through the golden age of the country house party - and you are invited. Our host, celebrated historian Adrian Tinniswood, traces the evolution of this quintessentially British pastime from debauched royal tours to the flamboyant excess of the Bright Young Things. With cameos by the Jazz Age industrialist, the bibulous earl and the off-duty politician - whether in moated manor houses or ornate Palladian villas - Tinniswood gives a vivid insight into weekendening etiquette and reveals the hidden lives of celebrity guests, from Nancy Astor to Winston Churchill, in all their drinking, feasting, gambling and fornicating. The result is a deliciously entertaining, star-studded, yet surprisingly moving portrait of a time when social conventions were being radically overhauled through the escapism of a generation haunted by

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