



*Explore the forgotten story of Indian Army soldiers who camped at Hampton Court Palace in the early 20th century, through a new display of previously unseen objects, photographs, film and personal stories.*

Information and FAQs for Heritage Days by Community Curators - A little History of the Sikhs

### **What is a Heritage Day by A little History of the Sikhs?**

The community curators/partners of **The Indian Army at the Palace** have approval to deliver a series of Heritage Days, which will comprise the following planned activities:

- Small group visits to Faraday House (residence of Princess Sophia Duleep Singh of Lahore)
- Guided/supported visits to the Indian Army at the Palace Exhibition, near the East Front Gardens
- Access to the Palace, Activities and Gardens of Hampton Court Palace

### **For whom is this event aimed at?**

A little History of the Sikhs would like to use our community curator access to organise an event for those Sikh Networks in London and those University Sikh Societies who have extended an invitation to us to present talks, or join us in our London walk over the last 10 years. In the surrounding of a historic palace, you will have a chance to hear a little about the exhibition, and then explore all that has been designed over the past 2.5 years.

### **Who is invited?**

Our current little history support network includes:

**The EY Sikh Community** –*the first network to provide us with a presentation opportunity back in 2014/15*

**The PWC Sikh Network** - *who were our first network to book a weekend walking tour in 2016, and were back with a new team to book our services in 2023*

**Barclays Sikh Forum** – *who have booked a number of talks on different topics over the years, and also support the Remembrance Service at the Punjab Frontier Force Chapel at St Luke's Church in Chelsea each November*

**Schroders Sikh Society** – *who provided an opportunity for us to extend our research into Asia for their chosen presentation on *The Light & Travels of Guru Nanak Dev Ji* in 2017*

**The FCDO Sikh Network** *with whom we have presented talks, and co-organise tours of *The East India History* and of *The Durbar* at the Foreign and Commonwealth Development Office each year*

**The Deutsche Bank Sikh Network** with whom we have presented talks and who have commissioned Tours  
**The NatWest Sikh Network** – walks, presentation and opportunities to present at their events  
**The RAF Strategic Command Network** presentations and work since 2018 on topics of Defence Sikh history  
**The Home Office Sikh Association (HOSA)** and the **CapGemini Sikh Network** with whom we are starting to develop a working relationship

From the Universities, our support network includes **Warwick University, UCL, Kings, Essex University** with whom we have a regular programme of talks and tours.

### **What is the date/time of the day?**

For the Corporate Networking/Heritage Day the timings are 2pm- close on Wednesday 15 November 2023, followed by free time at the Palace.

### **Are the timings flexible?**

**No** – this event take place from 2pm with a prompt start. Please plan to arrive at the Palace by 1.45pm for a prompt start.

### **What are the Travel Options?**

Direct Train to Hampton Court Palace from Waterloo run twice hourly.

Buses from Surbiton Station take approx. 15 minutes to Hampton Court Palace.

There is limited car parking at the Palace, on a first come, first serve basis, and for holders of Blue Badges.

Please see: [How to travel to Hampton Court Palace | Hampton Court Palace | Historic Royal Palaces \(hrp.org.uk\)](#) to plan your route

### **What are the charges?**

All Heritage Days are supported by Historic Royal Palaces, and have been designed with the support of a number of teams at the Palace, including the Community Access Scheme. For Gurdwara groups, A little History would suggest just a small donation towards the cost of our team of experts, volunteers and travel expense, at say **£5 per person**. This also helps to minimise no-shows, which we have a lot of experience of with free tours.

Usual ticket prices for entry to the Palace is and from £21 for adults, with £29 being the peak-entry ticket for adults. Through us you will save at least £16-24 per adult.

### **Who are the team who will delivering the Sikh Heritage Days?**

A team of at least 3 staff from A little History of the Sikhs will be present, from:

- Rav Singh, A little History of the Sikhs, Community Curator for the Indian Army at the Palace Exhibition
- Dr Tejpal Singh Ralmill, Sikh Pioneers & Sikh Light Infantry Association, Community Curator for the Indian Army at the Palace Exhibition
- Ian Franklin, local resident and expert on Hampton Court History
- Ajunee Kaur Dhillon, A little History of the Sikhs
- Gurmeet Singh & Family, local residents working with A little History of the Sikhs
- Vaanee Sarihyan, A little History of the Sikhs
- Jeea Chadha, A little History of the Sikhs
- Harkiran Kaur Kohli, A little History of the Sikhs
- Jeevan Sanghera, A little History of the Sikhs

**Comfortable Footwear:** Please request visitors to wear comfortable footwear. Hampton Court Palace is a 16<sup>th</sup> century palace, with lots of cobbled stone areas, where trainers, comfortable footwear are more suited.

**Will the Heritage Day organisers support individuals with any support/access requirements?**

We have worked with the teams at Historic Royal Palaces and other partners to provide the following:

**Access:** The Palace is largely an accessible venue, and the exhibition takes place on the ground floor. The Palace staff have access arrangements in place for wheelchair users.

The Clore Learning Centre and the Palace both have wheelchair accessible toilets.

We will endeavour to ensure wheelchair users can experience our exhibition and the wider Palace with equity and parity alongside non-disabled audiences/ participants.

**Ticketing:** For Heritage Days by A little History of the Sikh we have ensured all tickets are at the lowest price possible, to reduce financial barriers. All interested parties are asked to contact A little History of the Sikhs, if the ticket pricing for Heritage Days is a barrier, and we will ensure we can cover the ticket price. We aim to work on a trust basis, and all disabled people and their carers will not be asked to provide 'proof' of disability.

**Accessible events for Deaf Audiences:** If we are made aware in advance of visitors we will work with Historic Royal Palaces to ensure we have audio loops booked in for the day.

**Neurodivergent/ learning disabled access:** On our Heritage Days, we will offer the Clore learning Centre as a breakout area/ chillout space for use during the day.

**Visitors for whom English is not a main language:** The team at A little History of the Sikhs will be happy to present information in Punjabi, Urdu or Hindi for those attending who may feel more comfortable in engaging with the exhibition in their mother tongue.

**Toilets:** For our elders and visitors, we will ensure that all toilet locations are announced upon arrival. The exhibition area is also close to a set of toilets.

Any further queries or questions for Group Visits, please do not hesitate to contact the team at A little History of the Sikhs via:

[rav@alittlehistoryofthesikhs.org](mailto:rav@alittlehistoryofthesikhs.org) WhatsApp: 07774018234