



*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.*

In the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, soldiers from the Indian Army camped at Hampton Court Palace on a number of occasions. They were invited to join the coronation celebrations of Edward VII (1902), George V (1911) and George VI (1937) as well as the [First World War peace parades in 1919](#). For some, this would have been their first visit to England.

This forgotten history is now on display at Hampton Court Palace from September 2023 to March 2024. This exhibition aims to uncover the daily lives of soldiers whilst they were encamped within the Palace, showcase press and public reaction of the time as well as discovering the impact on the wider South Asian community of today.

## **Information & 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?**

Gurdwara groups, local families and guests via the A little History of the Sikhs network – Sikh and non-Sikhs.

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

The timings are 11.30am to close on Saturday 27 January 2024.

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

**No** – this event take place from 11.30am with a prompt start. Please plan to arrive at the Palace by 11.15am for a prompt start at 11.30am in the Clore Learning Centre, located close to the Main Entrance.

## Planned Schedule

<b>11.30am</b>	Arrivals, tea and coffee
<b>12 - 12.45pm</b>	Talk from Kiran Sahota on Indian Women & War
<b>12.45-1pm</b>	Q&A with Believe in Me CIC, Kiran Sahota
<b>1pm – 1.20pm</b>	Exhibition Overview by A little History of the Sikhs
<b>1.30pm onwards</b>	Visit the Indian Army at the Palace Exhibition
<b>1.30pm onwards</b>	Project Dastaan Virtual Reality experience on Partition
<b>2.30pm – close</b>	Free time to explore the Palace

*\*for those who complete our feedback questionnaire in the Albermarle Suite, we will issue return tickets to visit again on a complimentary basis*

**GETTING TO THE PALACE** Hampton Court Palace is within Travel Zone 6.

**Bus** From Kingston: 111, 216, 411, 461, 513 From Richmond: R68

**Underground** The nearest underground stations are in Wimbledon and Richmond, where connecting bus or train routes are available.

**Train** Hampton Court train station is located a five-minute walk from the palace. Trains returning to London Waterloo depart from Hampton Court station at regular times.

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

For further information please visit Transport for London's website: [www.tfl.gov.uk](http://www.tfl.gov.uk)

**Bicycle** Cycle racks are located to the left of the palace entrance (by the Work's Yard, just before the barrier) and in the car park next to the Rose Garden.

**Car Parking** Limited parking is available. Car parking is available on a first come, first served basis, with payment required on site. During our busy periods it is advisable to consider other means of travel.

*On-site* : £1.60 per hour (car parking bays fit a standard car only). Pay for your parking with card only. Please note the parking machines are touch screen and sanitiser dispensers are next to machines. Alternatively, you can use the Glide app. If the on-site car park is full, please use our nearby off-site car park at Hampton Court Green.

**Accessible Parking:** There are 10 disabled parking bays available on site. Parking on site is free for Blue Badge holders.

*Nearby* Hampton Court Green is located 500m from the entrance of the palace and is charged at £1.50 per hour.

Hampton Court Train Station (200 metres from entrance). For information about prices, please visit the National Rail website.

### **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 -Indian Army at the Palace
- Dr Tejpal Singh Ralmill, Sikh Pioneers & Sikh Light Infantry Association, Community Curator the Indian Army at the Palace
- Ian Franklin, local resident and expert on Hampton Court History
- Vaanee Sarihyan, A little History of the Sikhs
- Ajunee Kaur Dhillon, A little History of the Sikhs
- Gurmeet Singh & Family, local residents working with 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.

**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.

### **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.

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