

# Compton Verney

Warwickshire's award-winning art gallery



## Group visits 2012

Compton  
Verney

### Group benefits

- Free admission for organisers
- Discounted admission
- Free introductory talk
- Exclusive tours
- Discounted menus
- Reserved seating in Café
- Special offers in shop
- Free group organisers pack



Top, left to right: Sir Joshua Reynolds (1723-92), English, Mrs Baldwin in Eastern Dress (detail), Oil on canvas, 1782; © Compton Verney. Artist unknown (Franciscan), pair of albatross wings (image, Saint Catherine (detail), Oil on panel, about 1519-27; © Compton Verney. J. Chalmers, The Eagle (from, Hammermill (detail), Oil on canvas, 1857; © Compton Verney. Pierre-Jacques Volaire (1729-about 1792), French, An Eruption of Vesuvius by Moonlight (detail), Oil on canvas; © Compton Verney. Late Shang Dynasty (about 1550-1050 BC), Wine vessel and cover, fangjiu (detail), Bronze; © Compton Verney. End Marx, Tiger, Tiger (detail), Linocut and watercolour, 1936; © The Estate of End Marx, photograph by www.marxart.co.uk

Compton Verney is an award-winning art gallery situated 9 miles from Stratford-upon-Avon and Warwick. The gallery is housed in a Grade I listed mansion built after 1711 by John Townesend and remodelled in the 1760s by Robert Adam.

British philanthropist Sir Peter Moores acquired the mansion in 1993 with the aim of creating an art gallery of international standing where visitors can enjoy art in a welcoming, accessible environment. The gallery opened in March 2004 and since this time it has won Visitor Attraction of the Year, was shortlisted for Gulbenkian Museum of the Year and The Guardian Family Friendly Award.

Today at Compton Verney you can escape the hustle and bustle of everyday life. Alongside our six collections from around the world and our changing programme of exhibitions you can enjoy the 120 acres of 'Capability' Brown landscaped parkland. The re-instated 'Capability' Brown footpaths allow you to explore our woodland and get some stunning views of the gallery across the lake.

### How long should we stay?

If you haven't visited us before we would suggest that you allow your group at least 3 hours to enjoy Compton Verney. Groups with less time are advised to take the one of our tour options to get the most from their visit.

## The collections

Compton Verney is home to six fine and decorative art collections, of national and international importance. The collections have been developed with Compton Verney's founder, Sir Peter Moores. They are owned by Compton Verney Collections Settlement.

### Naples

1600-1800 was the 'Golden Age' of Neapolitan Baroque art. Compton Verney has Europe's most significant collection of masterpieces from this period outside of the Capodimonte Museum in Naples. The collection includes: religious scenes by Bernardo Cavallino, Luca Giordano and Francesco Solimena; still-life paintings by Paolo Porpora and Giuseppe Ruoppolo; volcanoes by Volaire and Lacroix, and genre pieces by Fabris, Bonito and Vanvitelli.

### Northern European

Inspired by Sir Peter Moores' visits to Vienna and Germany in the 1950s, the collection brings together sculptures and paintings dating from 1450 to 1600, including works by Cranach, Schongauer, and the sculptors Hans Thoman and Tilman Riemenschneider.

### British Portraits

Works such as these are likely to have been on display at Compton Verney when the Verney family lived in the house. The collection includes Tudor Kings and Queens, such as Edward VI,

Henry VIII and Elizabeth I; key figures from British history such as Oliver Cromwell, and works by important British artists such as Sir Joshua Reynolds.

### Chinese

One of the best collections of Chinese bronzes in Europe. These bronzes were produced under many different Chinese rulers, and date from the early Shang Dynasty (about 1700 to 1050 BC) to the Han Dynasty (206 BC to AD 220). They were used during religious rituals and ancestor worship, and were buried in the tombs of the deceased.

A collection of terracotta horsemen, cloisonné and Neolithic pottery are also displayed.

### British Folk Art

The largest collection of British Folk Art in the country, it is made up of a mixture of paintings and objects such as trade-signs and weather vanes. The term 'Folk Art' describes work produced by people with no formal art training.

### Marx-Lambert Collection

A bequest from Enid Marx, who was a graphic artist and textile designer, well known for her designs for stamps, posters and seating fabric for London Transport in the post-war period. The items she left to Compton Verney include her own designs and other pieces of folk or popular art that she and her friend Margaret Lambert collected, and which inspired her designs.

2012 Admission prices

Ticket	Groups	Adults	Concessions
Collections and grounds	£3.50	£5.00	£4.00
Collections, grounds and exhibition	£8.65	£12.00	£10.00
Group leaders / coach drivers	Free		

Coach drivers also receive a free main meal in the Café.  
 All groups will receive a free 15 minute introductory talk upon arrival.

Min. group size 15



Exclusive access to groups

## Groups 25+

As right, plus £50 per 20 additional group visitors.

## Gainsborough's landscapes tour

Sat 11 February – Wed 28 March

Your group can have exclusive access to the gallery prior to public opening and be the first to see the *Gainsborough's landscapes* exhibition at Compton Verney.

Your group will enjoy an intimate hour long tour of this must see exhibition followed by a two course lunch.

Pre-booked groups of 15 – 25 <b>Gainsborough's landscapes</b>	Private tour per person £20	Lunch per person £10
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Add on a **Collection highlights tour** for just £5 per head and discover more about the art of Naples, China, Northern Europe, portraits by British artists and the UK's largest collection of Folk Art.

## Gainsborough's landscapes: Themes and variations

Saturday 31 March – Sunday 10 June

For Thomas Gainsborough (1727 – 1788), if painting portraits was his business then painting landscapes was his pleasure. This is the first exhibition solely devoted to Gainsborough's landscapes, bringing together a wonderful group of paintings and drawings from public and private collections spanning his whole career.

*This exhibition is organised by the Holburne Museum, Bath.*

## Into the light: French and British painting from Impressionism to the early 1920s

Saturday 31 March – Sunday 10 June

This exhibition surveys the production of paintings on both sides of the Channel during this decisive period in the history of European art. It reveals connections and allows comparisons of their stunning depictions of the shifting of light over the landscape. The exhibition comprises 54 paintings and drawings by artists including Vanessa Bell, Eugene Boudin, Paul Cezanne, Claude Monet, Camille Pissarro, Pierre Auguste Renoir, Walter Sickert, Alfred Sisley, Alexander Stanhope Forbes and Philip Wilson Steer.

*This exhibition is organised by the Royal Albert Memorial Museum and Art Gallery, Exeter.*

## Flight and the artistic imagination

Friday 29 June – Sunday 30 September

Looking at the innate human desire to fly, this exhibition will provide an overview of artist's responses to flight and how they have used it as a creative resource. It will show the ways in which man imagined transcending the limitations of earthly existence into the realm of the gods, then how in the modern age flying has become an everyday occurrence and space travel has allowed us to glimpse other worlds.

## Tapestry: Weaving the century at Dovecot Studios 1912 - 2012

Saturday 20 October – Sunday 16 December

This exhibition brings together world-class textiles of the 20th and early 21st centuries resulting from the special working relationship between the weavers of Dovecot Studios, Edinburgh, and the artists they collaborated with. It features original works and designs by artists David Hockney, Graham Sutherland, Sir Eduardo Paolozzi and Claire Barclay.

*A Dovecot touring exhibition curated by Dr Elizabeth Cumming.*Top tip  
Tours are great if you have limited time

## Enhance your visit - take one of our tours.

Tours: **£3 per head** - minimum charge £45 per group.*Maximum tour size 25 (Larger groups will be split). Tours last approximately 1 hour.*

## Exhibition tour\*

This is an excellent way for you to find out more about our current exhibition. Use it as a starting point to your visit and then spend time browsing at leisure later in the day or as part of a whistle stop tour.

*\* Can only booked with exhibition admission ticket.*

## Grounds tour

Discover the history of Compton Verney from medieval settlement to the present day. Highlights of this tour include: walking our restored 'Capability' Brown paths, finding out more about past inhabitants' designs for the grounds, discovering ancient trees and a multitude of bird and wildlife.

## Collection highlights tour

This tour focuses on specific objects from each of our six permanent collections - Naples, Northern European, British Portraits, Chinese, Folk Art and Marx Lambert, allowing you to gain a broad overview of our collections. Perfect for first time visitors or those who prefer a formal introduction rather than browsing.

## Collection in focus tour

This specialist tour focuses on an individual collection, allowing you to gain a deeper knowledge. Great for those who have visited before and want to learn more or those with a special interest.

- The golden age of Neapolitan art
- Saints and sinners – the art of Northern Europe
- The great and good – British Portraits
- The art of ancestors – Chinese
- For the people by the people – British Folk Art

## Shopping at Compton Verney

An exclusive shop offer is available to all group visitors during 2012.<sup>^</sup>

The gallery shop offers a wide range of products from prints and postcards to gifts for all the family. Our ranges change constantly so you will always find a unique gift or a lovely treat for yourself.

<sup>^</sup> Details will be given in your introductory talk.



Our group booking team can help you promote and sell your group trips with:

- Supplies of free leaflets
- Travel trade marketing pack
- Sign up sheet for your notice board
- Promotional posters
- Suggested itineraries
- Fact sheet

View our introductory video available at [www.comptonverney.org.uk](http://www.comptonverney.org.uk)

## Meal deals

	Group price per head
<b>Morning coffee</b>	
Morning coffee/tea	£1.95
Morning coffee/tea with handmade biscuits	£2.95

<b>Afternoon tea</b>	
Pot of tea with home-baked scone, preserve and cream	£4.50

**Lunch options**  
All lunch options are served with iced water and tea or coffee.

<b>Lunch option 1</b>	£5.95
Homemade vegetarian soup. Served with locally baked bread.	

<b>Lunch option 2</b>	£6.00
Freshly made sandwiches filled with locally sourced produce and served with crisps. (Choose from cheese, chicken or tuna)	

**Lunch option 3 Seasonal hot lunch** £10.00  
*Choose one of the following meat options for all members of your group*

- **Pieces of chicken** in a pesto cream sauce with Parma ham, leeks and mushrooms. Served with braised rice and seasonal vegetables.
- **Strips of beef** in Burgundy wine sauce, lardoons of pancetta, roasted wild mushrooms, spinach and smoked paprika. Served with pilaf rice and seasonal vegetables.
- **Salmon fillet** with a fresh dill cream sauce. Served with new potatoes and seasonal vegetables.

or one of our vegetarian options

- **Baked pepper** filled with roasted pumpkin spinach and leek glazed with goats cheese in a tomato and basil sauce.
- **Risotto** of porcini and chestnut mushrooms with slow roasted tomatoes.

<b>Dessert selection</b>	£4.50
Add a delicious dessert to lunch options 1, 2 or 3. Menu on request.	

	Group price per head
<b>Adam Hall buffet</b>	£15.00
Seasonal hot buffet lunch and dessert (minimum 40 people). Menu on request.	

<b>Picnic bags</b>	£9.60
Freshly made sandwich filled with locally sourced produce (choose from cheese, chicken or tuna), ready salted crisps, slice of cake and still mineral water.	

## Christmas menu

*From Tuesday 13 November your group must choose from:*

	Group price per head
<b>Morning coffee</b>	
Morning coffee/tea	£1.95
Morning coffee/tea with handmade biscuits	£2.95

<b>Afternoon tea</b>	
Pot of tea with luxury mince pie	£4.50

**Lunch options**  
All lunch options are served with iced water and tea or coffee.

<b>Lunch option 1</b>	£5.95
Homemade vegetarian soup. Served with locally baked bread.	

<b>Lunch option 2</b>	£6.00
Freshly made sandwiches filled with locally sourced produce and served with crisps. (Choose from turkey or brie with cranberry)	

<b>Lunch option 3</b>	£15.00
Seasonal Christmas lunch. Choose from succulent roast local turkey or a vegetarian option with all the trimmings and a luxury mince pie and cream for dessert.	

**Tables will be dressed with Christmas Crackers.**

## Booking information

We request that all groups are booked in advance. This will help you when planning your itinerary for the day and helps to ensure your visit runs smoothly.

**Bookings must be made at least two weeks before your visit.**

To book please complete the enclosed booking form. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact:

Group Bookings T. 01926 645 516  
Compton Verney F. 01926 645 501  
Warwickshire E. [groupbookings@comptonverney.org.uk](mailto:groupbookings@comptonverney.org.uk)  
CV35 9HZ

## Payment and confirmation

- Confirmation of your booking will be issued in writing on receipt of your booking form.
- Payment is not normally required in advance.
- A single payment is necessary for an entire group in order to qualify for the group rates.
- Payment for admission – by cheque (payable to Compton Verney House Trust) or debit/credit card by the group leader at the ticket desk upon arrival.
- Payment for catering - by separate cheque or debit/credit card by the group leader in the Café. Payment will be for numbers confirmed in advance.
- Any additional purchases outside the set menu options must be paid for individually.
- Travel trade who would like to set up an account, please call for an application form.



**Top tip**  
Sign up for the groups e-bulletin for latest updates



**Coach drivers receive a complimentary meal in our Café. They can collect a voucher for this at the Ticket Lodge.**





## Parking and access

**From the main car park there is a ten minute walk to the gallery. Please let us know if any of your group have mobility difficulties and we will arrange transport to the gallery.**

Free coach parking is provided in the main car park. Coaches cannot drop off at the gallery owing to weight restrictions on the Adam Bridge. A shuttle service is available.

If your party is arriving in individual cars and meeting at Compton Verney there is disabled parking in the main car park and limited spaces at the front of the gallery for blue badge holders. You can also drop visitors off at the gallery.

Large-print guides, portable seating and wheelchairs are available. Assistance dogs are welcome. The building is fully accessible throughout with lifts to all floors. Disabled toilets are also available on all floors.



## How to get here

**By road** Compton Verney is situated 9 miles south east of Stratford-upon-Avon on the B4086 between Wellesbourne and Kineton and is 10 minutes drive from the M40 junction 12. Please follow the brown signs.

**By rail** Nearest stations are Leamington Spa, Banbury or Stratford, approx 25 minute drive from each. For further details of train times [www.chilternrailways.co.uk](http://www.chilternrailways.co.uk)

### Driving times from:

Stratford	20 mins	Warwick	20 mins
Banbury	20 mins	B'ham Airport	45 mins
Birmingham	45 mins	Oxford	50 mins
Northampton	1hr	Cheltenham	1hr
London	1hr 40 mins	Cambridge	1hr 50 mins
Bath	1hr 50 mins	Heathrow	1hr 50 mins
Gatwick	2hr 30 mins		

