Group events
Information for organisers and delegates
Founded in 1947, Cumberland Lodge is a charity that empowers people, through dialogue and debate, to promote progress towards more peaceful, open and inclusive societies. We run an annual series of conferences, panel discussions, seminars and retreats that tackle the causes and effects of social division, and dedicated programmes to support university students and sixth-formers.

We fund our charitable work by making our facilities available for guest conferences, meetings, away-days, professional development courses and special events.

We are a truly distinctive venue, noted for our historic rooms, excellent food, modern conferencing facilities and exceptional quality of service. Nestled in the heart of Windsor Great Park, we are renowned for providing a stimulating and inspiring atmosphere that guests return to, again and again.

This pack provides information to help you prepare for your visit. We also invite you to visit our website and to visit the ‘About us’ and ‘Impact’ sections to find out more about our work.

We look forward to welcoming you.

Best wishes,

Canon Dr Edmund Newell
Chief Executive

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Cumberland Lodge is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee.
Company no. 5383055. Registered charity no. 1108677
Guest information

Arrival and departure

There is ample free parking at Cumberland Lodge. If you are arriving by train, the nearest station is Egham, where taxis are available. Please see Travel Directions on page 7 for further details.

On arrival, you will be welcomed at Reception by a member of our Meetings & Events team or one of our Night Porters, and given an electronic pass for your bedroom and our main entrances. This pass must be returned to Reception before you leave.

Please vacate your bedroom by 9am on the day of departure, to enable our housekeepers to prepare it for our next arrivals, unless a later time has been agreed for your group. The Receptionist or a member of our Meetings & Events team will advise you about where luggage can be stored.

Accessibility

There are two en-suite bedrooms in the main building that are suitable for guests with additional mobility needs, and accessible to wheelchairs.

A lift large enough for wheelchairs provides access to all floors in the main building. There are also wheelchair accessible, ground floor public toilets in the main building and Groom’s House.

Our main conference room in the Mews is wheelchair accessible and fitted with an induction loop for the hard of hearing. We also have a portable hearing loop for use in other rooms. Please notify Reception on arrival if you require any assistance. Our full Accessibility Statement is available on our website.

Bedrooms

We have 56 en-suite bedrooms, each with its own individual character, spread across three buildings: the Lodge, the Mews and Groom’s House. Most of them have twin beds. Towels and toiletries are provided.

Cash machines

The nearest ATMs are in Egham and Old Windsor.

Chapel

A chapel is available for use by guests on the first floor of the main building, accessed via the Tapestry Hall staircase.
**Meals and Bar**

Meal times, including morning coffee and afternoon tea, are arranged around the requirements of each group. Your group leader will give you full details. However, standard times for main meals are:

- **Breakfast**: 8.15am Monday to Saturday (full English)
  9.00am Sunday (continental)
- **Lunch**: 1.00pm
- **Dinner**: 7.15pm

Please notify us in advance of any special dietary requirements, including Halal meals. Kosher meals can be arranged for an additional cost, provided that we receive sufficient notice.

The Bar is generally open before dinner and after the evening conference sessions, but please check with your group leader as to opening times during your visit.

**Merchandise**

A small range of merchandise can be purchased from Reception. This includes Cumberland Lodge mugs, guidebooks, books, postcards and prints.

**Reception**

Cumberland Lodge is staffed 24 hours a day. During the daytime, a member of our Meetings & Events team is always available and Night Porters are on duty overnight. If they are not available at Reception, please press the button on the desk and they will respond as soon as possible.

**Recreational facilities**

We have a wide range of recreational facilities – as well as 5,000 acres of beautiful parkland on our doorstep!

We have a tennis court, and rackets and balls can be borrowed from Reception, free of charge. Croquet, boules and rounders can be played in the garden, weather permitting. In the Basement, there are pool and table-tennis tables and a recreational space, suitable for parties or relaxation.

Board games are available in the Bar, and there are televisions in the Sitting Room and Basement. We also offer a daily selection of newspapers and magazines in the Tapestry Hall. You are welcome to play the pianos in the Drawing Room and Tapestry Hall, provided that you do not disturb fellow guests, and we encourage you to use our Chapel and Library when they are not otherwise in use.

We encourage visiting groups to allow time for a walk in the Great Park, and a map with suggested walks is available from Reception. Local attractions include Windsor Castle, St George’s Chapel, The Savill Garden, Valley Gardens, Virginia Water, Eton College, and the Magna Carta, J F Kennedy and Royal Air Force memorials at Runnymede.
Security

Cumberland Lodge is located in a safe, secluded environment. The site is covered by CCTV for security reasons. Our external doors are locked, with access via electronic keycards only. Our bedrooms are lockable and equipped with safes for small personal items.

WiFi

WiFi is free and available throughout the site (no password required). Laptops, screens and projectors are available in most conference rooms as standard. You are advised to bring your own laptops/tablets.

Clockwise from the top: The Tapestry Hall door, which inspired the Cumberland Lodge logo, The Amy Buller Library, named after the founder of the charity, and the Prince Christian Dining Room.
Cumberland Lodge is a charity that empowers people, through dialogue and debate, to tackle the causes and effects of social division. Our work is supported by the individuals and organisations who book our grounds and facilities for conferences, meetings and special events.

For more than 70 years we have been working with people of all backgrounds, ages and perspectives, to challenge silo thinking and incubate fresh ideas that promote progress towards more peaceful, open and inclusive societies.

We were founded in 1947 with the support of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, and today HM The Queen is our Patron. Our founder, Amy Buller, envisioned a place where people would 'examine the fundamental assumptions' behind complex challenges facing society, and that remains at the heart of what we do. We inspire people to exchange views and think creatively about how to tackle pressing social and ethical issues, in order to influence policy and improve public awareness and understanding, and we actively involve young people and students in everything we do, to help nurture future leaders and change-makers.

What we do

Our high-profile, annual series of roundtable conferences, panel discussions, seminars and retreats addresses some of today’s most pressing issues that threaten to divide society. Conference attendance is supported by our charitable funds, to ensure a diverse representation in all our discussions, and bursaries are available to support travel costs for students with limited financial means who would otherwise not be able to attend.

Insights and recommendations from our conferences are critiqued through expert consultations and shared with policymakers, influencers and the wider public through solutions-focused reports. Find out more at: cumberlandlodge.ac.uk/about-us/what-we-do

Supporting students and young people

We actively involve young people and students in all aspects of our work, and we provide transformative experiences for students from all over the world. Almost 4,000 students visit us every year.

We offer our facilities to higher education institutions for subsidised study retreats, with the option of incorporating a St Catharine’s Session, a guided group discussion that encourages students to reflect on social and ethical concerns outside of their usual field of study. Bursaries are available to support students with limited financial means to attend these retreats with their peers.

We also run two scholarship schemes that support PhD students from universities across the UK with networking, mentoring and personal development opportunities. We help them to hone their public engagement, communications and event facilitation skills, and engage them in debates and discussions on pressing social issues outside of their fields of study.

Our Emerging International Leaders programme on Freedom of Religion or Belief equips international students from universities across the UK with the skills and insight necessary to drive debate, influence policy and build a powerful global network in support of human rights.

Find out more at: cumberlandlodge.ac.uk/about-us/our-work-with-students
Social media

Please follow us and comment on your experience at Cumberland Lodge on social media:

@CumberlandLodge

Friends

Established in 2014, the Friends of Cumberland Lodge is a group of people who want to enjoy a closer connection to our work. Membership offers an excellent way of keeping informed about what’s happening at Cumberland Lodge, as well as receiving invitations to our public events. There are four types of annual membership:

- Individual: minimum annual subscription £35
- Joint (two people living at the same address): £50
- Institutional: £50
- Student: £10

This scheme helps to support our charitable work, including student scholarships and bursaries, and other special projects. Please email friends@cumberlandlodge.ac.uk to find out more.

Support our work

To find out more about how you could help to support us in building a better society for everyone, please visit cumberlandlodge.ac.uk/about-us/support-our-work.

How to find us

For full travel directions to Cumberland Lodge, please visit our website here.

By car
Please use postcodes SL4 2JA (if travelling from Windsor) or TW20 0XU (if travelling from Staines) on sat-nav to reach one of two gates into The Great Park, before following signs to Cumberland Lodge.

By rail
The closest stations, all a 10-15 minute drive away, are Egham (Reading - Waterloo Line), Windsor & Eton Riverside (Windsor - Waterloo Line) and Windsor & Eton Central (Windsor - Slough - Paddington Line).

by taxi
We recommend booking taxis in advance. Please call Windsor Cars on 01753 677 677.
The Mews Conference Centre
Ground floor, central rooms
Groom’s House
We ask everyone who visits or stays overnight at Cumberland Lodge to abide by the following policies:

**Phones**

As a charity that exists to inspire dialogue and debate, we strongly encourage you to engage in conversation with your fellow guests and to avoid using mobiles in our dining rooms.

**Alcohol**

As a condition of our licence, it is strictly forbidden to bring alcoholic drinks into Cumberland Lodge. Organisers are asked to ensure that this rule is taken seriously. Only alcoholic drinks that are purchased at our Bar may be consumed on site.

**Smoking**

Smoking is not permitted inside the buildings (including e-cigarettes). Ashtrays are located a short distance from the main entrances.

**Private areas**

To respect the privacy of our neighbours, please do not to go beyond signs that say ‘Private’ or ‘No Admittance’. We also ask that groups keep noise levels to a minimum in the evenings. Access to the roof is strictly prohibited.

**After dark**

At the request of the Royal Protection Police, walking or cycling in the Great Park is not permitted after dark. If you go outside after dark, please stay within the grounds of Cumberland Lodge.

**Parties**

We do not allow parties in bedrooms or flats. A dedicated space is available in the Basement for parties.

**Damage to property**

The organisation you are visiting with will be charged for any incidents of damage to our property during your stay. This includes smoking indoors, soiling of bedrooms, physical damage and vandalism. Your group leader has been provided with full details of fines that may be incurred.