

Group visits 2024

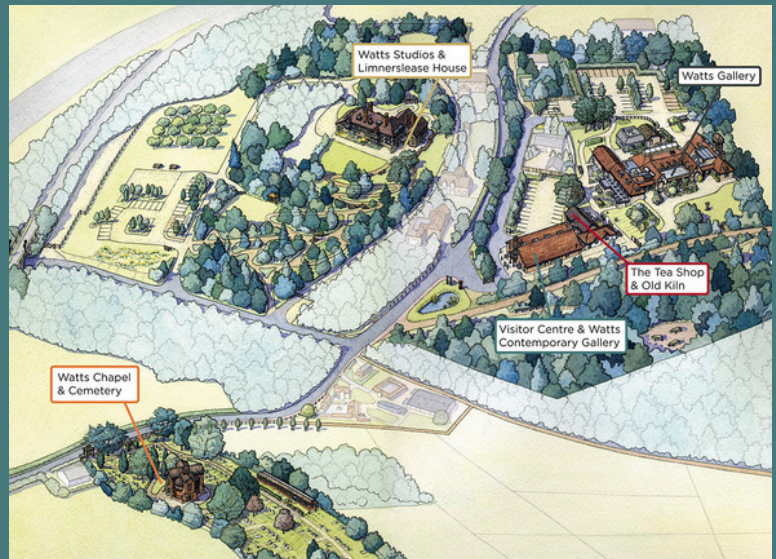
Watts Gallery - Artists' Village

A unique Arts and Crafts village in the Surrey Hills

Visit

Watts Gallery - Artists' Village is the Arts and Crafts home, gallery, studios and chapel of Victorian artists, George Frederic Watts (1817-1904) and his wife, Mary Watts (1849-1938).

Visit our Historic Galleries to see remarkable paintings and sculptures by G F Watts, wander to the Grade I listed Watts Chapel, take in the beautiful surroundings of our site or find out more about the lives of G F and Mary Watts in our range of guided tours. On site you will also discover our exciting programme of temporary exhibitions.



Important information

To ensure that you have the best experience possible, we ask that you book with at least two weeks' notice. As we host many events and workshops, we cannot guarantee your group's entry if you haven't pre-booked.

We are open seven days a week including bank holidays. Our Christmas opening times vary. The site is open between 10am - 5pm all year round, we recommend at least four hours for your visit.



Group booking benefits

- Group rates start at £12.50 per person (minimum of 8 people)
- 10% discount in our Shop
- Private tours and workshops
- Free familiarisation visits for group leaders
- Free off-site coach parking available upon request
- Pre-booked catering options

Accessibility

We have an 'Art for All' ethos and endeavour to meet all access needs.

Watts Gallery, Limnerslease: Artists' Home, the Artist in Residence Studio, Shop and Tea Shop are all fully accessible.

Due to the historic nature of our buildings, we regret that Watts Chapel and Watts Contemporary Gallery are not currently accessible for wheelchair users.

Please let us know of any specific access needs for your group when booking.

Group packages

We offer a number of packages for our group visits, from private tours to workshops.

Guided tours

Watts Chapel tour

Explore the beautiful Grade I listed Arts and Crafts masterpiece, with unique interior decoration, created by Mary Watts and the local community of Compton. A rare chance to see a unique example of Art Nouveau and Celtic design.



Artists' Village walking tour

Take a walking tour across the Artists' Village to discover more about the historic Arts and Crafts architecture. You will visit the Pottery Building - home of the Compton Potters' Guild - the Gallery, the Chapel, and Limnerslease. *Please wear comfortable shoes.*



Limnerslease: The Arts & Crafts Home

Discover the Grade II listed Arts & Crafts home of George and Mary Watts, completed by Sir Ernest George in 1891. Learn more about the history of the building, see the original gesso ceilings designed by Mary Watts and hear about the artistic and literary guests who visited Limnerslease.



Historic Galleries tour

Join one of our expert guides to delve more into the history of Watts' purpose-built Arts & Crafts Gallery. Uncover the life of the renowned artist George Frederic Watts through his own remarkable paintings and sculptures.

Gardener's tour

Discover the gardens and grounds of our estate in the company of Chris Sharples, Verrey Head Gardener. On this walking tour, Chris will point out what to look for each month and chat about the ongoing restoration of the grounds at Watts Gallery - Artists' Village.



Smartify

Discover the stories of Watts Gallery with our free audio tours. Bring your own headphones to make the most of the audio tours available, or scan paintings to find out more about them.

Workshops

Group pottery workshop

Group admission plus a pottery workshop in our Foyle Studio. This includes entry to Watts Gallery - Artists' Village, plus a two-hour artist-led workshop. Price includes our artist tutor, all materials and clay bisque firing. Final pieces will need to be collected at a later date, once they have been fired. Minimum of eight participants.

Choose from one of three sessions:

- Decorative tiles
- Candle holders
- Dishes and bowls

Price for workshop

Standard rate: £49 per person

Concession rate: £44.75 per person



Catering

Catering must be pre-booked for all group visits and private tours. Groups have the exclusive use of the Old Kiln for all catering options.

We offer a range of lunch and light refreshment options for your group to suit all tastes and budgets. Special diets and allergies can be accommodated. Please let us know when making your booking. All catering options are listed in the booking form. All members must select the same menu.

Getting here

We are located in the village of Compton, Surrey in the heart of the Surrey Hills, an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

By coach or car

We are signposted off the A3 at the Godalming / Compton slip road. Take the first left onto Down Lane from the B3000 and we are located 500m down the road.

Your coach can drop you off at the Visitor Centre before parking at designated coach parking, a short drive away. Please ask your coach driver to turn off their engines when picking-up and dropping-off.

Car parking is free for all visitors. We have Blue Badge parking available on site.

By rail

There are regular services from London, Surrey, Berkshire and Hampshire to and from Guildford, Godalming and Farncombe stations. Each station is ten minutes from Compton and taxis are available.

By bus

The 46 Stagecoach bus runs to and from Guildford town centre (Friary Bus Station) directly to our site, running once an hour between 9.20am and 6pm, Mondays to Saturdays. The journey takes approximately ten minutes. Up to date information can be found on their website.

Walking trails

Watts Gallery - Artists' Village is located along the North Downs Way, a national trail of 153 miles. Much of the trail follows the historical Pilgrims' Way, running through Surrey following the line of the North Downs until it reaches the Kentish border, where it continues on to Canterbury.

The Artists' Village is located in the heart of the Surrey Hills, an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The OS coordinates for Compton are SU958468.

Cycling routes

As well as the North Downs Way, we are also located along National Cycle Route 22, which can be picked up from Puttenham and Guildford. There are a number of bicycle racks spread across the site for bicycle parking. Bicycles are also available to hire from Guildford station.

Payment

You can pay by invoice, cheque, or credit card. All admission fees and catering fees must be made as one payment two weeks in advance of your visit. Please note that all prices are shown per head and include VAT.

You can pay by card by calling 01483 813589 or by cheque made payable to Watts Gallery Trust.

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Contact us

To discuss any group visits or private tours, please contact our Groups Organiser on **01483 813 589** or email groups@wattsgallery.org.uk.

Please return your completed booking form via email or post. Please address any posted forms to:

Group Visits
Watts Gallery - Artists' Village
Down Lane
Compton
Surrey
GU3 1DQ

If you have an urgent enquiry on the week of your visit, please call **07990 954 408**.