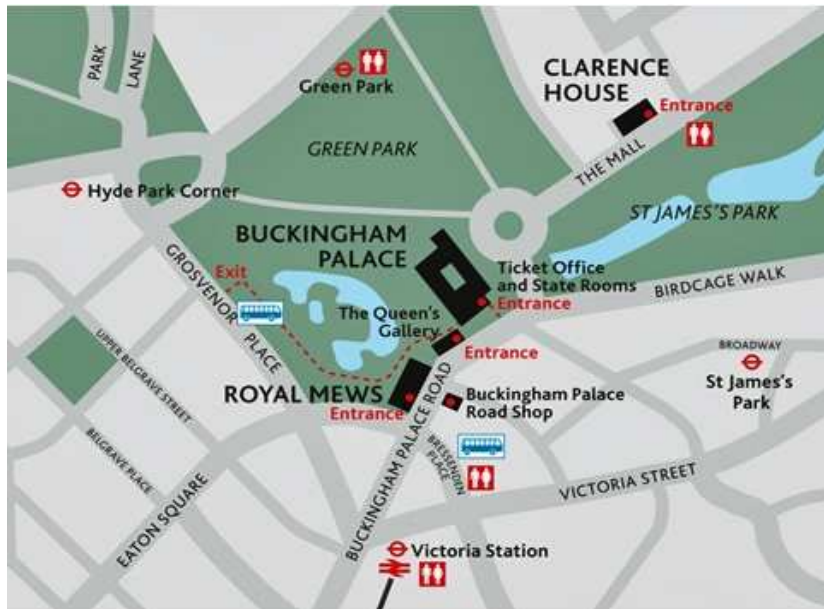




# City of Westminster

## The Royal Mews





## Guided tour



Between April and October, you can take a free 45-minute guided tour of the Royal Mews. The tours are led by the Wardens, dressed in their striking red and navy livery, and depart at regular intervals throughout the day at the start of the visit.

The tour introduces the work of the Royal Mews, whose staff are responsible for all road travel by The Queen and members of the Royal Family, whether by historic

carriage or modern car. You hear how the Mews serves The Queen in the performance of her official duties and prepares for major State and ceremonial occasions, from the State Opening of Parliament to royal weddings.

## The carriage horses



During your visit to the Mews, you will see some of The Queen's horses that draw the coaches and carriages in the Mews.

The Cleveland Bays are used to escort newly appointed High Commissioners and Ambassadors to their audience with The Queen, when they present their formal credentials from their country's Head of State.

You may also see the famous Windsor Greys, so called because they were kept at Windsor during the reign of Queen Victoria and drew the private carriages of the royal family. They are at least 16.1 hands (1.65 metres) high and are chosen for their steady temperament and stamina.

## Coaches and livery



The Royal Mews houses the royal collection of historic carriages and coaches, which you may see in use during your visit. Among the vehicles on display are the Irish State Coach, in which The Queen travels to the State Opening of Parliament, and the Australian State Coach, which combines traditional craftsmanship with 20th-century technology to provide heating and remote-controlled windows.

The 1902 State Landau was used in the carriage procession on Tuesday, 5 June during the Central

Weekend of Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee celebrations. Following the Service of Thanksgiving at St Paul's Cathedral and the luncheon at Westminster Hall, The Queen travelled back to Buckingham Palace in the 1902 State Landau, accompanied by The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall. This landau has also been used for a number of royal weddings, including that of The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge in April 2011. It is traditionally used by The Queen when she greets Heads of State arriving in Britain for a State Visit and is usually drawn by six Windsor Grey horses.

The most dazzling vehicle of all is the Gold State Coach, which was built for George III in 1762. Weighing almost four tonnes and requiring eight horses to pull it, it has carried every monarch to their coronation since 1821.

Visitors to the Royal Mews can also see some of the fine livery worn by The Queen's coachmen. Apart from a few small details, it remains much the same as it was in Victorian times. Remarkably, some of the tailors used for production of liveries today are the same companies employed during the reign of George III in the 18th century.

## Opening times & admission prices

30 March – 31 October 2013

Open daily 10:00-17:00

(last admission 16:15)

A typical visit lasts 1 hour.

## Admission prices (all include an audio tour)

Adult £8.25

Over 60/Student (with valid ID) £7.50

Under 17 £5.20

Under 5 Free

Family (2 adults, 3 under 17s) £22.00

## A Royal Day Out

This ticket gives admission to three sites: The State Rooms, the Royal Mews and The Queen's Gallery at Buckingham Palace. (Only available 3 August - 29 September 2013)

Adult £33.25

Over 60/ Student (with valid ID) £30.50

Under 17 £18.85

Family £87.00 (2 adults and 3 under 17s)