



CLIVEDEN

## WHAT MAKES CLIVEDEN HOUSE SPECIAL



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**The 376 acres of National Trust formal gardens and woodlands** feature the celebrated Parterre, season-long floral displays, distinctive topiary, and a collection of exceptional sculptures. Works of art on the grounds also include the Fountain of Love, Roman Sarcophagi, and an Amphitheatre where the first recital of "Rule Britannia" was played. The Pavilion was built to commemorate the Battle of Blenheim.

**Cliveden has a listed outdoor swimming pool.** The 'Profumo Pool' (as it is sometimes known) is located within the walled garden of the Cliveden Spa and was the setting for a scandal which shook parliament in 1961. Conservative MP John Profumo, who was a dinner guest that evening of Lord Astor Cliveden's then owner, came across Osteopath Stephen Ward who was staying in Spring Cottage with friends, including the nineteen-year-old Christine Keeler (mistress of a suspected Russian spy) as they were larking around in the pool – the rest is history!

**The award-winning Cliveden Spa** has its own Cliveden Body Collection of at-home vegan spa products, inspired by two of the powerful ladies of the house Anna Maria; the first 'Mistress of Cliveden' and Nancy Astor; its most famous chatelaine. This bespoke body collection is designed by luxury British skincare brand Oskia.

**Cliveden has strong links to British royalty and has hosted every monarch since George I.** Cliveden welcomed Meghan Markle in May 2018, who spent the night before her royal wedding to Prince Harry at Cliveden. Queen Victoria often travelled to Cliveden by boat from Windsor Castle to take tea with her great friend the Duchess of Sutherland, arriving at Cliveden secluded Spring Cottage on the banks of the Thames.

**Cliveden House hosts an annual Literary Festival** each autumn, where writers, politicians and public figures gather to continue the 350-year-old tradition of power, politicians and lively discussion that have reverberated in the literary salons of Cliveden throughout the ages. Most recent speakers have included Sebastian Faulks, Chibundu Onuzo, Kate Moss, Simon Sebag Montefiore, David Baddiel, Tina Brown, Leila Slimani, Michael Gove MP, and Natalie Livingstone.



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**Every Room and Suite at Cliveden is named after a past guest.** From George Bernard Shaw and the Duchess of Sutherland to Prince Albert and Lord Astor, each room is unique. The Stanford Suite is named after Stanford University of California, who took a lease of Cliveden for use as one of its overseas campuses in 1969 until 1983.

**Lady Astor was the first woman to take her seat in Parliament.** Female Suffrage (for women over 30) had become law in February 1918 and for the first time a woman could stand for parliament. Nancy Astor was elected by a majority of 5,203 votes on the 28<sup>th</sup> of November 1919. In 1928 Nancy Astor remembered her early days in the House – “I had the privilege of being the first woman in the House of Commons, and sometimes I used to doubt whether it was a privilege. When I stood up and asked questions affecting women and children, social and moral questions, I used to be shouted at for 5 or 10 minutes at a time. That was when they thought that I was rather a freak, a voice crying in the wilderness”. Many MPs refused to speak to her, Churchill later told her “We hoped to freeze you out”.

**Cliveden has appeared on the silver screen.** The Beatles filmed part of their ‘Help!’ film at Cliveden in 1965. The estate’s iconic Fountain of Love and Golden Clock Tower were recreated for the 2014 remake of Cinderella starring Lily James and Cliveden was mentioned in Downton Abbey by Lady Mary as the location of a house party she attended. Many of the scenes from the Hollywood movie ‘A Little Chaos’ starring Kate Winslet and the now late Alan Rickman were also filmed at Cliveden.

**Cliveden House is built on top of a ‘sounding room’** which was built in 1666 and is the oldest example of such a structure in Britain. The vast domed shaped space below the house would regularly house musicians, whose music would be amplified both up into the Great Hall, and out onto the Parterre.

#### CLIVEDEN HOUSE BOILER PLATE

**CLIVEDEN HOUSE** is a five-star luxury hotel; the building is owned by the National Trust and operated under a long lease arrangement by Iconic Luxury Hotels. Less than 45 minutes west of London and 20 minutes from London Heathrow Airport, the hotel has 47 spacious rooms and suites in the main mansion plus Spring Cottage, a summerhouse on the banks of the River Thames, together with boathouse and boats, luxurious spa and a range of sporting and leisure facilities. The Cliveden Dining Room is complemented by the relaxed informality of The Astor Grill, together with a range of private dining, banqueting, and meeting facilities. A member of Relais & Châteaux, Cliveden is unique, the setting, architecture and interiors all speak eloquently of extraordinary extravagance and remarkable refinement. There is a palpable sense of history for this is a house that for well over 350 years has been dedicated to the pursuit of pleasure, power, and politics.

#### ABOUT ICONIC LUXURY HOTELS

Iconic Luxury Hotels was founded in December 2016 and is part of L+R Hotels ([landrhotels.com](http://landrhotels.com)) - a highly motivated family-owned global hotel investment and management company - who have an extensive portfolio of over 105 hotels, with approximately 21,000 bedrooms. Iconic Luxury Hotels is an expanding collection with an international focus. The collection is comprised of an eclectic array of properties each of which celebrates distinct architecture, cultural heritage, and natural surroundings.

Each property has its own character, traditions, and stories but they share a common commitment to delivering outstanding experiences. The current portfolio includes some of the world’s most famous hotels from Cliveden House, one of England’s finest country estates, to the Hotel Excelsior in Italy which is the home of the Venice International Film Festival. The other UK hotels are comprised of Chewton Glen an English estate on the South Coast, The Lygon Arms a 14th Century Coaching Inn in the Cotswolds, 11 Cadogan Gardens in Chelsea, one of London’s most prestigious residential areas and The Mayfair Townhouse, London which opened in December 2020.