



C L I V E D E N

CLIVEDEN PRESS BACKGROUND INFORMATION

INTRODUCTION

Cliveden House is a five-star luxury hotel owned by the National Trust and operated under a long lease arrangement by Iconic Luxury Hotels, the owners of Chewton Glen, who on the 2nd February 2012 added the world-famous property to their portfolio, which also includes The Lygon Arms in Broadway and 11 Cadogan Gardens in London. All properties fall under the guidance and direction of Iconic's Executive Director, Andrew Stembridge and all iconic hotels remain independently operated with a shared vision for unparalleled luxury, attention to detail and the finest levels of service.

Cliveden is a grand stately home; it commands panoramic views over the beautiful Berkshire countryside and the River Thames. The house is surrounded by 376 acres of magnificent National Trust formal gardens and parkland. Guests have included every British monarch since George I as well as Charlie Chaplin, Winston Churchill, Harold Macmillan, President Roosevelt, George Bernard Shaw, John Profumo, the infamous Christine Keeler, and many other well-known names from the past and present.

Less than 45 minutes west of London and 20 minutes from London Heathrow Airport, the hotel has 48 rooms and suites, including a summerhouse by the Thames, together with boathouse and boats, heated pool, spa and a range of sporting and leisure facilities. The Dining Room at Cliveden is complemented by private dining, banqueting and meeting facilities and opened a second restaurant The Astor Grill in 2016 in the former stables.

Both the original Cliveden, built in 1666 for the 2nd Duke of Buckingham and its replacement, built in 1824 were sadly destroyed by fire, the present Grade 1 listed Italianate mansion was built in 1851 by the architect Charles Barry for George Sutherland-Leveson-Gower, 2nd Duke of Sutherland. Queen Victoria was famously "not amused" at the Duke of Westminster's decision to sell Cliveden to the Astor family in 1893. In 1942, the family handed Cliveden to the National Trust.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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PROPERTY INFORMATION AFFILIATIONS:

Relais & Chateaux

ACCOMMODATION

48 Bedrooms/Suites, incl Spring Cottage

PRIVATE ROOMS: The Dining Room, The Astor Grill, French Dining Room, The Blue Boudoir, Waldo's, The Cellar Dining Room, The Churchill Room, The Motor House, Spring Cottage, The Library, The Tote Room

Meeting Capacity: 100 (max) Lunch/Dinner 220 in interconnection rooms

Cocktail Reception: 200 (max) Marquee: 400

Twitter - https://twitter.com/cliveden_house @Cliveden_House

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/ClivedenHouse>

Pinterest - <https://uk.pinterest.com/clivedenhouse/>

Instagram - <https://instagram.com/clivedenhouse/> @clivedenhouse

RECENT AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

- Condé Nast Traveler Readers' Choice Awards 2018, No 6 Top Hotels in the United Kingdom
- The Good Food Guide, No 17 of the UK's Best Restaurants 2019
- Caterer's 2018 Hoteliers' Hotel, No 21
- Travel & Leisure 2018 World's Best Awards – 6th in the Top 10 Resort Hotels in the UK and Ireland
- World Travel Awards 2018, England's Leading Country House Hotel
- Tatler Spa Award 2018, Classic Beauty Award for the Cliveden Spa
- Restaurant voted 59th in the Top 100 Restaurants in the UK by Harden's
- Hotel Cateys 2017, Hotel Chef of the Year (Fewer than 250 covers)
- The Cliveden Spa, Best New or Back on the Scene Luxury Spa
- Condé Nast Johansens, 2018 UK & Ireland Awards for Excellence
- Favourite UK Holiday Hotel, Condé Nast Traveller Readers' Travel Awards 2017
- Conde Nast Traveller. Readers' Travel Awards 2017
- The Platinum List 2017, Best Country House
- 19th in the Waitrose Good Food Guide, 2018, Top 50 Restaurants
- The Beautiful South Awards for Excellence 2016-2017 – Bronze – Large Hotel
- AA Hotel Services Breakfast Award 2017
- Winner of the Pets Pyjamas 2017 Gourmet Hotel Travel Awards
- Condé Nast Johansens 2016 Awards for Excellence Winner – Back on the Scene
- Condé Nast Traveller awarded Cliveden 4th position in their poll of 'UK's Top Holiday Hotels 2016
- The Caterer and Sky, awarded Cliveden top 10 ranking in their inaugural 'Hoteliers' Hotels Top 100' award 2016.
- Forbes Travel Guide 2016 named as 'one of the finest hotel properties in the world'
- AA Hotel of the Year 2015 – the ultimate accolade for hotels
- Condé Nast Traveller awarded Cliveden 6th position in their poll of 'UK's Top 10 Holiday Hotels' 2015
- 18th position in the Good Food Guide 2015
- Square Meal awarded the André Garrett Restaurant 8th position in their top 50 restaurants in the UK for 2015
- 18th position and Restaurant Newcomer of the Year in the Waitrose Good Food Guide awarded to André Garrett at Cliveden

- AA 3 Rosettes awarded, September 2014 Top 100 hotels in the World' in the Fodor's Travel Awards 2014
- Travel+Leisure Top Ten UK hotels in 500 of the world's best hotels 2014
- Taste of London 2014 - best dessert in show, 2nd best overall in the Park
- Restaurant Awards 2014 - 56th in the Top 100 restaurants
- AA Notable wine list
- Square meal 14th in the top 100 great British restaurants
- AA 5 Red Star Hotel
- Travel+Leisure Top Ten Best Small Hotels (fewer than 40 rooms) in the World – 2012
- Cliveden & The Pavilion Spa has been inspected and is recommended by Condé Nast Johansens for 2012

ACCOMMODATION

Staying at Cliveden House - An invitation to stay at Cliveden was seldom refused in Lady Astor's day - not least because the bedrooms were so luxuriously appointed and the staff so attentive. The standards she set over 100 years ago are still rigorously maintained today.

You can be certain of a beautiful room filled with exquisite furnishings and priceless antiques. Luxury accommodation in or near London does not come any better than this. Each room is named after a prominent guest or figure from Cliveden's past and furnished accordingly...from Churchill to Chaplin, Astor to Orkney and Sutherland to the Prince of Wales, each room provides a truly unique experience. Cliveden has 48 bedrooms and suites including Spring Cottage: Room categories:

- Club Room & Club Room with Hot Tub
- Classic Room & Classic Room with Hot Tub
- Deluxe Room & Deluxe Room with Hot Tub
- Mansion Deluxe Room
- Junior Suite
- Deluxe Suite
- Mansion Deluxe Suite
- Prince of Wales Suite
- Lady Astor Suite
- Inchiquin Suite
- Spring Cottage

All bedrooms are double rooms. Flawless service offered with care and courtesy make staying at Cliveden an unforgettable experience. Whilst staying at Cliveden, all guests can enjoy access to the Cliveden Spa and the National Trust grounds.

Cliveden has a number of interconnecting rooms and suites available that can create a two bedroom option. They are ideal accommodation for families or for those travelling with friends or assistants. Rooms and Suites interconnect via a corridor door or room to room.

We know how hard it can be to leave pets at home, which is why dogs are always welcome at Cliveden - we pride ourselves on ensuring all guests enjoy the finest of experiences during their stay. There are over 250 acres of National Trust woodland paths designed for dogs to explore and they might even spot the odd nonchalant rabbit.

ROOM DESCRIPTION AND TARIFF

Club Room & Club Room with Hot Tubs

Venue: Wings
Price: £445 - £525
Views: Courtyard
Size: 24.5 m2

Individually styled double rooms, which reflect the wonderful history of the House. Club bedrooms are ideal for shorter stays and are located in the East and West Wings of the House.

Classic Room & Classic Room with Hot Tub

Venue: 1st Floor
Price: £545 - £625
Views: Courtyard
Size: 32-35 m2

Spacious double rooms with many period features. All rooms are individually styled and reflect the wonderful history of the House.

Deluxe Room & Deluxe Room with Hot Tub

Venue: 1-2 Floors
Price: £665 - £750
Views: Grounds

Size: 40-45 m2

Spacious double rooms with king size or twin beds, all with their own fireplace, adding character and style to the room.

Mansion Deluxe Room

Price: £765 - £800

Junior Suite

Venue: 1-2 Floors

Price: £865 - £895

Views: Grounds

Size: 60 m2

The Junior Suites have a king size handmade Cliveden bed with lounge area and en-suite bathroom.

Inchiquin, 2 Bedroom Deluxe Suite

Venue: 1st Floor

Price: £1,535 - £1,585

Views: Grounds

Size: 65 m2

The Inchiquin Suite is one of our newly refurbished suites glamorously refreshed in a traditional classic style, embellished with fine European fabrics and antique furniture. Located in the East Wing it overlooking the Grand Drive, Fountain of Love and the gardens, there is a double bedded room and a second double bed located within the large living room, which has a side view of the gardens.

Deluxe Suite

Venue: 1-2 Floors

Price: £1,095 - £1,135

Views: Grounds

Size: 60-65 m2

Luxurious and generously proportioned, Deluxe Suites have high ceilings, are decorated with antiques and original works of art and offer very spacious lounge areas.

Parterre Deluxe Suite: The Prince of Wales Suite

Venue: 2nd Floor
Price: £1,535 - £1,585
Views: Parterre
Size: 75 m2

The Prince of Wales Suite is one of our two Parterre Suites. Offering grand and unique accommodation it is luxurious and generously proportioned.

Parterre Deluxe Suite: Lady Astor Suite

Venue: 1st Floor
Price: £1,535 - £1,585
Views: Parterre
Size: 75 m2

The Lady Astor Suite is one of our Parterre Suites and is luxurious and generously proportioned with great views and a large private terrace.

Spring Cottage: Romantic hideaway

Venue: Estate
Price: £2,055 - £2,295
Views: River Thames
Size: 250 m2

A stunningly refurbished picturesque three bedroom cottage, set on the banks of the River Thames, offering the utmost in privacy and escapism.

HISTORY OF SPRING COTTAGE AT CLIVEDEN

Spring Cottage was built for the use of the owners of Cliveden and their house guests. The River Thames flows past the Cliveden estate and its frontage onto the banks of the river has been a key element of the enjoyment of the mansion since George Villiers built the first house in 1666. The feature of a natural spring, which is located adjacent to the cottage, has been enjoyed in its own right since at least 1750 and a number of Royal parties visited Cliveden to enjoy the spring in 1794 and 1809.

In 1813 Lady Orkney commissioned Peter Nicholson to design a Gothic tearoom for entertaining guests adjacent to the spring. By 1852 plans to extend Nicholson's structure to form an ornamental fishing villa were partly executed and in 1857 the Duchess of Sutherland invited George Devey to adapt and develop the buildings into the cottage we now see. William Waldorf Astor added the grand curved steps and ornate balustrade as a landing jetty circa 1890's.

Visited on several occasion by Queen Victoria when the Sutherlands owned the estate, Bill Astor in 1956 leased the cottage for a peppercorn rent to Stephen Ward. Dr Ward used Spring Cottage for weekend parties between 1956 and 1963, entertaining such guests as Christine Keeler and Mandy Rice-Davies. It was at the walled garden swimming pool (now the Pavilion Spa) in July 1961 that Christine Keeler met John Profumo, Secretary of State for War. This meeting and subsequent relationship brought down the Conservative Government in 1963.

Following restoration in 1998 of Spring Cottage, Cliveden guests were again able to enjoy this fabulous location and in 2012 a further renovation of the building has created a beautiful retreat for guests on the banks of the River Thames. Spring Cottage remains one of the finest places to stay on the Thames.

THE DINING ROOM AT CLIVEDEN

In November 2013, André Garrett joined Cliveden House to open a spectacular eponymous new dining room – André Garrett at Cliveden. Having worked with Nico Ladenis, Guy Savoy and the Galvin brothers, André's name was now above the door at one of the most important country house hotels in Britain. The restaurant was ranked #19 in the Waitrose Good Food Guide 2017 with an 8/10 rating (and 'Best Newcomer' award in the 2015 guide), #20 in Square Meal Lifestyle's UK Top 50 Restaurants 2016 and #51 in "The Sunday Times Top 100 UK Restaurants 2015" in conjunction with Harden's. In The AA Restaurant Guide 2017, it retained three rosettes, and Cliveden House won "Hotel of the Year for England". In early 2019 this fabulous restaurant will be transform into 'The Dining Room at Cliveden' as André Garrett returns to London after five highly successful years at Cliveden, and as we wish him good luck in his new venture, Cliveden's restaurant will continue to excel under the expert direction of dedicated Head Chef and Roux Scholar, Paul O'Neill.

THE ASTOR GRILL *Relaxed Dining*

Located in the charming old stable block, which once housed Lord Astor's most prized fillies. Adopting an equestrian theme in its décor, The Astor Grill is full of character offering a simple and informal approach to dining at Cliveden.

The menu is overseen by Head Chef Paul O'Neill and it focusses on a mixture of classic American and British dishes, many reminiscent of Cliveden's diverse owners and residents. The name – The Astor Grill – recalls the Astor family, who owned the house from the early 1900s. William Waldorf Astor, America's richest citizen, then gave the house to his son and daughter in-law, Nancy Astor, in 1906, and Cliveden became a vibrant social hub for guests as diverse as Charlie Chaplin, George Bernard Shaw and Winston Churchill.

The Astor Grill today is a cosmopolitan venue which is steeped in history, its romantic setting offers all the style and legendary hospitality that Cliveden is famous for, and it is the perfect place to escape and enjoy a late brunch, early lunch, or a relaxed supper.

THE CLIVEDEN SPAa new Beginning

The opening of The Cliveden Spa in July 2017 marked the completion of a multi-million pound restoration of Cliveden House in Berkshire, which saw the total transformation of this iconic luxury country house hotel. Honouring its illustrious 350-year history, the spa is hidden in a beautiful garden setting, screened by mellow brick walls covered with scented roses and lavender, where guests experience a tranquil oasis offering a real sense of wellbeing and relaxation.

Combining quintessentially British treatments and products in an exclusive partnership with global beauty influencer Sarah Chapman, renowned for her unique, award-winning facials and OSKIA, whose treatments are designed to complement and accentuate their multi award-winning nutritional skincare range, the Cliveden Spa creates a rejuvenating environment of unparalleled luxury in a setting that is rich in heritage, the holistic nature of the spa extends beyond treatments to the retail products and the spa restaurant, all of which meet the same exceptional standards of service, hospitality and attention to detail.

The centrepiece of the spa is the 'listed' outdoor swimming pool, beside which the now infamous Christine Keeler first met John Profumo. However, the spa itself is the epitome of

modern luxury, from the cutting edge gym, complete with the latest Technogym equipment, free weights and stretch area, to the indoor heated pool, infrared sauna, aromatherapy steam room, indoor Jacuzzi, outdoor hot tubs, seven treatment rooms, a manicure, pedicure and hair dressing studio.

The Cliveden Spa also provides a new spa restaurant and lounge with views over the garden and the option of 'al fresco' dining, a welcoming reception area, changing rooms and a cleverly concealed glazed walkway, which brings hotel guests directly into the sanctuary of the spa without having to venture outside, except to dip their top into that famous outdoor pool!. On site there are also indoor and outdoor tennis courts.

The history of Cliveden has informed the treatments and products giving them a unique and original story. Anna-Maria, for whom Cliveden was originally built, as well as perhaps the House's most famous resident Nancy Astor, have provided the inspiration for the scents which are ever present in the spa. These scents reflect the combination of strength, subtlety and femininity of the women who inspired them.

Open daily from 6.30 a.m. to 10.00 p.m. Monday to Friday and 7.00 a.m. to 9.00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, hotel residents and day spa guests can also enjoy a varied programme of lifestyle and fitness classes and personal training sessions together with Spa Day Retreats including: OSKIA and Sarah Chapman Spa Days, the Quintessentially Cliveden Spa Day and the Eternally Cliveden Spa Day All spa days include use of spa facilities, access to lifestyle and fitness classes, lunch in The Spa Kitchen, refreshments throughout the day and of course access to the 376 acres of National Trust gardens that surround and protect Cliveden and its fabulous new spa.

MEETINGS, CONFERENCES AND CORPORATE ENTERTAINING

Professionalism, unbeatable service and attention to detail - are the hallmarks of Cliveden as a meeting venue. The finest of luxury conference hotels, Cliveden is not only the perfect location for business meetings and conferences but is also ideally located for entertaining key clients, showcasing new products or quite simply thanking the team as there are few places more luxurious or enchanting than Cliveden for a private celebration or meal.

Cliveden's flexibility ensures that we can accommodate a wide variety of requirements for meetings, including conference rooms, private rooms and the option of holding a meeting for

up to eight people on the Suzy Ann, our flagship vintage launch, for a unique and inspiring venue.

Set in the heart of Berkshire countryside, The Estate's 376 acres of gardens and parklands can accommodate bespoke team building days that are designed with an emphasis on fun whilst improving and enhancing team performance. Nearby, golf at the prestigious Lambourne Golf Club, off-road driving, horse-riding, fishing, shooting, archery and polo experiences can also be arranged to make any event memorable.

We have two dedicated boardrooms within the House - The Screening Room and The Churchill. Both are air-conditioned, come with state of the art technology, complimentary wifi and have lots of natural light. Our other reception rooms within Cliveden House are also ideal to be adapted for business use. For larger scale meetings of up to 100 people, The Dining Room can also be used as a dramatic and stunning venue.

Meeting Room Capacities include: Boardroom – 50, Theatre – 100, Cabaret – 60, Private Dinner – 220*, Marquee – 400 (* 220 in *Multiple interconnecting rooms. Maximum capacity in one room is 100*). There are a number of private spaces available at Cliveden, these include: The Churchill, The Boudoir, The Motor House, The Tote Room, French Dining Room, Waldo's, The Cellar Dining Room, the restaurant can also be used for meetings or private dinners.

Our 24 Hour Rate includes: Full day use of meeting room including set up; complimentary wifi throughout the stay; dedicated conference events manager to ensure the success of your event; arrival, morning and afternoon, tea and coffee breaks with homemade treats; mineral water in the meeting room; use of the hotel's audio-visual equipment; working buffet lunch or two-course lunch in the André Garrett Dining Room; three-course gourmet dinner, excluding beverages; luxurious accommodation in one of our beautifully appointed rooms; full English breakfast in our restaurant; room upgrade subject to availability; use of The Pavilion Spa wet areas, gymnasium, indoor tennis and squash courts; valet parking for all delegates on arrival; includes service charge

WEDDINGS AND CIVIL CEREMONIES

Dedicated to the pursuit of pleasure - The most perfect setting for the most perfect day, Cliveden provides a truly idyllic setting for an enchanted wedding with its fairy tale architecture, lavish interiors and breathtaking grounds, it is hard to imagine a more romantic

setting for a perfect wedding day. We are able to offer the house exclusively providing ultimate privacy and unrivalled flexibility.

Cliveden combines excellent service, hospitality and food, in an elegant country house hotel which for over three hundred years has excelled at entertaining. We have many options within the House for any number or size of ceremony or reception, including:

Spring Cottage – (up to 12 guests) - A secluded historic cottage on the banks of the River Thames. Spring Cottage has beautiful riverside gardens and architecture.

The Lady Astor Suite – (up to 40 guests) - The Lady Astor Suite has great views and a large private terrace. The spacious Lady Astor Suite with its high ceilings is decorated with antiques and original works of art and is located in the Main Mansion (first floor).

The Mountbatten Suite – (up to 40 guests) - Named after Lord Mountbatten this historic Suite has beautiful oak panelling and views of the grounds. It is an ideal venue for a civil ceremony, especially during the autumn and winter months.

The French Dining Room – (up to 60 guests) - On a visit to Paris in 1897, William Waldorf Astor was shown the gilded panelling in Madame de Pompadour's 18th century dining room at the Chateau d'Asnieres. Realising the proportions exactly matched those of the dining room at Cliveden he bought the panelling, table and chairs, then had the entire room reconstructed in his home.

Stone Gazebo (up to 60 guests) - Located on the corner of the Terrace overlooking the Parterre, the Stone Gazebo is an 18th Century Italian Gazebo, recently restored by the National Trust and a wonderful outdoor venue for a summer Civil Ceremony.

The Library (up to 50 guests) - A beautiful wood panelled Library with high ceilings and stunning views over the Parterre and grounds. The Library is an elegant and impressive option for a Civil Ceremony

The Churchill Room (up to 60 guests) - Named after former guest at Cliveden, Winston Churchill this picturesque purpose built private room in the Garden wing has the significant advantage of a lovely private terrace overlooking the Croquet Lawn and Pavilion Spa.

The Dining Room (up to 120 guests) - The stunning south-facing restaurant is bathed in natural light and looks out over the Parterre, gardens and River Thames. Its classical

elegance and fine works of art give it an enviable touch of romance, for which Cliveden is famous.

Many of the private dining rooms at Cliveden can be used for wedding breakfasts and receptions. From small intimate receptions to larger celebrations Cliveden has an elegant room to fit all requirements and should numbers exceed 120, we are able to accommodate the couples special day on an exclusive use basis with a luxurious a marquee in the National Trust grounds, opposite the Cliveden Spa. Exclusive Use includes use of all the 38 bedrooms (including Spring Cottage), public rooms and dining rooms, with no outside guests being allowed into the mansion.

Cliveden was one of the first hotels to be granted a license to hold wedding ceremonies in selected rooms within the house and offers a number of exclusive wedding packages The house is also a popular choice for newlyweds with its romantic history and luxurious surroundings, and many couples stay for a night or two before jetting off from Heathrow (only twenty minutes' drive away). It was built out of love by the Duke of Buckingham for his mistress, and has been the site of passionate duels and tempestuous love affairs over the centuries; it was once even given as a wedding gift.

Wherever staying in the House or in one of our wonderful Suites or the seclusion of Spring Cottage by the River Thames, couples are assured a perfect blessing to the start of your marriage. After 6pm only House guests are allowed into the grounds, where they can explore the Fountain of Love, the Secret Garden or any other romantic hideaways at your leisure.

OWNERS AND OCCUPANTS

Owners and Occupants of Cliveden 1666 – to the present day

1666 -1697 George Villiers, 2nd Duke of Buckingham

Purchased the estate and built the first house at Cliveden, creating the platform and terrace upon which all future houses were built. On his death, the estate was sold to pay his debts.

1697 - 1706 Mansfield Family

The family had also previously owned the land at Cliveden in the early 1600s.

1706 - 1737 George Hamilton, Earl of Orkney

Purchased Cliveden, altering Buckingham's house and laying out the 'blueprint' for the gardens. He commissioned the Blenheim Pavilion, Octagon Temple and Amphitheatre. As the earldom was a Scottish title, it was inherited by his eldest daughter on his death.

1737 - 1756 Anne, 2nd Countess of Orkney

Anne chose to live at nearby Taplow Court and lease Cliveden:

1737 - 1751 Frederick Prince of Wales

The Prince leased Cliveden as his principal country residence until his premature death.

1756 - 1790 Mary, 3rd Countess of Orkney

As Anne's oldest surviving child, Mary inherited the Orkney lands and titles on the death of her mother. Cliveden was little used by the family and leased to various tenants.

1790 - 1824 Mary, 4th Countess of Orkney

Mary also inherited the earldom from her mother. She lived at Cliveden following her husband's death in the early 1790s. In 1795, the central block of the House burnt down.

1824 - 1849 Sir George Warrender

Cliveden was put up for sale in 1821, but the purchase could not be completed until Thomas Hamilton, the heir to the Orkney earldom came of age. Warrender rebuilt Cliveden, creating the second house on this site.

1849 - 1868 2nd Duke and Duchess of Sutherland

Cliveden was purchased in the name of Harriet, Duchess of Sutherland. In 1849, the house burnt down again and the Sutherlands had it quickly rebuilt by Charles Barry. This third house at Cliveden is the one you see today. The Sutherlands Head Gardener, John Fleming laid out the Parterre.

1868 3rd Duke of Sutherland

On his mother's death, the 3rd Duke inherited Cliveden and immediately sold it to his brother-in-law.

1868 - 1893 Earl Grosvenor, Duke of Westminster

The Duke had married Lady Constance, daughter of the 2nd Duke and Duchess of Sutherland, and they spent their honeymoon at Cliveden in 1852.

1893 - 1906 William Waldorf, 1st Viscount Astor

The Duke of Westminster sold Cliveden to William Waldorf Astor, a wealthy American who had decided to make England home. Lord Astor created the Long Garden, Water Garden and designed the Cliveden Maze. He also brought many sculptures to the garden, including the Fountain of Love and Borghese Balustrade.

1906 - 1942 Waldorf, 2nd Viscount Astor and Nancy Astor

Waldorf was given Cliveden as a wedding gift by his father. The Astors lent part of the estate to the Canadian Red Cross who ran a military hospital. Those who died from their wounds are buried within the War Memorial Garden.

1942 - present day National Trust

The House and estate were donated by 2nd Viscount Astor to the National Trust in 1942 on the condition that the Astors could continue to live at Cliveden for as long as they wished. The gardens and wider estate were opened to the public.

Occupants of the House 1942 – present day

1942 - 1952 Waldorf, 2nd Viscount Astor and Nancy Astor

Following Waldorf's death, Nancy decided to leave Cliveden and their son William and his young family lived in the House.

1952 - 1966 William (Bill) Waldorf, 3rd Viscount Astor

The family lived at Cliveden until Bill Astor died in 1966, when they decided that the time had come to leave.

1969 - 1983 Stanford University

The House was leased to the American university and became one of their overseas campuses.

1985 – present Cliveden House Hotel

In the late 1980s, a new lease was granted to convert the House into a hotel. Cliveden House Hotel is considered one of the finest country hotels in the country.

MOMENTS IN HISTORY - 1666 – 2016

Cliveden, the iconic 17th Century stately home, and now one of the world's finest luxury hotels, has played a pivotal role in Britain's history for over three centuries. From politics to parties, monarchy to misbehaviour, duels to jewels and scandals to scheming...history has been made here.

Cliveden now celebrates 350 extraordinary years with the completion of a meticulous two-year restoration project within the main house.

With Cliveden's next chapter about to begin, the following anecdotes and stories pay homage to its phenomenal past, highlighting some of the pivotal moments in history created at Cliveden:

DINING: Nancy Astor's dinner parties were legendary, and dining at Cliveden today is equally special. The Dining Room at Cliveden, has been voted one of the top 20 restaurants in the UK by the readers of the Waitrose Good Food Guide.

DUELS: The Duke of Buckingham built Cliveden in 1666 as a symbol of his love for his mistress The Countess of Shrewsbury. He fought a duel with her husband, and emerged victorious. The Countess' husband was wounded and later died.

THE MISTRESSES OF CLIVEDEN: 2015 saw the launch of 'The Mistresses of Cliveden: Three Centuries of Scandal, Power and Intrigue in an English Stately Home' written by historian Natalie Livingstone. Over the years, the house has been occupied by some exceptional women, and this story of sex and power charts the history of Cliveden's chatelaines: Anna-Maria, Countess of Shrewsbury whose husband was killed in the duel, Elizabeth Villiers, who altered the course of politics, Augusta of Saxe-Gothe who nearly became Queen, Harriet, Duchess of Sutherland, the society hostess and 'Mistress of the Robes' for Queen Victoria, and Nancy Astor, the American born Viscountess who became the first female politician to take up a seat in Parliament.

MONARCHY: Cliveden has played host to virtually every British monarch since George I. Queen Victoria often travelled to Cliveden by boat from Windsor Castle to take tea. Elizabeth II has visited several times. As a child the young Princess would visit with her mother and sister Margaret. She also visited during the 2nd World War when the Astors gave their Polo Field to the Canadian Government and built a hospital for their war wounded.

SPRING COTTAGE: Cliveden has a 3 bedroom cottage tucked-away on the banks of the Thames which today offers the hotel's most private accommodation. Queen Victoria would arrive here by boat when she came to take tea at Cliveden. Osteopath Stephen Ward entertained the infamous Christine Keeler at this cottage, sparking the Profumo Affair. Hotel and Spring Cottage guests today can enjoy the Cliveden flotilla of classic launches kept in the neighbouring boathouse.

CLIVEDEN FIRSTS: In 1740, Frederick Prince of Wales organised a musical evening at Cliveden which included the first ever performance of 'Rule Britannia'. Nancy, Lady Astor, one of Cliveden's most high-profile owners, was the first woman to take a seat in Parliament in 1919. She held the seat until her retirement in 1945. The infamous Cliveden swimming pool is the first (and only) listed outdoor pool in Britain.

WIND IN THE WILLOWS: Cliveden's 376 acre National Trust grounds border the section of the River Thames where Kenneth Grahame wrote the children's literary classic *The Wind in the Willows* in 1908. Legend has it that *Toad Hall* was inspired by Cliveden House. Mr. Toad's notoriously bad driving is said to have been modelled on Nancy Astor's driving style!

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 on set 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.

SCANDAL: Cliveden house guest John Profumo spotted Christine Keeler skinny dipping in the outdoor pool in 1961. Keeler was the 19 year-old rumoured mistress of a suspected Russian spy. Profumo was the up-and-coming Conservative Secretary of State for War and husband of well-known actress, Valerie Hobson. They embarked on an illicit affair which ultimately forced Profumo's resignation and impacted the course of British politics forever.

FAMOUS GUESTS: Since 1666 Cliveden has boasted an illustrious guest list which has included Frederick Prince of Wales, Queen Victoria, King Edward VII, Winston Churchill, Henry Ford, Teddy Roosevelt, George Bernard Shaw, The Beatles, Mahatma Gandhi and Charlie Chaplin amongst many others. Legend has it that Chaplin (who was filming in the UK and was unsure as to whether to accept an invite to join the Astors for the weekend) was apparently advised that 'no-one ever refuses an invitation to Cliveden' Joyce Grenfell, Nancy Astor's niece, lived on the Cliveden Estate for many years.

FIRES: Cliveden House has twice been destroyed by fire, only to emerge, phoenix-like, more stunning than before. In 1795 the mansion burned down, leaving only the two side wings. In 1849 there was a second devastating fire in the main house. Queen Victoria saw the flames from Windsor Castle and dispatched fire engines to help fight it.

ARTEFACTS – Cliveden House was built by Sir Charles Barry (the designer of the Houses of Parliament) and is full of precious treasures including 16th Century Tapestries, Suits of Armour and a John Singer Sargent portrait of Nancy Astor. The original Butler Bells have been restored for display, and stunning original Minton tiles (removed from the house by Nancy Astor in the early 20th Century) have recently been found and are currently being restored by the National Trust. Cliveden's 'Butler Tour' of the house gives guests a fascinating insight in the history of these artefacts.

SOUNDING ROOM: 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 also out onto the Parterre.

HISTORY OF SOME OF THE ROOM NAMES

The history of the rooms and suites at Cliveden House - Every Room and Suite at Cliveden is unique. Each one tells a story of some of the people who have stayed at or influenced Cliveden in the past....

Clutton...

Located on the ground floor of the Garden Wing, with a terrace overlooking the Walled Garden and croquet lawn.

Henry Clutton (1819 - 1893), was a renowned architect, well known for his large volume of quality ecclesiastical and domestic work. Between 1846 and 1883 his works included schools and domestic buildings; town houses and extensive alterations to the Grosvenor House, London; improvements and additions to country houses. In 1861 the 2nd Duke of Sutherland commissioned Clutton to build the stable courtyard, the clock tower on the west side of the forecourt and the Bothy - now known as the Garden Wing. In 1869 after the death of the Duchess of Sutherland, Cliveden was bought by her son-in-law, the 1st Duke of

Westminster, who in the same year commissioned Clutton to add a Porte Cochere to the north front of Barry's house.

Gladstone...

Located on the ground floor of the Garden Wing, with a private terrace overlooking the Walled Garden and croquet lawn.

Prime Minister William Ewart Gladstone (1809 - 1898), was a very close friend of the Duchess of Sutherland and who wrote the inscription that adorns the entablature of the house. He was a frequent visitor to Cliveden, and it was here that the term "the Cliveden Set" was first coined in the 1860s to describe the Whig political circles.

Kipling...

Located on the ground floor of the East Wing, with a view over the entrance of the House. With an elaborate patterned ceiling, key features are the bespoke double bed fitted into an alcove, and an elaborate patterned chimneybreast.

Rudyard Kipling (1865 - 1936), the legendary writer who was born in Bombay but educated in England. He married an American, Caroline Balestier, and amongst his most famous works the two Jungle Books, Stalky and Co. and the Just So Stories. Although he and his wife were frequent visitors to Cliveden, Nancy Astor found him stern and wrote - "He was very poor company. He didn't seem able to take things lightly and there was something laughable about him though I know I shouldn't say it. He would sit on the sofa with his wife, and before answering a question would ask her opinion. As one couldn't get him away from her, it was impossible to do anything with him."

Mr Lee...

Located on the ground floor of the Clutton Wing. It is adjacent to the Macmillan boardroom.

Edwin Lee (-1952), also known as Mr Lee, Nancy Astor's loyal butler. William Waldorf Astor was the owner of Cliveden from 1906 until 1942, although he continued living here after the House was given to the National Trust until his death in 1952. During his time he had little to do with running the indoor life at Cliveden. That side of things was run by his wife, Nancy, in collusion with Mr Lee. Their relationship was fruitful, although sometimes tense.

Chinese...

Located on the first/top floor of the East Wing, with a stunning full size four-poster bed and views over the grand drive, entrance to the house and gilded Clock Tower.

Grenfell...

Located on the first/top floor of the Garden Wing. The room is spacious with views over the Walled Garden and outdoor pool.

Joyce Grenfell (1910 – 1979), who a niece of Nancy's and often wrote of her happy times growing up at Cliveden. Joyce Grenfell was born Joyce Phipps, daughter of Nora – the youngest of the beautiful American Langhorne sisters of whom the most celebrated was Nancy, Lady Astor. In her early days Joyce and her family were always invited to spend their holidays and special occasions with their relations at Cliveden. Some years later in 1936, after her marriage to Reggie Grenfell, Aunt Nancy allowed them to live in Parr's Cottage on the estate where they stayed until 1943. Her girlhood spent on the fringes of the Cliveden Set among such men as George Bernard Shaw and Noel Coward spanned the twenties, but it was not until 1938 at a dinner party that she gave an impromptu imitation of a Women's Institute speaker and discovered her genius for dramatic monologue. After her debut on the London stage before the war in a Farjeon revue in which she was an overnight sensation, Joyce Grenfell never looked back. When the Queen told women of Britain "we all have a part to play", Joyce soon made entertaining the troops her principal wartime work – at first in England and Northern Ireland and later in North Africa, Malta, Sicily, Southern Italy, Cairo, Baghdad and India.

George Bernard Shaw...

Located on the first/top floor of the Garden Wing. It has a large wooden library unit filled with books. The view is over the Walled Garden and the outdoor swimming pool.

George Bernard Shaw (1856 – 1950), was an Irish playwright and critic. His dramas dominated the early 20th century English stage. In 1925 he was awarded the Nobel Prize in literature. A Fabian socialist, Shaw was a popular speaker and wrote five novels before becoming a music critic for London newspapers in 1885. Shaw was a frequent visitor to Cliveden from 1926 to his death. He had an improbable friendship with Nancy Astor - they were alike in being clowns with a deep inner seriousness, but although they had much the same sense of humour they differed on many counts at the serious level. Consequently they made each other laugh, but did not influence each other much. Shaw agreed to have his beard trimmed and washed by Nancy's hairdresser, but did not cut his political opinions to

suit hers. She, in turn, treated him as a sage without conforming to his political philosophy or reading many of his works. During a particular Cliveden weekend party, Lady Astor asked Shaw over the breakfast table “Do you approve of killing for pleasure?” After a dramatic pause Shaw replied “It depends who you are killing”.

Garibaldi...

Located on the first/top floor of the East Wing. The room has a very cosy feeling, with a large walk-in wardrobe. The view is of the entrance of the House and the Grand Drive, and gilded Clock Tower. Giuseppe Garibaldi (1807 – 1882), the Italian patriot stayed at Cliveden in 1864.

Garibaldi was born the son of a sailor in Nice on 4th July and he went to sea at an early age. Garibaldi became involved in the “Young Italy” movement and was condemned to death for taking part in an attempt to seize Genoa. He fled to South America but returned to Italy to continue fighting the cause. To this day he remains the central figure in the story of Italian Independence. In 1864 Garibaldi visited England to support the cause of Denmark. During this time he was invited to Cliveden as a guest of the 2nd Duke and Duchess of Sutherland. To Garibaldi the magnificent views along the River Thames with its eyots and inlets, stretching almost as far as Maidenhead reach, framed by branches of the surrounding beech trees compared with “some of the mightiest river prospects of South America”.

Prince Albert...

Located on the first/top floor of the Garden Wing, with a view of the croquet lawn and Walled Garden. It is a spacious room.

In 1840 Albert, Duke of Saxe, Prince of Coburg and Gotha married his first cousin Queen Victoria. This was regarded as the commencement of the Victorian era and a measure of glory lay ahead for the British Empire. His devotion to the Queen, his responsible concern with public affairs, particularly science, culture and diplomacy won him respect. His hour of triumph was the Great Exhibition of 1851. His death in 1861 from typhoid plunged Victoria in deep gloom and was the main break in her long reign. The large bronze statue of the Prince Consort by William Theed in the Ilex grove was presented in 1865 by Queen Victoria to the Duke and Duchess of Sutherland, owners of Cliveden from 1849–1869, to commemorate the Queen’s frequent visits to the house. The Duchess was Mistress of the Robes at the coronation in 1837 and remained an intimate friend of the Queen.

Sargent...

Located on the first/top floor of the West Wing. The view is of the entrance of the House and the Grand Drive.

John Singer Sargent (1856 – 1925), was the son of an American doctor. He studied art in Italy, the country of his birth, and later in Paris. In 1884 he moved to London where he spent most of his life, painting the dashing, flattering portraits of social celebrities, for which he is famous. A prolific painter of great facility, he was brilliant in his treatment of textures and a virtuoso in his handling of brush strokes. He also painted many impressionist watercolour landscapes throughout his career. In 1897 he was elected to the Royal Academy. The superb portrait of Nancy Astor, which hangs in the Great Hall, was painted by Sargent in 1906. It is the finest painting in the Cliveden collection and amongst the artist's best known works. Originally she was to be painted with her young son Bill on piggyback, which accounts for her unusual pose.

Asquith...

Located in the Main Mansion (second floor). There is a dramatic four poster bed and a decoratively patterned high ceiling and a walk-in wardrobe. The view is of the Grand Drive and the Fountain of Love.

Herbert Henry Asquith – First Earl of Oxford and Asquith (1852 – 1928), was a Liberal Statesman. In 1908 he became Prime Minister, a position he held for eight and a half years. During this time his regime was notable for the upholding of Free Trade, the great budget of 1909, old age pensions, national insurance, Irish home rule and suffragette troubles. He was not a good war leader and was forced to relinquish office during the First World War. Henry Asquith, on the death of his first wife, married Margot Tennant who had the same forthright and outspoken personality as Nancy Astor. The Asquith's visited Cliveden frequently, where discussions between Margot and Nancy were always lively and sometimes acrimonious!

Barry...

Located in the Main Mansion (first floor), this room has stunning decorative features including panelled doors and a carved dark wood mirror. The view from this room is the entrance of the House, the Grand Drive and the Fountain of Love. The room also has a separate dressing room and large bathroom.

Sir Charles Barry (1795 – 1860), was a celebrated English architect responsible for rebuilding Cliveden as you see it today following the devastating fire in 1849. Much of his work showed the influence of the Italian Renaissance and this can be seen in his design of

the Travellers Club, Reform Club and Cliveden. However, Barry also designed the greatest of all gothic revival buildings – the Houses of Parliament, built 1840 – 1870. Barry was knighted after the opening of the House of Lords in 1852. In 1849 Cliveden was completely destroyed by fire and in 1850 the Duke of Sutherland commissioned Barry to rebuild the present house which is acknowledged as one of his finest “classical” achievements. Virtually nothing remains of Barry’s original interior and the appearance of the rooms today is due largely to the 1st Viscount Astor who remodelled them in the 1890s.

Bridgeman...

Located on the first/top floor of the Clutton Wing. The view is of the estate and the rolling hills of Berkshire. It has a large walk-in wardrobe and a large bathroom.

Charles Bridgeman was the pioneer in the establishment of “le Jardin Anglais”, that remarkable English invention which was to sweep eighteenth century Europe. Bridgeman’s role in the transition from the geometric layouts of the early 1700s to the freer designs of Capability Brown was a crucial one. His activities as Royal gardener to George II and Queen Caroline embraced Hampton Court, Kensington Palace and Richmond, whilst private patrons he was active at Blenheim, Cliveden, Eastbury, Marble Hill and a host of other country houses. According to Walpole, Bridgeman’s two chief claims to distinction in the history of art were that he was the first to break in upon the rigid symmetry of old rectangular designs, and secondly, he was the inventor of the sunk fence or “Haha”. Bridgeman was responsible for helping with the design of the gardens at Cliveden during the ownership of Lord Orkney (1696-1739) and in particular the yew walks along the side of the cliffs to the west of the house and the grass amphitheatre. This amphitheatre was later to be the setting for the first ever performance of Rule Britannia in 1740.

Chaplin...

Located on the first/top floor of the Garden Wing. It has a beautiful view of the Walled Garden and outdoor swimming pool, and this room’s key feature is the dramatic sunken circular bath. In this room there is a small library with a selection of books and a long corridor entrance.

Sir Charles Chaplin (1889 – 1977), the British actor, director, producer, screen-writer and composer – was possibly the most famous film actor in the world and renowned for creating the “Little Tramp” in such films as “The Kid” (1921), “City Lights” (1931) and “Modern Times” (1936). He was a frequent guest of the Astors during the 1930s and is part of the famous photo on the grand piano in the Great Hall together with Amy Johnson, Nancy Astor and

George Bernard Shaw. He recalls, "Towards the end of a particular luncheon party also attended by G.B.Shaw, and Lloyd George, Lady Astor put in some comedy buck teeth that covered her own and gave an imitation of a Victorian lady speaking at an equestrian club. The teeth distorted her face with a most comical expression. Lady Astor would have made a wonderful actress. She was a charming hostess and I have to thank her for many wonderful parties, which gave me the opportunity of meeting many of the illustrious of England."

Gibson...

Located in the Main Mansion (second floor). There is a four poster bed as well as a beautiful bathroom and walk-in wardrobe. The view is of the Grand Drive and the Fountain of Love.

Charles Dana Gibson (1867 – 1944), was a wonderful draughtsman in pen and ink who recorded the American social scene with cartoons of fops, wearing monocles and carrying black lacquer canes; of little hen-pecked husbands, uncomfortable in evening tails; of large, formidable, fleshy women balancing tea cups. These were intended to ridicule the antics of the ladies and even more pointedly their husbands who were intent on climbing the social ladder. In 1895 Gibson married Irene Langhorne, (Nancy Astor's sister). Gibson was famous for his creation of the "Gibson Girl", the stylised American beauty, elegant, swan-necked, a large bust and a proud and beckoning look. She resembled his wife Irene and her sisters and the numerous drawings he created were published in Life magazine.

Langhorne...

Located on the first/top floor of the Clutton Wing. It has a beautiful wooden panelled interior plus a spacious sitting area. The view is of the estate and the rolling hills of Berkshire.

This room commemorates the Langhorne family. Lady Astor was born Nancy Witcher Langhorne in Danville, Virginia on 19th May 1879, the eighth of eleven children of Colonel Chiswell Dabney Langhorne and the former Nancy Witcher Keene. Both parents were of good family – the Langhorne's owned cotton mills in Lynchburg. "Chillie" Langhorne, having joined the Confederate army at the age of seventeen, returned to civilian life with "nothing but a wife, a ragged seat to my pants and a barrel of whisky". He made a living and supported his rapidly increasing family as best he could on his earnings as a tobacco auctioneer and his winnings from poker, at which he was extraordinarily skilful. He later decided to try a different sort of gambling, seeing that the railroad business was a growth area in the slowly recovering Southern economy. He worked hard at acquiring knowledge of railway engineering and putting it into practice, so that in 1885 he and his family were able to leave destitute Danville and move to a shabby but still elegant Richmond, where they settled

in what was for the times rather grand style on Main Street. What Vanderbilt was doing in the North and West, Langhorne did in his own modest way in the South and it was not long before he had the money to match his natural position.

Leoni...

Located on the first/top floor of the Clutton Wing with beautiful views over the rolling hills of Berkshire.

Giacomo Leoni (1686 – 1746), was a renowned Venetian architect who settled in England. In 1696 Cliveden was bought by George Hamilton, Earl of Orkney. Later in 1727 he considered a complete rebuilding of the house to designs by the Italian architect Giacomo Leoni. Although these never developed, Leoni was responsible for two buildings which still survive – the Blenheim Pavilion (probably about 1727) and the Octagonal Temple (1735) both set out in formal gardens also laid out by Lord Orkney, which still form the basis of the present design.

Lord Astor...

Located in the Main Mansion (first floor), the view is of the entrance of the House and the Fountain of Love at the end of the Grand Drive.

The 2nd Viscount Astor (1879 – 1952), Waldorf Astor was born in New York on 19th May 1879, the elder son of William Waldorf Astor who came to England in 1889. In 1906 Waldorf Astor married Mrs. Nancy Witcher Shaw (nee Langhorne) of Virginia. They were given Cliveden as a wedding present by his father and lived there together until Waldorf's death in 1952. In 1910 Astor entered parliament as a Unionist member for Plymouth. By 1917 he was private secretary to Lloyd George and parliamentary secretary to the Ministry of Health. On his father's death in 1919 Astor succeeded to the Viscountcy and had to resign his seat in the House of Commons. His wife stood for Plymouth in his stead and was elected, becoming the first woman to take her seat in Parliament. Cliveden became a weekend rendezvous of lavish entertainment for politicians and journalists and during the thirties those who regularly gathered there became known as the "Cliveden Set". Astor died at Cliveden on 30th September 1952 and is buried alongside his wife, in the Octagon Temple.

Pearson...

Located on the first/top floor of the Clutton Wing, Pearson has a beautiful wooden panelled interior and a spacious sitting area and a lovely view of the estate and rolling hills of Berkshire.

John Loughborough Pearson (1817 – 1897), Pearson and his son Frank were employed by William Waldorf Astor to make various changes at Cliveden including the conversion of Leoni's temple into a chapel and the enlargement of the Entrance Hall by opening up the arches – the original Barry design was a small square room leading into a morning room on the right. They then panelled the whole room in oak with fluted Corinthian columns and pilasters, and a deep frieze with garlands of flowers tied with ribbons. This new design with the lavish woodcarvings was specifically intended to provide a setting for the sculpture, tapestries, paintings and furniture collected by Waldorf Astor in the 1890s. Pearson was also responsible for the staircase, which has pairs of figures on each newel post, representing characters associated with the history of Cliveden.

T E Lawrence...

Located in the Main Mansion (second floor). With a high elaborately patterned ceiling. There is a marble fireplace, a small entrance hall and a walk-in wardrobe, with a separate dressing area leading to the marble bathroom. The view is of the Grand Drive and Fountain of Love.

Thomas Edward Lawrence (1888 – 1935), was one of the most fascinating and enigmatic men of his age. As a junior member of the British Museum Archaeological team at Carchemish on the Euphrates he gained his great knowledge of the desert dwellers. During the First World War his ability to penetrate the "closed shop" of nomadic tribal life led to the reanimation of the Arab revolt against the Turks and he became known as "Lawrence of Arabia". Lawrence suffered a nervous breakdown after the Arab campaign and returned to England using the pseudonym "Aircraftsman Shaw" to achieve the anonymity he sought. In 1928 Nancy Astor was introduced to Lawrence by George Bernard Shaw. Lawrence was attracted to the famous and from that date he became a close friend of Nancy Astor and a frequent visitor to Cliveden.

Winde...

Located on the first/top floor of the Clutton Wing. The view is of the rolling hills of Berkshire and on a good day, you can see the River Thames.

William Winde (d.1722), ranks as one of the principal English house architects of the 17th century and was a figure of some importance in the artistic world of his day. In about 1688 the second Duke of Buckingham employed Winde to design the great arcaded terrace at Cliveden and on this platform he built a four-storey brick house. On 20th May 1795 the house was almost entirely destroyed by fire and was later rebuilt by Sir George Warrender in 1824. During further restoration by the Duke of Sutherland in 1849 the house was burnt to

the ground for the second time. The only remaining part of Winde's design is the arcaded Terrace. The present house, preserving much of the character and shape of Winde's original structure, was rebuilt in 1850-51 by Sir Charles Barry. Buckingham House in St. James' is attributed to Winde. This was later bought by George III in 1762 and subsequently incorporated in the structure of Buckingham Palace in 1825-30.

Warrender...

Located on the first/top floor of the East Wing. It is a beautiful room overlooking the entrance and side of the House, and original furnishings.

In 1824 Sir George Warrender, 4th Baronet and heir to a large Edinburgh trading fortune bought Cliveden estate from Lady Orkney's grandson. Cliveden had been left derelict since 1795 when almost the entire house was destroyed by fire. Warrender commissioned Scottish architect, William Burn to rebuild the main block. Sadly no trace now remains of his design as Cliveden once again caught fire in 1849. Warrender was a Member of Parliament from 1807 until 1832. He was also a Lord of the Admiralty from 1812 to 1822. Sir George was celebrated as a bon viveur and as a result of this was dubbed "Sir Gorgeous Provender" by Sydney Smith. He enjoyed entertaining at Cliveden, and Cliveden was only sold on after his death in 1849.

Mountbatten...

Split level large suite, located on the ground floor in the corner of the East Wing. This spacious room used to be the billiards room and still has the score panel on the wall next to the bed.

It also served as the main lecture theatre during the use of Cliveden as an overseas study centre of Stanford University between 1969 and 1983. It has a dark wood scheme, with a separate bedroom and seating area and a desk area with window view over the gardens. Three steps lead down to the bedroom, with a beautifully patterned high ceiling. The large marble bathroom is finished in green and cream patterned tiles. Lord Mountbatten was a guest at Cliveden the same weekend that John Profumo first met Christine Keeler at Cliveden.

Munnings...

Located on the ground floor of the West Wing. The view is of the entrance of the House, the Grand Drive and the Fountain of Love. There are steps leading up to the separate sleeping area, and the scheme is open plan.

Sir Alfred Munnings (1878 – 1959), was born in Suffolk. When he left school he became apprentice to a firm of Norwich lithographers, where he worked for 6 years, for 10 hours a day, rushing off for a couple of hours a day to the Norwich School of Art. There was never any doubt about Munnings vocation. He loved painting; he loved all animals, especially horses, which he rode constantly, and he loved the countryside. In 1911 he moved to Cornwall where he was warmly welcomed by the Newlyn School. His first great success was his portrait of General J E B Seely on his horse ‘Warrior’ and for the next 40 years Munnings was one of the most sought after artists in England. Between the wars Munnings stayed at many great houses in order to draw horses and hounds and the painting in the West Wing called “A Summer Day at Cliveden” is an excellent example of his work. It shows Lord Astor surrounded by his race horses.

Orkney...

Located on the ground floor of the East Wing, this room has a beautiful view of the gardens, and a large white marble ornate fireplace, with a large gold framed mirror positioned above

This suite commemorates the family that owned Cliveden when it was destroyed in the disastrous fire of 1795. Three Countesses of Orkney resided in the house between 1751 and 1824. In 1795 the main mansion at Cliveden was burnt to the ground, apparently caused by the carelessness of a servant turning down a bed. Very few items of value were saved – although the Orkney tapestries now found in the Great Hall were rescued. The main mansion was destroyed but the wings survived and are the oldest parts of the house.

Stanford...

Located on the ground floor of the West Wing/Clutton Wing. This suite has a view of the side garden of the House. There is a separate W.C and bathroom, and two entrances to the suite, separating the sleeping area and seating area.

Named after Stanford University of California, who took a lease of Cliveden for use as one of its overseas campuses in 1969 until 1983. There were usually eighty overseas students at Cliveden at any one time – staying with the wings and top floor of the mansion – visiting Stanford faculty members lived in style on the first floor of the main house. During this time, the Terrace Dining Room was used as the main library, the Boudoir was the Senior Common Room and the main hall was a common room for everyone. The French Dining Room was out of bounds, except when receptions were held for the local community. During the 1970s about half of all the Stanford Undergraduates spent six months on one of the overseas campuses. Some two thousand Stanford students studied at Cliveden before the college

moved to Oxford in 1983. Stanford's English campus still flourishes in a row of high street houses leased from Magdalen College.

Sutherland...

One of the most spectacular bedrooms, with its grand chimneypiece, ornate ceiling and original furnishings from the nineteenth century. Located on the ground floor of the East Wing, with a beautiful view over the back of the House and lawn commemorating the 1668 duel between the Dukes of Buckingham and Shrewsbury.

The 2nd Duke (1786 – 1861) & Duchess of Sutherland (1806 - 1868), in 1849 Cliveden was bought by the 2nd Duke of Sutherland as an occasional retreat from London. He already owned enormous estates in Scotland and Staffordshire. Unfortunately during redecoration, the house caught fire destroying the main block – the second time in its history that it had burnt down. In 1850 the Duke and Duchess of Sutherland commissioned Sir Charles Barry (who also designed Trentham Park for the Sutherlands and the House of Parliament) to build the present house. Barry managed to preserve much of the character and overall shape of the original structure. Also at this time the Duchess of Sutherland redesigned the Parterre and it is this (in simplified form) which exists today. The Duchess of Sutherland was a close friend of Queen Victoria who frequently visited Cliveden from Windsor. Other visitors at this time included Mr. Gladstone, Lord Acton and many other liberal politicians and writers as well as Garibaldi on his visit to England in 1864.

Spencer...

Located on the first/top floor of the West Wing, with views over the Grand Drive and front of the House. The living room is positioned in the entrance of the room, with a separate bedroom through French doors.

Sir Stanley Spencer (1891 – 1959), was born at Cookham-on-Thames, Berkshire on 30th June 1891, and the seventh son in a family of eleven children. Spencer received no formal education but in 1908 he entered Slade School in London. He lived and worked in Cookham all his life. He produced many purely realistic landscapes but is best known for works, such as "Christ carrying the Cross" and "The Resurrection" which are interpretations of the Bible in terms of everyday life, using bold distortion of figures. His inspirations for these pictures came when walking through Cookham. He had visions of seeing "heaven" in Cookham's streets and the incidents of Christ's life in the everyday lives of the inhabitants of the village.

Spencer became a member of the Royal Academy in 1950 and in 1959 received a knighthood. He died on 14th December 1959 in the memorial hospital at Cliveden.

Vanderbilt...

Located on the ground floor of the West Wing. The view overlooks the entrance of the House and Grand Drive and Fountain of Love. There is a wide entrance to this suite, seating area with a dramatic chandelier, spacious bathroom and china display cabinet as you walk-in.

Cornelius Vanderbilt (1794 – 1877), was born on Staten Island, New York in 1794. At the age of 16 he bought a boat and earned his living by ferrying passengers and goods. By the time he was forty he had become the owner of several steamers and during the Crimean War he established a line of steamships to Le Havre. At the age of seventy he embarked on a career in railroad financing, gradually gaining a controlling interest in a large number of roads. On his death Cornelius Vanderbilt left approximately £25,000,000.

Blakeney...

Located in the Main Mansion (second floor), next to Prince of Wales suite, adjacent to the Henry James suite with an interconnecting door. Both rooms can be closed together and secluded from the other rooms. There is a breath-taking view of the Parterre, River Thames and beyond.

Sir Percy Blakeney (1865 – 1947), was “The Scarlet Pimpernel” in the novels created by the Hungarian novelist Baroness Orczy. Sir Percy Blakeney “retired” to 15/16 Royal Crescent in Bath and this is the reason for the naming of the hotel group, Blakeney Hotels Ltd., who founded The Royal Crescent Hotel in Bath as well as Cliveden and the Sloane Club in London.

Buckingham...

Located in the Main Mansion (first floor), next to the Lady Astor suite and adjacent to the Westminster suite with an interconnecting door. Both rooms can be closed together and secluded from the other rooms. There is a spectacular view of the Parterre, River Thames and beyond, from both the bedroom and bathroom. The stately bedroom is oak panelled with ornate high ceilings. This suite also has a stunning and unique bathroom where the bathtub is situated in the centre of the huge bathroom.

The 2nd Duke of Buckingham (1628 - 1687), George Villiers, 2nd Duke of Buckingham, bought the Cliveden Estate and built the first house on this site soon after the restoration of Charles II as monarch. About 1666 the Duke’s architect, William Winde, designed the great

arcaded terrace which still stands on the south side of the house above the parterre and then built a tall four storey brick house (which was subsequently destroyed by fire in 1795). In 1668 the Duke eloped with Anna Maria Countess of Shrewsbury. Her husband pursued them and challenged Buckingham to a duel. Lady Shrewsbury apparently disguised herself as a boy page, held Buckingham's horse during the duel and showed no emotion whatsoever as her husband was slain by her lover (the duel is commemorated on the west lawn).(See the portraits of the Duke of Buckingham and the Countess of Shrewsbury in the Great Hall).

Canning...

Located on the first/top floor of the East Wing, overlooking the Grand Drive and entrance to the House. This suite has a beautiful view of the Parterre and the distant landscape. This room has a four-poster bed boasts a wealth of intricate wood carving above the mantelpiece and across the ceiling, with a separate dressing area and large bathroom.

George Canning (1770 – 1827) was a remarkable orator and politician who became Prime Minister in 1827. In the early 1800s Canning was a frequent guest of Lord and Lady Inchiquin and tradition has it that he used to spend hours seated beneath the branches of "Canning's Oak." in the garden at Cliveden, enjoying the superb view down to the River Thames.

Henry James...

Located in the Main Mansion (second floor), adjacent to Blakeney and with the same breathtaking view of the Parterre, River Thames and beyond. Both rooms can be closed together and secluded from the other rooms. There is a stunning view of the West Terrace from the bathroom, and a separate dressing / makeup area.

Henry James (1843 – 1916), was an American Novelist. In 1865 James began to write brilliant literary reviews and short stories. He wrote about the interaction between the American and European cultures as can be seen in his novels such as Portrait of a Lady, the Bostonians and The Ambassadors. In 1869 James made his home in England and devoted his time to English subjects in books such as The Awkward Age. At the beginning of the First World War James became a British subject. James was frequent guest of the Astors at Cliveden and it was perhaps here he wrote: "Of all the great things the English have invented and made part of the credit of the national character, the most perfect, the most characteristic, the only one they have mastered completely in all its details is the well-appointed, well administered, well filled country house."

Inchiquin...

Located on the first/top floor of the East Wing, overlooking the Grand Drive, Fountain of Love and the gardens. There is a separate hall, leading to the bedroom and a large living room with a side view of the gardens.. There is also a dressing room and a dramatic chandelier in the living room.

When Lord Orkney died in 1739, his titles passed to his daughter, Anne, Countess of Orkney in her own right. In 1720 she married the 4th Earl of Inchiquin. Lady Orkney let Cliveden to Frederick, Prince of Wales, and the son of George II and father of George III. During his tenancy, the Earl and Countess of Inchiquin lived at Taplow Court but took back Cliveden in their possession in 1751. In 1795 when the third successive Countess of Orkney was living at Cliveden a disastrous fire broke out, leaving only the terrace on the south and the wings standing. The family moved back to Taplow Court and despite plans to rebuild it, Cliveden was left derelict until 1824 when it was sold to Sir George Warrender.

Shrewsbury...

Located on the first/top floor of the West Wing, overlooking Porte Cochere and the Grand Drive. The scheme of the living room is pink/red with a marble fireplace. The living room is positioned in the entrance of the room with a view of the front of the House and drive.

Anna Maria, Countess of Shrewsbury, was the mistress of the first owner of Cliveden, George Villiers, the second Duke of Buckingham and eloped with him in 1668. Her husband pursued them and challenged the Duke of Buckingham to a duel. Lady Shrewsbury, apparently disguised herself as a boy page, held Buckingham's horse during the duel and showed no emotion whatsoever as her husband was slain by her lover. The couple lived for a time at Cliveden and in the words of Alexander Pope were "Gallant and gay, in Cliveden's proud alcove, the bower of wanton Shrewsbury and love." (The portraits of the Duke of Buckingham and the Countess of Shrewsbury are hung in the Great Hall).

Westminster...

Located in the Main Mansion (first floor), adjacent to the Buckingham suite with an interconnecting door. Both rooms can be closed together and secluded from the other rooms. There is a spectacular view of the Parterre, River Thames and beyond. This suite has a separate dressing room.

The Duke of Westminster owned Cliveden between 1868 and 1893. The Duke and Duchess actually spent their honeymoon at Cliveden in 1852, and it held great sentimental value for him. At the time of his death in 1899 he was the richest man in the country.