

HAMPTON COURT & CARDINAL THOMAS WOLSEY 500

DR TRACEY BORMAN, DR SUSAN BRACKEN, WITH NICHOLAS FRIEND

FRIDAY 2 OCTOBER

Appearing like a great rose-coloured cliff topped by soaring monoliths, Hampton Court has dominated its reach of the Thames riverbank since 1515. Intending to rival the palaces of his colleagues at the Vatican, perhaps even the Pope himself, Cardinal Wolsey, then Papal Legate, spent 200,000 gold coins to construct his architectural demonstration of power. Entry to the palace's three courtyards was over a moat. A gatehouse two stories higher even than now was studded with terracotta roundels of stern-faced 16th-century Roman worthies, among the first Italian Renaissance artwork to be seen in this country. Wolsey provided the building with brilliantly painted private chambers and 280 silken beds, and commissioned sophisticated plumbing with great brick sewers emptying into the Thames. With leading experts on Wolsey and the Tudor Palace, we explore the life of Wolsey, his relationship with Thomas Cromwell and his magnificent building through records of its original plans and the Tudor buildings themselves.

- 10.30 Lecture: 'Thomas Wolsey and Thomas Cromwell' by Dr Tracy Borman, Joint Chief Curator, Historic Royal Palaces, author of 'Thomas Cromwell: Henry VIII's most faithful servant'
- 11.30 Coffee
- 12.00 'Thomas Wolsey and the Building of Hampton Court' by Dr Susan Bracken FSA, lecturer at the V&A and Birkbeck College
- 1:00 Light lunch with wine in Molesey Boat Club
- 2.30 Tour of the Tudor palace lead by Dr Susan Bracken
- 4.00 Day ends. Your ticket will be valid for re-entry.
- MEET 10:30 am coffee for 11 am lecture at the Art Workers' Guild, Bloomsbury
- ENDS 3:45 at the Art Workers' Guild, Bloomsbury
- COST £85 members, £95 non-members, including coffee, lectures, light lunch with wine, entry to Hampton Court, specialist guided tour.