



A PRIVATE CURATORIAL VIEW  
**ARUNDEL CASTLE**  
NICHOLAS FRIEND

**TUESDAY 13 AND WEDNESDAY 14 OCTOBER 2015**

Glimpsed on approach from the Sussex coastal road, the soaring cathedral and muscular castle on the horizon almost transport you, for a moment, to France. The seat of the Dukes of Norfolk, Arundel Castle has acted as backdrop to the many tumultuous events of the leading Catholic family of England. In magnificent grounds overlooking the River Arun in West Sussex and built at the end of the 11th century by Roger de Montgomery, Earl of Arundel, it has nearly 1,000 years of history behind its walls. Arundel Castle has descended directly from 1138 to the present day, carried by female heiresses from the d'Albinis to the FitzAlans in the 13th century and then from the FitzAlans to the Howards in the 16th century. Within its massive 11c earthworks, one finds a stunning array of early buildings: the original stone gatehouse dating from 1070, a complete 12c curtain wall, a perfect shell keep of 1140, the undercroft of Henry II's late 12c palace and what is thought to be the oldest surviving garden in England. An 18c Georgian Gothick library and a superbly-crafted Gothic mansion built between 1875 and 1900 sit side by side with the earliest buildings. With the best-preserved Gothic Revival interiors in the country, the great Hall derives from the Kings Hall at Winchester. The tall chimneys were modelled on those at New College Oxford. The chapel reconstructs Henry III's now vanished Lady Chapel at Westminster Abbey. Electroliers, picture hooks, kitchen cupboards and a billiard table were all designed in the Gothic style. The gentlemen's lavatories were vaulted in stone with washbasins of Purbeck marble. Every door has a different type of hinge and keyhole. The total cost was the equivalent of £114 million today.

By kind permission of His Grace the Duke of Norfolk, a team of the castle's resident experts will illuminate and guide us as we investigate the architecture, the furnishings and memorable collection of portraits by Rubens, Mytens and Van Dyck set within in the castle's picturesque rooms in great depth. We examine important documents in its archives, including the death warrant of the 4<sup>th</sup> Duke of Norfolk. We hear about the progress of the various conservation projects on which the castle staff are engaged. We walk through the Castle's 1780s landscape park 'worthy of Claude Lorraine' and engage with the new Bannerman 'Collector Earl's Garden' a brilliant tribute to the 14th Earl of Arundel, collector of the Arundel Marbles. We eat in private chambers in the Castle. We end each day with visits to the dazzling family tombs of the 14c FitzAlan Chapel and the magnificent Hardman stained glass in the Cathedral.

## **TUESDAY 13 OCTOBER**

- 09:02 Train departs London Victoria Station (recommended)
- 10:29 Train arrives Arundel Station, taxis to The Swan Hotel, drop luggage
- 11:00 Walk to Arundel Castle
- 11:10 Private coffee in Arundel Castle
- 11:30 Architectural tour with John Martin Robinson FSA, Maltravers Herald Extraordinary, Librarian to the Dukes of Norfolk, and historian of Arundel Castle
- 13:00 Private lunch in the Victorian Smoking Room
- 14:00 Tour of the Pictures and Furnishings of the house with John Martin Robinson
- 15:00 Conservation Projects in the Castle, with Conservation Manager Peter Nottingham
- 16:00 Tea
- 16:30 Visit to the Norfolk tombs in the 14c FitzAlan Chapel
- 17:30 Day ends
- 19:30 Dinner at the Town House Restaurant

## **WEDNESDAY 14 OCTOBER**

- 11:10 Private coffee in Arundel Castle
- 10:30 Visit Archives Exhibition in the Smoking Room with archivist Rebecca Hughes
- 11:30 The Collector Earl's Garden: tour with Head Gardener Martin Duncan
- 12:30 Lunch in Arundel Castle Restaurant
- 13:30 The 18c landscape garden: tour with Martin Duncan
- 15:00 Tea
- 15:30 Visit Arundel Cathedral and its Hardman glass
- 16:30 Day ends, walk back to the Swan Hotel, collect luggage, taxis to Arundel Station
- 17:12 Train departs for London Victoria Station
- 18:49 Train arrives London Victoria Station

**OUR HOTEL** A listed building in the heart of Arundel, within easy walking distance of Arundel Castle, the four-star Swan Hotel was refurbished to a high standard two years ago with comfortable, beautifully decorated and individually-furnished rooms. We understand that the breakfasts are delicious with a wide choice of cooked options served.

**COST** £695 Members, £745 non-Members, £45 single room supplement, includes one night accommodation with breakfast, two lunches with wine, one of which is a private lunch at Arundel Castle, one dinner with wine, two private coffees, tea, all lectures, and exclusive visits to the house and garden and private curatorial tours, all travel during the tour, all gratuities, all tuition by Nicholas Friend, VAT. **Excludes** travel to and from the tour.