



MIDDLETON HALL  
— & GARDENS —

# Booking a group visit



North Warwickshire's historic gem...



# The hidden gem of North Warwickshire...

Middleton Hall & Gardens is a tranquil historic estate located in North Warwickshire. Nowadays we are open to the public seasonally and run by an independent charitable trust, however the estate has an impressive history spanning over 900 years. It was a family home up until 1966, after which the Hall fell into ruin when a gravel extraction company purchased the estate.

In 1977, a group of volunteers approached North Warwickshire Borough Council for funding to restore the Hall and Gardens, but the application was rejected as the Hall was considered beyond repair. Undeterred, they founded Middleton Hall Trust in 1980 and were granted £25,000 a year for ten years by the gravel extraction company. As this funding could only be spent on materials, all the work was carried out by volunteers, and it is down to their craftsmanship and dedication that the Hall and Gardens are able to be enjoyed by all today.

Every penny from your group visit goes directly to the upkeep of the Hall & Gardens, whether you decide to self-guide or stay the whole day and have lunch with us. If you choose a tour package, our knowledgeable volunteer tour guides will divulge Middleton's impressive 900-year history, including a commander of the Battle of Hastings, a rule breaking Medieval Lord, and two extraordinary naturalists.

We hope that you book your next group outing with us, and we look forward to welcoming you to Middleton Hall & Gardens.

Best wishes,

*The MH&G Team*

October 2022







# Pre-booked group visits

## Just visiting

Adult admission to the Hall, gardens and grounds

**£8.00** per person in 2023

Price includes admission until 4pm and a five minute orientation talk. Price does not include tour or refreshments.

Optional Gift Aid Adult Admission £8.80 for 2023

## Self-guided visit

The Hall is made up of two main parts. With our East Wing being a walk back in time and through different periods of architecture, from our medieval stone hunting lodge to our timber framed Tudor jettied building. The stories continue into our Georgian West Wing and then the Great Hall focusing on the Willoughby Family, who were the owners of the Middleton Estate for over 400 years.

Outside our moat surrounds the Hall and West Lawn, and the Walled Garden. Once a produce garden, this was the domain of the servants and is hidden from view from the Hall by our Coach

House. The Walled Garden is a tranquil spot to sit and enjoy the views of our flower beds planted with herbaceous perennials and seasonal bulbs. In May the pergola drips with the sweet scented wisteria, later in the summer the bees and butterflies are busy flitting from flower to flower.

The walks around Middleton Pool give you the chance to watch the birdlife and spot the vistas of the Hall through the myriad of different species of trees on our Site of Special Scientific Interest.





# Pre-booked group visits

## Guided tours

Adult admission to the Hall, gardens and grounds

**£12.50** per person in 2023

Price includes: an introductory talk, a guided tour of your choice, admission to the Hall & Gardens for the whole day and tea & coffee on arrival.

## Guided tours

Our group visit package is designed to give you and your friends the full and exclusive Middleton Hall & Gardens experience. Our expert guides will tell you all about our extraordinary heritage and the people who have made Middleton Hall their home over the centuries. Your entrance fee includes admission to the Hall & Gardens for the whole day so once your tour has finished, you are welcome to explore at your own leisure.

Pre-booked group tours of the Hall and gardens are available all year round. You may choose from a guided tour of the Hall or the Gardens. You may choose different tours for your group providing you have a minimum of 10 people for each tour.

For groups choosing a guided tour, we ask you to arrive at 10:30am so that you can enjoy refreshments and your introductory talk before your 11am tour.



# Hall Tour

## *Discover the people and the place*

The Hall tour tells the story of how Middleton Hall has grown over the centuries and the people who have grown with it. Along the way, you will meet the commander of the Battle of Hastings; a Lord who sent his lawyer to jail for his own crimes and the Tudor explorer who died during his search for the North East Passage to China. You will also hear the stories of some of the wonderful ladies of the house including Cassandra, the Duchess of Chandos. The tour leads you from the grandeur of the Great Hall all the way to the old kitchen, gliding from the Medieval period through to the present day.



## *Tour details*

Available: Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays between March and October.

Duration: Just over 1 hour.

Extras: Standard guidebook £4 and other books relating to the people you hear about on the tour available in our shop.

Tour starts at 11am and involves walking up and down stairs.





# Gardens Tour

## *Formal gardens at their finest*

Middleton Hall boasts a beautiful eighteenth-century Walled Garden. The garden still has its original tilted, heated walls which were amongst the first of their kind and also an original bothy. The garden has a vibrant planting design and is a natural haven for bees, butterflies and moths. The gardens encompass an orchard, a lake-side walk (home to snowdrops, daffodils and bluebells early on in the year) and a west lawn with a formal planting and an excellent suntrap in the afternoon.



### *Tour details*

Available: Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays between March and October.

Duration: 1 hour approximately

Extras: Visit our Plant Sale to purchase plants grown at, and inspired by our Gardens.

Appropriate footwear advised.





# Hear our stories

## *A ground floor tour and talk*

Our Hall and Garden tours require walking and standing for extended lengths of time. The first floor is not wheelchair accessible and can only be accessed using the stairs. Here at Middleton Hall, we understand that for many of our visitors this poses a problem. Our Stories Tour leads visitors around the ground floor of the Hall and explores anecdotes from our history at your own pace. Our portrait and Francis Willughby exhibitions come to life .

This tour can be pre-booked for a member or members of your group. There is not a minimum number of participants for this tour. Carers may enter the Hall free of charge.



### *Tour details*

Available: Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays between March and October.

Duration: 1 hour approximately

Extras: Visit our Plant Sale to purchase plants grown in, and inspired by, our Gardens.

Appropriate footwear essential.



# Making your day just right...

## *Eating lunch together with us*

Topping off your day with the perfect lunch adds that special touch to your visit. We serve pre-booked lunches in our charming South Dining Room which can seat up to 35 people or our Tudor Great Hall which can seat up to 55. We have two options served in a buffet style plus afternoon tea, which can also be served sparkling with prosecco. If you let us know in advance, we can provide food to meet certain allergy requirements. Please indicate whether you would like to book lunch with us on your booking form.

### **Sandwiches & cakes**

Selection of sandwiches

Slice of cake per person

Tea & coffee

**£12** per person

### **Afternoon tea**

Selection of sandwiches

Selection of sweet & savoury treats

Scones with cream & jam

Tea & coffee

**£20** per person

Prosecco is an extra £3 per person

## *Eating individually elsewhere*

Our Tea-room is usually only open on special event days but if you would like us to open it for your group please let us know. We serve tea, coffee, cold drinks, ice cream and a selection of cakes baked on site by our volunteers often using seasonal fruits from our gardens.

You may bring a picnic to eat on any of the picnic benches in our gardens.

Over in our Courtyard, you will find a lovely independent coffee shop that serves breakfast and lunchtime options, as well as a variety of hot and cold drinks and cakes. If you would like to find out more, please visit their website: [www.bake180coffeeshop.co.uk](http://www.bake180coffeeshop.co.uk) they do have limited indoor seating so if your group are planning to visit them for lunch please do let them know in advance so that they are prepared for your visit.





# MIDDLETON HALL

## COURTYARD

The Courtyard is hidden behind our beautiful Tudor Barn and is home to eleven independent small business. Here you will find everything from antiques to spa treatments. Your entry ticket allows you to come and go from the Hall all day as you please, so make sure you head over to the Courtyard to see what you can find.

### Opening hours

10am until 4:00pm, Wednesday to Sunday



## Middleton Lakes RSPB Nature Reserve

The Middleton Hall Estate was once hundreds of acres. The parts of the estate which were used for gravel extraction during the late 1960s and 1970s have been turned into a vast and vibrant nature reserve managed by the RSPB. During your visit to Middleton Hall, make time to discover the rich natural habitat at the heart of the Tame Valley Wetlands.

For more information, please visit:  
[www.rspb.org.uk/reserves-and-events](http://www.rspb.org.uk/reserves-and-events)







## Get in touch

Contact Middleton Hall to select a date and request a booking form. You may contact us by email or telephone:

**[bookings@middleton-hall.co.uk](mailto:bookings@middleton-hall.co.uk)**

**01827 283095**


## Good to know

Parts of the ground floor are wheelchair accessible. Some ground floor rooms require visitors to go up and down a step. The first floor is not wheelchair accessible and we do not have a lift. The gardens and grounds are wheelchair accessible, weather dependant. We have a wheelchair available for visitors to use whilst on site. There is an accessible toilet in the main Hall but not in the Courtyard. We have coach parking

available for two coaches close to the Hall entrance.

For groups choosing a guided tour, we ask you to arrive at 10:30am so that you can enjoy refreshments and your introductory talk before your 11am tour.



A scenic view of a pond with reeds and trees in the background, and white flowers in the foreground. The text "We hope to see you sometime soon..." is overlaid on the right side of the image.

We hope to see you  
sometime soon...





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**[www.middleton-hall.co.uk](http://www.middleton-hall.co.uk)**  
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Middleton Hall & Gardens



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