

Benefits of house membership

WHO WE ARE

Historic Houses is a not-for-profit cooperative association of more than sixteen hundred member properties,

THE LARGEST COLLECTION OF INDEPENDENTLY OWNED HERITAGE IN THE UK.

We have been representing and fighting for the interests of Britain's independently owned historic houses and gardens since 1973.



Most of our member houses are lived in; some are purely private homes; many open their doors in one way or another.

Our surplus funds are used to support our sister heritage charity, the Historic Houses Foundation, which makes vital grants to help preserve places and objects with an important place in the nation's story.

IS IT FOR ME?

Grade I and II*, and larger Grade II, listed houses (or equivalent in Scotland and Northern Ireland), plus listed gardens, are eligible.

Member properties do not have to be open to the public to join and play an important role. We want engaged members who believe in the principles of cooperation and mutual aid.

If you believe in solidarity among the independent owners of Britain's historic houses, or want to take advantage of our range of benefits, you should join us.

WHAT WE DO FOR YOU

POLICY AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

We advocate for a fiscal and regulatory framework in which our member houses can thrive. Our dedicated Westminster policy team works closely with government, stakeholders, politicians and regulators to shape policy for the benefit of independently owned heritage.

We robustly represent our members' interests in policy areas such as **taxation, de-regulation, planning** and **tourism** through engagement of all kinds.



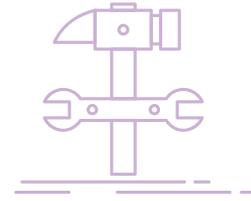
- ◇ Direct discussions with ministers and civil servants.
- ◇ Meeting MPs of all parties, and their equivalents in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.
- ◇ Producing robust evidence and case studies to support policy-making.
- ◇ Responding to government consultations and calls for evidence.
- ◇ Generating and supporting new research partnerships.
- ◇ Representing members at policy and industry conferences.
- ◇ Working with partners across the heritage and tourism sectors and contributing to collaborative projects.

JOIN NOW

For more information, contact
info@historichouses.org
or call 020 7259 5688

TECHNICAL ADVICE AND EXPERTISE

- ◇ We provide technical advice on **repairs and maintenance** as well as everything that might be of use to the owner of a historic house, from succession to commercial activity.
- ◇ We have a team of expert advisers covering **security, access, health & safety**, and **education** (including grant applications). First-line advice is available free from our professional services sponsors – **Savills (estate management)**; **Aon (insurance)**; **Farrer & Co (law)**; **Saffrey Champness (tax and accountancy)**.



- ◇ The members section of our website contains a library of hundreds of guidance papers on subjects from fire regulations to business rates, intellectual property to planning controls, filming to moth damage.

SEMINARS AND PEER-TO-PEER SUPPORT

- ◇ We offer a range of **seminars, workshops** and **learning events**, covering topics from housekeeping to marketing, conservation to weddings.



- ◇ Our network of regional associations across the UK enables owners to learn from one another, **sharing their insights and experiences of running historic houses**.
- ◇ Our members regularly meet at regional and national AGMs and other **networking opportunities**.

SUPPORT FOR COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY

- ◇ Our **member-access scheme** can help boost the footfall and income of houses that open as tourist attractions.
- ◇ Our **'Invitation to View'** platform allows houses that don't typically open to sell tickets for owner-guided tours on dates and times convenient for them.
- ◇ We produce **dedicated listings for houses offering accommodation in historic settings**, from hotels and B&Bs to one-off overnights.

- ◇ We **publicise member houses** generally on our website and in our quarterly magazine, raising the profile of wedding and event business, corporate hire or film location opportunities, and shows and festivals.
- ◇ We offer **professional advice on handling media enquiries** from press, radio, film and TV.



IN ADDITION

House members also receive the benefits available to general members.



1. Your membership card gives you **free admission** to about 320 properties who participate in our member-access scheme.
2. The **quarterly Historic House magazine**.