

Media Contacts, Magellan PR:
[Sue Lowry](#), +44 (0) 7725 997 121
[Alexandra Pinhorn](#), +44 (0) 7515 283 040

Fact Sheet



Kensington House Hotel, a contemporary town house situated within an historic 19th century façade, has taken its place amongst the Kensington set and London's *cognoscenti*. Stylish, intimate and friendly, this cool and understated property, which lies just off Kensington High Street, is an oasis of calm amidst the buzz of central London.

Address:

Kensington House Hotel
15-16 Prince of Wales Terrace
Kensington, London, W8 5PQ
Tel: 020 7937 2345
Fax: 020 7368 6700
Website: www.kenhouse.com
Twitter: KenHouseHotel
Facebook: kenhousehotel
Email: reservations@kenhouse.com

Resident Manager:

Antonio Sola

History:

Prince of Wales Terrace, the location of the current Kensington House Hotel, is thought to have been originally built by Philip Wilkinson. The terrace was part of a development of 22 houses built between 1862 and 1865 on the site of an early 19th century villa, latterly

known as Madeley House. In the second half of the 18th century, it had formed part of the extensive gardens of old Kensington House.

Kensington House Hotel opened in February 2000 and the interior retained many of the original features including the staircase, balustrade and ceiling mouldings. (See separate sheet for further historical information).

There the similarity ends, however. Designed by Anne Jordan, the interior of Kensington House Hotel is stylishly modern with original artworks and sculptures adorning its walls.

Accommodation:

Kensington House Hotel offers 41 bright and airy guest rooms, one with private balcony, styled with a contemporary elegance. Views from the property extend over delightful mews houses and leafy streets to the rear of the hotel or out across the city rooftops towards the High Street itself. An attention to detail is evident throughout the rooms, with thoughtful touches including a copy of London's Evening Standard newspaper, awaiting every guest upon arrival in their room.

Guest Room Features:

- Ceiling fan
- In-room safe
- Amenities from Pascal Morabito
- En-suite bathrooms (some with shower only) with plush waffle bathrobes
- Courtesy tray of refreshments – tea and coffee facilities and mineral water
- Hair dryer
- Direct-dial telephone, voice mail and modem point
- Duvets with fresh white linen covers
- CD player
- Ironing board & iron
- TV and radio

Guest Services:

- 24-hour room service
- 24-hour reception service
- Laundry and dry-cleaning service
- Baby-sitting service on request
- Mini business centre
- Personal bar tray upon request
- Turn-down service
- Free wifi in throughout the hotel

- Selection of magazines

Light Bites:

- Breakfast served from 07.00 – 10.00 daily in Tiger Bar or via room service
- Drink room service is available from 10.00 – 17.00 daily
- Room service is available from 17.00 – 23.00 daily

Nearby Activities:

- World class shopping at Kensington High Street
- Kensington Palace and Gardens (horse-riding, cycling and rollerblading can be arranged by the hotel)
- Royal Albert Hall (full programme of concerts – both classical and contemporary music)
- Albert Memorial (Queen Victoria's tribute to her husband)
- Serpentine Gallery
- Natural History, Science and Victoria and Albert Museums
- Christie's Auction House
- Kensington Church Street and Notting Hill
- Earl's Court & Olympia Exhibition Centres
- Kensington Odeon Cinema
- Great restaurants and bars
- The hotel can arrange for access to the Somar Gym for a fee of GBP10 per visit

Check In / Check Out:

Check in time: 14.00
Check out time: 11.00

Credit Cards Accepted:

All major

Dress Code:

Relaxed

Airport Distance:

Forty-five minutes from both Gatwick (via Gatwick Express) and Heathrow (via taxi or underground)

Nearest Underground:

High Street Kensington (District and Circle Line)
Gloucester Road (District and Circle and Piccadilly Lines)

Rail Links:

Close to Victoria and Paddington railway stations

Voltage:

220

Currency:

Pounds sterling

Rating & Awards:

Four-star AA/RAC
RAC Blue Ribbon Award - 2004

Ownership:

Kensington House Hotel is owned and operated by an independent hotel company that also includes the London Bridge Hotel in London and in New York, Flatotel and The Alex.

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AN INTRODUCTION

Kensington House Hotel offers guests one of those rare opportunities to actually live like a local in a foreign city.

Located in a quiet wealthy residential neighbourhood, in the heart of one of Kensington's historic 19th century terraces, the staff of this stylish contemporary hotel makes one feel at ease immediately.

With Kensington Gardens a mere stone's throw away, outdoor activities such as blading, riding, cycling or jogging can be enjoyed whilst the neighbourhood's restaurants and bars offer a divine culinary experience to suit all palates and budgets.

What more could anyone ask for from a London "home away from home"?

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KENSINGTON HOUSE HOTEL: A BRIEF HISTORY

The 'village' of Kensington is one of the most fashionable areas in London. The neighbourhood has long held this reputation as the city's centre of style and splendour and has grown up around the beautiful royal residence now known as Kensington Palace.

After the palace was re-designed by Sir Christopher Wren in 1689, a private road was made through Hyde Park to Kensington, and beyond the road Kensington Square was laid out with houses for court officials. Within 15 years the 'village' had grown to three times the size of Chelsea and was filled with 'Gentry and Persons of Note'.

Prince of Wales Terrace – the name chosen to honour the coming of age of the then Prince of Wales (later Edward VII) in November 1862 – comprised 22 houses and was built on the site of an early 19th century villa, latterly known as Madeley House. In the second half of the 18th century, the villa had formed part of the extensive gardens of old Kensington House.

The houses were lofty four-storey buildings, the average household consisting of ten people, with a Viscount and a Duke's son among the first residents. The largest house in the street was the double-fronted Number 15, now home to Kensington House hotel, which contained 21 people. The original owner was George W Hunt, PC, MP, JP, who lived there with his wife, three sons, five daughters, a governess and ten servants.

In 1998, No. 15/16 Prince of Wales Terrace underwent major renovation and in February 2000 Kensington House Hotel was officially opened. Although now a contemporary town house hotel, many of the 19th century features have been retained including the staircase, balustrade and ceiling mouldings.

KENSINGTON: HISTORY, FASHION AND SOPHISTICATION

Kensington Palace has now been a royal home for over 300 years and has played host to the courts of William and Mary, Queen Anne, George I and George II. It was also the birthplace and childhood home of Princess Victoria

(later Queen Victoria) and home to Princess Diana between 1981 and 1997. Today's visitors can explore the magnificent State Apartments and the Royal Ceremonial Dress Collection, which includes dresses worn by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and Diana Princes of Wales. The splendid architecture of the Palace can also be appreciated as you stroll around its beautiful gardens. Horse-riding, cycling and roller-blading can be arranged in the gardens by Kensington House for hotel guests.

The **Royal Albert Hall** has a long and rich history as one of the world's leading entertainment venues. Since its opening in 1871, over 150,000 performances have taken place inside the auditorium. Events have included exhibitions, concerts, balls, sports events, television and radio broadcasts, rallies, fashion shows, fairs, premieres and awards ceremonies. As well as hosting such events, the Royal Albert Hall is also open to daytime visitors for daily tours, with a shop and a restaurant.

The Victoria and Albert Museum, in South Kensington, features a variety of art and design exhibitions throughout the year.

The Natural History Museum is home to a host of fascinating temporary displays and exhibitions, such as the Wildlife Photographer of the Year, which sit among the permanent displays, relating to dinosaurs, insects, ecology, human biology, mammals and primates. The museum is great for adults and children alike.

The Science Museum is the world's pre-eminent science museum. It houses outstanding collections relating to science, technology and medicine and is one of the most prestigious and respected organisations dedicated to the promotion of public science and technology.

The Serpentine Gallery, situated in the heart of Kensington Gardens in a 1934 tea pavilion, was founded in 1970 by the Arts Council of Great Britain. The Gallery attracts around 600,000 visitors a year and is one of London's most loved places for seeing modern and contemporary art and architecture.

Kensington is worth a visit for the **shops** alone. Boutiques, department stores and chain stores line the streets of High Street Kensington and nearby Knightsbridge. Likewise, the area is renowned for its **restaurants**, with menus and prices to suit a range of tastes.

Within easy reach from Kensington are also the famous areas of **Notting Hill**, with its street market and trendy boutiques and **Knightsbridge**, home of legendary department stores, Harrods and Harvey Nichols.

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HOUSE HOTEL

STORY ANGLES

Destination: Kensington House Hotel is ideally located just off Kensington High Street, Kensington Palace and a stone's throw from Kensington Gardens. A perfect location for shopping, sightseeing and the West End.

Historic Hotel: Prince of Wales Terrace – the name chosen to honour the coming of age of the then Prince of Wales (later Edward VII) in November 1862 – comprised 22 houses and was built on the site of an early 19th century villa, latterly known as Madeley House. The largest house in the street was the double-fronted Number 15, now home to Kensington House hotel, which accommodated 21 people. The original owner was George W Hunt, PC, MP, JP, who lived there with his wife, three sons, five daughters, a governess and ten servants. The current hotel opened in February 2000.

Contemporary Hotel: Although located within an historic façade, Kensington House Hotel is anything but a typical hotel property. Given a very individual feel from the artwork to the furniture chosen, designer Anne Jordan has worked hard to maintain an airy and spacious modern feel throughout, which is relaxing and inviting.

London Attractions: For London visitors, Kensington House Hotel is perfectly located for key tourist attractions including Kensington Palace and Gardens; Serpentine Gallery, the Natural History Museum, Victoria & Albert Museum; the Science Museum, Royal Albert Hall, Notting Hill, Knightsbridge and Harrods. Steps from the world class shops and boutiques of Kensington High Street, the area also has some superb restaurants and bars to suit all tastes and budgets.

Romantic Hotel: Staying at Kensington House Hotel epitomises a quintessentially romantic London experience, from the fluffy duvet covers to the views over the quaint, leafy streets. Couples can enjoy a stroll through the park, or cosy up in their room with a bottle of champagne and room service. The Romantic Break package from Kensington House Hotel includes

a bouquet of flowers, bottle of champagne and handmade chocolates on arrival.

Lady-friendly Hotel: Kensington House Hotel is located in a quiet, residential neighbourhood without any of the crowds and chaos of a Central London hotel. With the hotel's small, friendly atmosphere, women will feel safe, sound and right at home.