

Reopening National Trust properties around the world

12 June 2020

Highlights from INTO members:

- Some houses are open
- Some shops and limited F&B (some cafés open in Italy)
- But toilets mostly remain closed
- US National Trust property selling weekend garden visit tickets (Mon-Thur are free)
- National Trust EWNl asks members for patience

[National Trust for Historic Preservation \(USA\)](#)

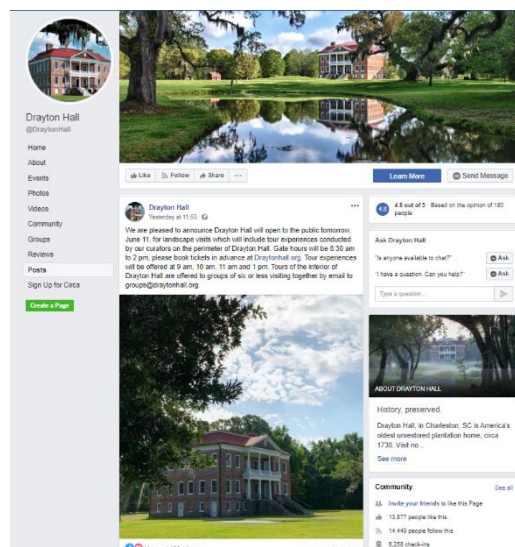
The 67-acre landscape at [Lyndhurst Mansion](#) on the Hudson in New York state has been open to the public since the end of April, for local recreation. Guidelines include:

- Parking in designated parking areas and if lots are full, come back another time
- **All restrooms on site are closed**
- Face masks and 6 feet social distancing
- Picnicking is allowed
- Visitors are reminded to take garbage home, including dog waste, gloves, etc.



However from 12 June, a pre-purchased [Daily Grounds Pass](#) will be required on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays. 100 tickets for sale per day @ \$10 each.

And Drayton Hall in Charleston, South Carolina, opened yesterday on a similar basis (right).



[Gelderland Trust](#)

Reopened 2 castles and manor houses on 5/6 June – others to follow later this month under the following [guidelines](#):

- Everyone must make an advance reservation www.glk.nl/kastelen
- 1.5m distance measures and special hygiene measures
- One-way route in castle/house
- F&B may restart later in the month
- No internal photographs (to prevent congestion)
- **No toilet facilities open**

The [experience at Cannenburgh](#) sounds pretty much like it used to be – even ice creams!



[Peel Castle, Manx National Heritage](#)

Phased re-opening of [Peel Castle](#) begins on Friday 12 June. It is a large, predominantly open-air site that lends itself well to providing a safe socially-distanced visit.

Edmund Southworth, Director of Manx National Heritage said: *“Our top priority in planning the re-opening of our visitor sites is the safety of our staff and visitors. We have sanitised the site and made the visit safe, but we have not sanitised the experience. It remains a great place to visit”.*



Measures in place at Peel Castle:

- Limited numbers
- Hand sanitisation points
- Social distancing
- Hygiene reminder notices
- Enhanced cleaning regimes
- PPE for staff
- Additional staff on-site to manage visitor numbers, monitor social distancing and provide a reassuring presence
- **Some areas of the site will not be generally open to the public including the toilets and the Crypt**

Palace of Versailles

Opened on Saturday 6 June. Here are the [reopening conditions](#):

- Normal opening times
- Buy tickets online in advance in hourly slots (for Palace)
- Mask compulsory
- Download 'visit app' in advance
- Limited internal visit (Kings Grand Apartment, Hall of Mirrors, Queen's Grand Apartment; Gallery of Battles)
- No hourly reservation needed for Gardens
- Some takeaway F&B – to be consumed in garden or park
- 1m distance rule
- Music in the gardens and daytime fountain shows will resume (not night time)



A peak day at Versailles is 20,000. Now it's limited to 500 per hour or 4,500 a day. Normally welcomes 8m a year (75% of income). 4/5 visitors are from overseas. *"This financial model has been devastated. We have to start again,"* Catherine Pegard, who runs the palace, said. *"We're not the only ones."*

[Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam](#)

Also reopened on 1 June, under these [guidelines](#):

- 1.5m distance
- One-way route
- All museum areas open (except library)
- Graduated start times for people visiting exhibitions (smaller rooms)
- Pre-booked tickets
- Once inside, stay as long as you like
- Max 6 tickets per purchase

2,000 people a day (usual capacity is 12,000)

[National Trust for England, Wales and Northern Ireland](#)

It will be possible to book tickets to 102 NT EWNI properties (still only outside spaces at the moment) from today. Feedback has been generally very positive although there has been some grumbling about limited capacity.



Yesterday, the NT EWNI Director-General, Hilary McGrady, shared a personal update on reopening and appealed to members for patience. *"We understand many of our members are desperate to visit the places they love again. Whilst we're unable to offer exclusive or priority booking due to charity tax law, we're pleased over 95% of those booking are members."*

Membership recruitment is at around 300-350 a day, which is close to what the Trust normally achieves through non-paid media channels.

[Trustees of Reservations, USA](#)

The Trustees opened [all their farms](#) to visitors yesterday! Meanwhile, they too have been overwhelmed by numbers of people wanting to book tickets for the beautiful [Crane Beach](#) (virtual visit available in the latest version of [Little Women](#))!

[FAI – Fondo Ambiente Italiano](#)

And finally, we are loving the look of this peaceful café at FAI's Villa Necchi in Milan ...

