



HYLANDS
ESTATE

Events 2025-26

November 2025 to March 2026



hylandsestate.co.uk





WELCOME

Welcome to the Hylands Estate Events brochure for November 2025 to March 2026!

The nights are drawing in, and mist is descending on the park. It can only mean one thing: the seasons are a-changing! We really enjoy watching the colours of Hylands Park change during this season, into vibrant reds and golds. It shows nature at its most beautiful, and it's one of our favourite times of year.

This year, we have more opportunities for you to come and enjoy everything Hylands Estate has to offer. Our popular Open Estate Days continue into the winter, and you can come and get warm with a cosy theatre production of *Great Expectations* at Hylands House.

We look forward to welcoming you to Hylands Estate!

The location key will help you with where these events take place, and we also highlight where these events are free to attend:

HH Hylands House

BL Back Lawn

ST The Stables

FREE Free Event

HP Hylands Park

FP Free Parking

GP Grand Pavilion



09
NOV

HYLANDS OPEN ESTATE DAYS

FREE

ST

HH

14
DEC

10am - 3pm

11
JAN

Join us for our regular Open Estate Days! Our popular free event takes place on the second Sunday of the month, meaning they can take place every month of the year.

08
FEB

In 2025 we welcomed Essex Foodies Market, who are delivering a packed selection of local food and craft traders outside the front of Hylands House.

08
MAR

This event features the very best the Estate has to offer, including:



Hylands House free open house, activities, storytelling, and guided tours




A programme of exhibitions about the history of the Estate, presented by our volunteers



Open artists' studios and live music, all free at The Stables. Visit our resident creative community and buy some of their unique pieces from the shop

Visit our website for the latest dates and information.
hylandsestate.co.uk/explore/openestate



Our Christmas Open Estate Day takes place on Sunday 15 December! Visit the Grand Pavilion to pick up some last-minute gifts and treats, and even something for yourself. We will still have our usual free activities for all the family to enjoy too!

Our free family activities and storytelling are programmed thanks to generous funding from The Friends of Hylands House.





26
NOV

CHRISTMAS AT THE STABLES

FREE

ST

FP

5pm – 9pm

We're delighted to bring back Christmas at The Stables for 2025!

Mark your calendars for Wednesday 26 November and get ready for a magical evening filled with live music, festive cheer, and local traders offering artisan food, drinks, and gifts. It's the perfect way to kick off the holiday season.

Make The Stables at Hylands Estate your one-stop-shop for Christmas this year. Whether you are yet to start on your Christmas shopping, fancy a festive refresh of your decoration collection, or just need a few more treats for friends, family and of course, yourself – this event will have everything you need to make your festive season extra special.

Feeling inspired for more? Our community of artists, designers, makers and creatives will be opening the doors to their studios on the ground and first floor of The Stables for visitors to explore.





28
NOV

TO

03
JAN

ENLIGHTENED

HP

FP

This winter, Enlightened returns to Hylands Estate, bringing a bigger, brighter, and even more magical light trail experience. After last year's sell-out success, the event is back with a breathtaking new route, brand-new installations, and a truly immersive festive atmosphere.

From twinkling tunnels of light to dazzling laser projections, every step along the trail is designed to captivate and amaze. Whether it's your first time or a returning favourite, Enlightened at Hylands Estate is a must-visit festive experience for all ages.

hylandsestate.co.uk/events





09
DEC

GREAT EXPECTATIONS

HH

FP

5pm – 8pm

10
DEC

This festive season, experience the timeless tale of Great Expectations – a heart-warming, magical stage adaptation of Charles Dickens' beloved classic, performed in the stunning Banqueting Room at Hylands House.

With rich storytelling, live music and a touch of seasonal magic, this adaptation is full of Dickensian charm and perfect for audiences of all ages.

A classic story of transformation and the true meaning of generosity—ideal for the holiday spirit. Bought to Chelmsford by This is My Theatre.

Tickets on sale now at
hylandsestate.co.uk/events





13
DEC

THE SNOW QUEEN

GP

FP

11.30am & 3pm

Join Hylands Estate for a magical Christmas family show in the Grand Pavilion!

With songs, music, and projection, Michael Whitmore's enchanting adaptation of Hans Christian Andersen's The Snow Queen is both funny and poignant. Blending fantasy, fable, and the enduring power of love, this magical tale makes for a heartwarming Christmas classic.

Bought to Chelmsford by Quantum Theatre Company.

Tickets on sale now at
hylandsestate.co.uk/events





THE STABLES & ARTIST STUDIOS

Visit The Stables on your next trip to Hylands Estate! Here's some useful information to guide you when you visit:

ARTISTS STUDIOS & WORKSHOPS

Our public facing studios are open Wednesday to Friday, 10am to 3pm. All studios, including upstairs, are open on our Open Estate Sundays.

Our resident artists, designers and makers offer a selection of workshops that are bookable in advance. From jewellery making to warm glass workshops, get hands on with new skills and make something to take home.

THE DELI

The Deli's newest location in The Stables offers a varied menu that, as well as their usual offering, boasts plenty of vegetarian, vegan and gluten-free options.

Opening times

8am to 5pm, every day

ARTIST SHOP AND INFORMATION POINT

The Information Point is where you pick up our multimedia tour headsets plus our Walks and Events leaflets. Make sure you explore the Artist Shop whilst you're there to purchase any unique gifts.

Opening times

Mon to Fri: 10am to 4pm

Weekends: 9am to 5pm

BOOK SHOP

The second-hand bookshop is managed entirely by volunteers of the Friends of Hylands House and carries a good stock of second-hand books covering many subjects and a large selection of collector's books. Contact the Information Point to arrange to make a donation.

Opening times

October to February: Monday to Sunday, 10.30am to 3pm

March: Monday to Friday 10.30am – 3.45pm, weekends 10.30am – 4.30pm



GROUP VISITS

This year, we were thrilled to bring back our Group Visit packages for organised trips to Hylands Estate!

Bring your group along for half the day where you can enjoy an exclusive tour experience of Hylands House. We will have a tour guide on hand who will take your guests on a journey from 1730 up to today, covering our architectural and social history along with insights from our restoration which started in the 1980's and was completed in 2007. This tour involves walking around the house and lasts approximately one hour.

Following the tour, everyone can enjoy tasty refreshments which include delicious, sweet treats from our onsite café, The Deli, in the stunning Terrace Room which overlooks the Back Lawn with views of Chelmsford in the distance.

Group Visits cost £30 person
(min 30 guests, max 50 guests).

The cost of each place includes a donation to The Friends of Hylands House. Tours are available on selected dates. Contact a member of our helpful team.



THE FRIENDS OF HYLANDS HOUSE

Celebrating 30 years this year, The Friends of Hylands House was formed in 1995 when a group of local people decided to get together with an aim to assist and encourage the development of Hylands House and Hylands Park.

As a voluntary organisation with a committed and thriving membership, we are grateful for their fundraising efforts and projects that support the growth and upkeep of our House and Estate!

To get involved, donate, or become a member yourself, visit their website friendsofhylandshouse.co.uk



HYLANDS PARK

THINGS TO SEE AND DO

There is plenty to do at Hylands Estate, whatever the weather and whenever the time of year! We have many cost effective and free activities available:

WALKS

Explore Hylands Estate on foot following our five mapped walks. You can find our walks leaflet online or in The Stables Information Point.

GEOCACHING

This activity is a great bonding activity for families, friends, or even co-workers! Find the caches hidden all around Hylands Estate.

ORIENTEERING

Try a new orienteering course at Hylands Park. Thanks to the Essex Stragglers Orienteering Society with funding from Active Essex.

THE PLEASURE GARDENS

The ornate Victorian Pleasure Gardens can be found near The Stables with a duck pond which is home to a variety of fish, ducks, and geese.

ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

Hylands Estate is home to an award-winning accessible castle-themed adventure playground. Find The Deli Express nearby for playtime refreshments.







HYLANDS HISTORY & GARDENS MULTIMEDIA TOUR

Available all year round for free is our interactive multimedia tour which shares the rich history of Hylands House and our extensive gardens.

Hylands House was first built almost 300 years ago, and the gardens have been a major attraction for most of our history. Over time, each new owner made their own mark on the house and grounds, extending and remodelling the landscape according to the tastes and fashions of the day.

We're proud that we are known as the jewel in Chelmsford's crown. Now, our new multimedia tour, designed by ATS Heritage, will take you through the history of the Estate, telling the story of how we came to be as we are today.

How to enjoy the tour:

-  The tour is free to explore seven days a week.
-  Enjoy it via our official handheld devices, which can be borrowed from The Stables Information Point.
-  Alternatively, use your smartphone to listen to the tour by scanning the QR code at the first stop in The Stables area, or any others on the tour.
-  Don't forget to bring your earphones if doing the tour from a smartphone.

Start exploring at
hylandsestate.co.uk/explore/historyandgardenstour

FIND OUT MORE

Hylands Estate is proud to have approximately 574 acres of restored historic parkland open to the public. We're working hard to sustain our beautiful green space, through education, biodiversity work and conservation.

You can find out more about this work at
hylandsestate.co.uk/explore/gardens-and-parklands

HOW TO FIND US



Hylands Estate has two entrances. The Hylands Park entrance, CM2 8FS, is closest to the Adventure Playground and to visit the park. The Hylands House entrance, CM2 8WQ, is closest to Hylands House and The Stables.

By car

Exit the M25 at Junction 28 on to the A12 towards Chelmsford and Colchester. Exit the A12 at Junction 15 on the A14 dual carriageway towards Chelmsford. Parking charges apply from 9am to 6pm.

By public transport

Public transport is available from the city centre to Hylands. First Buses have services running which stop nearby the park. Check our Explore page on the website for the latest information.

Sustainable routes

Designated cycle and walking routes from the city can be found on our website.



CONTACT US

Hylands Estate Events Team
Information Point
Friends of Hylands Bookshop

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