

MARVELLOUS MECHANICAL MUSEUM





Compton Verney ART GALLERY AND PARK

Where art meets nature...

Welcome to our marvellous, mechanical summer, when we celebrate art, engineering and the power of the imagination.

Our outstanding exhibition programme continues with a fascinating, fizzing show for all, *The Marvellous Mechanical Museum*. It follows the development of automata – bizarre, self-operating machine toys or ornaments – from the eighteenth century to today. This is accompanied by a detailed look at the astonishing ingenuity of the much-loved illustrator, author and automata-maker, Rodney Peppé.

To complement these exhibitions, our successful holiday workshops for children, Artspace, returns for the summer. In addition, the re-imagined Victorian Women's Library in the mansion sees the arrival of a new set of female curators in July, including poet and biographer, Fiona Sampson, food write, Sophie Grigson and Ozak Esu, who was recently named Young Woman Engineer of the Year by the Institution of Engineering and Technology.

There's so much to experience at Compton Verney this summer. Join us – whatever the weather.

Professor Steven Parissien
Chief Executive



For the latest information visit
comptonverney.org.uk



Prices

Open Tue – Sun **Park** 10.30am – 6pm

Exhibitions, Galleries & Activities

11am – 5pm. Last entry 4pm.

Compton Kitchen 10.30am – 4.30pm

Membership

	Individual	Joint
Gold Membership	£32	£62
	£28.80 Direct Debit	£55.80 Direct Debit
Silver Membership	£28	£54
	£25.20 Direct Debit	£48.60 Direct Debit

Annual Pass

	Adult	Family	Child 5–15	Under 5
ANNUAL PASS Includes entry to the Collections and Park for 12 months.	£13	£30	£7	Free
ANNUAL PASS EXHIBITION UPGRADE TICKET	+£5.50			

Day Admission

	Adult	Family	Child 5–15	Under 5
DAY TICKET Includes Exhibition	£15 with Gift Aid	£33 with Gift Aid	£5	Free
	£13.60 Without Gift Aid	£30 Without Gift Aid	£5	Free
DAY TICKET Only available between exhibitions	£10 with Gift Aid	£23 with Gift Aid	£5	Free
	£9 Without Gift Aid	£20.90 Without Gift Aid	£5	Free

See page 18 for Member benefits and more information.

Family tickets include two adults and up to four children. Concession prices available for seniors, unwaged and students with ID (£1 off full price adult day tickets and Annual Passes)

MARVELLOUS MECHANICAL MUSEUM

Sat 30 June – Sun 30 September

Step into *The Marvellous Mechanical Museum*; a spectacular, modern reimagining of the automata and mechanical art exhibitions of the eighteenth century. Pushing the boundaries of what is *lifelike* and what is *alive*, this is a place where artists, inventors and engineers come together to create the extraordinary.

Automata have always fascinated us; holding a mirror up to life and allowing us to examine ourselves and question our existence. They entertain with spectacular musical performances and amaze with their miniature simulations of life.

This curious exhibition coincides with the 200th anniversary of the publication of Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*. The doll-like

automata built by Pierre and Henri Jaquet-Droz, caused a sensation in their day and no doubt Shelley would have encountered them on her travels through Switzerland.

With loans from The British Museum, The V&A and The Royal Collection, the exhibition juxtaposes centuries-old objects and designs with new commissions by contemporary artists exploring our current and often complex relationship with technology.

Behold the world's smallest moving elephant, be delighted by the intricate designs of Rowland Emmett (inventor for *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*), and witness the uncanny 'Crimson Prince' installation by kinetic artist, Tim Lewis.





RODNEY PEPPÉ'S WORLD OF INVENTION

Sat 30 June – Sun 30 September

Enter the joyful and colourful imagination of Rodney Peppé and his wonderful world of invention. Explore his delightful moving mechanical toys and a host of timeless characters from his beautifully illustrated books.

This exhibition offers a fascinating insight into Rodney Peppé's creative career as a toy and automata maker, a children's author and illustrator, and as graphic designer and artist. The exhibition will showcase artworks from Peppé's early career in the 1960s, to a newly commissioned work made especially for this exhibition. Peppé's gentle sense of humour and huge imagination will transport visitors of all ages to a magical world where an old boot can become a mansion for mice, a tin kettle transforms into a pirate ship, and a simple basket can take to the air as a nifty flying machine.



Perfect
for young
audiences

Marvellous Mechanical Museum Family Trail

Sat 30 Jun – Sun 30 Sep

Follow the trail to find out fascinating facts about the amazing inventions, and stories about their creators. The perfect way to captivate curious minds, revealing the hidden secrets of these marvellous devices.

FREE. Pick up the trail from the Welcome Centre or Gift Shop.

Daily Exhibition Tour

Sat 7 Jul – Sun 30 Sep, 12 noon and 2.30pm

Explore the two current exhibitions with this enlightening 45 minute tour led by our expert Gallery Interpreters.

FREE. Places limited. Sign up on the day at the Welcome Centre or Gift Shop.

Curators' Tour and Tea: The Marvellous Mechanical Museum and Rodney Peppé's World of Invention

Wed 4 Jul, 2.30pm – 3.30pm

An opportunity to learn more about the two exhibitions and the importance of featured pieces, from their respective curators, Antonia Harrison and Flora Cranmer-Perrier. The tour will be followed by an informal discussion over tea and cake.

Members £10

Annual Pass Holders £18.50

Non-Members £25*

BOOK NOW

online or call 01926 645 500

**this price includes DAY TICKET*



Moonrocket Firework, 1990. Model for The Mice on the Moon, Viking (1992) © Rodney Peppé

Talk: Automata in Literature and Culture: *'A Machine as wonderful and complex as a Man'*

Wed 5 Sep, 2.30pm – 3.30pm

Delve further into the world of historical and contemporary automata, learning more about their history, significance and what they tell us about society and culture.

Join Franziska Kohlt, research in English and History of Science from the University of Oxford as she reveals the tales behind the machines.

We will traverse from the mythological Prometheus and Pygmalion, to Mary Shelley's Frankenstein and E.T.A. Hoffmann's chilling Sandman, to modern-day Artificial Intelligence, to show how automata have and continue to hold up a mirror to reality.

Members £10

Annual Pass Holders £18.50

Non-Members £25*

BOOK NOW online
or call 01926 645 500

*this price includes DAY TICKET



Crimson Prince © Tim Lewis, courtesy
Flowers Gallery, London / New York

Gold Member Preview

Gold
Member
Exclusive

Fri 29 Jun,
1.30pm – 3pm and
3pm – 4.30pm

Gold Members are invited to enjoy free entry to our new exhibitions before they open to the public, as well as a 10% discount in our Gift Shop and Compton Kitchen. Advanced booking is recommended.

BOOK NOW
online or call 01926 645 500

Gold Member Guest Passes are not valid.

All events and activities are included in standard DAY TICKET admission and are FREE for Members and Annual Pass Holders, unless otherwise stated.

Summer Fayre

Sun 24 Jun, 10.30am – 4.30pm

Indulge your inner artisan with stalls and demonstrations for all the family. Showcasing a wonderful range of vintage games and workshops, to historic craft demonstrations and local choirs, you won't want to miss this fantastic day out in the beautiful surroundings of our parkland.





Historic Quest

Sun 22 Jul - 11.30am - 3.30pm

Compton Verney volunteers and KADS (Kineton Amateur Dramatic Society) bring to life the characters from Compton Verney's past, who lived and worked in the mansion house. Come and find out the intriguing, shocking and fascinating stories from our past!

Orienteering Day

Wed 15 Aug, 11am – 4pm

Octavian Droobers will be on hand to introduce orienteering to newcomers. They will give tips on how to navigate the extensive grounds on any of the three permanent courses (easy, medium or long).

Maps can be purchased at the Welcome Centre for £1, or downloaded free from comptonverney.org.uk.



Families

Daily Activities

Outdoors

- Sandpit
- Outdoor adventure playground
- Family trails
- Nature's art box
- Orienteering
- Pond dipping

Indoors

- Art Explorer backpacks
- Marco's Design Cabinet
- Family Discovery Room

Tiny Tuesdays

Every Tue during term-time, 11.30am – 3pm

Taking place in the Family Discovery Room on the first floor, play with blocks, shapes and games along with other parents and toddlers. Get creative together and unleash your imagination.

Early Years Forest School

Every Thu during term-time,
12.30pm - 2.30pm

Learn forest crafts outside at our Forest School site. Take part in a range of activities for all ages and abilities.

All events and activities are included in standard DAY TICKET admission and are FREE for Members and Annual Pass Holders, unless otherwise stated.

Summer Holidays

Artspace

Tue 24 Jul – Fri 31 Aug,
11am – 4pm

Artist Fire the Inventor from The *Marvellous Mechanical Museum*, has begun a mechanical installation.

Help by adding your own weird and wonderful creations. Learn the basics of mechanical movement and exercise your creative and engineering skills.



Forest School Family Thursdays

26 Jul, 2, 9, 16, 23 &
30 Aug, 11am – 3pm

If you go down to the woods and play you'll be sure of a summer surprise.

Come along dressed for the weather and make nature inspired crafts, silly soup in the mud kitchen, music in the sound space and art in the bat cave.



Adults

Dementia Café Tuesdays

12 Jun, 10 Jul, 14 Aug, 11 Sep,
10.30am – 12.30pm

A supportive environment for those living with, or those supporting someone with Alzheimer's disease and Dementia, where you can share experiences, or simply chat with others in a similar situation.

£12 per person, per year
Includes Exhibition, Collections
and Park admission for the year.
Carers go free.



Hosted in association with the Alzheimer's Society.

Explore our Permanent Collections

We have six collections; Chinese, British Folk Art, Naples, Marx-Lambert, Northern European and British Portraits.

Find out more about the works of art and their hidden histories from our passionate and knowledgeable Gallery Interpreters on one of their tours.

Daily Collection Tour

Tue – Sun, 2pm

An overview of one of the six collections.

My Favourite Object

Tue 12 Jun – Fri 6 Jul, 12 noon

An in-depth look at a particular work of art.



Art in the Afternoon

First Wed of every month,
6 Jun, 4 Jul, 1 Aug, 5 Sep, 2pm – 4pm

Learn new skills to improve your confidence and drawing techniques. Classes take place in the galleries or outside in the park. A great way to relax, learn and make new friends.

Members £6 per session

Annual Pass Holders £8 per session

Non-Members £15 per session*

BOOK NOW! 01926 645 500

*this price includes DAY TICKET



Parkland Tour

First Thu of every month at 1.30pm

Gary Webb, our Head of Landscape and Gardens hosts a walking tour of our Grade II-listed landscape, designed by Lancelot 'Capability' Brown. Learn about the historic trees, the wildlife habitats, the changes that have occurred to the garden throughout the property's history and the ongoing management required to protect these important grounds.

Sign up on the day. This tour includes some areas of uneven ground. Please speak to Gary at the start of the tour if you require a level, smoother surface.



Tai Chi

Third Sat of every month 16 Jun, 21 Jul,
18 Aug, 5 Sep, 11am

Join Swan Tai Chi and learn the graceful, flowing movements of this traditional Chinese exercise in our beautiful parkland.

**Members/Annual Pass holders
£7 per session,
Non-Members £14 per session***

*Includes DAY TICKET

Whether it's been a while since you gave yourself a proper break, or you're in need of a change of scenery, getting outdoors is a great way to reinvigorate the mind and body.

Get yourself to Compton Verney and out in our wonderful parkland to experience a range of activities to improve your wellbeing which are interesting, inspiring and sociable.

National Meadows Day Celebration

Sun 8 Jul, 10.30am – 4.30pm

Immerse yourself in nature and find out about the wildlife thriving in Compton Verney's meadows.

Families can take part in creative participatory sessions and wild games to learn about the vital importance pollinators.

John Noble, specialist forager and ecologist will be on hand to chat about useful and edible plants, meadow management and ecology.

Our Head of Landscape and Gardens, will be running drop-in sessions to share what he has learnt from establishing meadow areas at Compton Verney and offering hints and tips to make or improve your own wildlife-friendly garden.

This event is included in standard DAY TICKET and are FREE for Members and Annual Pass Holders.

Natural Mindfulness Walk

Sun 15 Jul, 11am – 1pm. £7 per person*

Join Cotswold artist, Nick Pike on a walk around the grounds where he will not only guide you physically, but will also help to guide your attention through focus, observation and imagination. See our beautiful parkland from a fresh angle, and get a bit closer to the places which you might often overlook.



Tall Stories: Guided Tree Walk

Fri 17 Aug, 1.30pm – 2.30pm. £5 per person*

Every tree at Compton Verney has a unique history. From newly introduced trees, both native and exotic, to gnarled and characterful specimens that have been firmly rooted for more than 250 years, the diversity in our 120 acre parkland has resulted in a fascinating topic of research for our Head of Landscape and Gardens, Gary Webb.

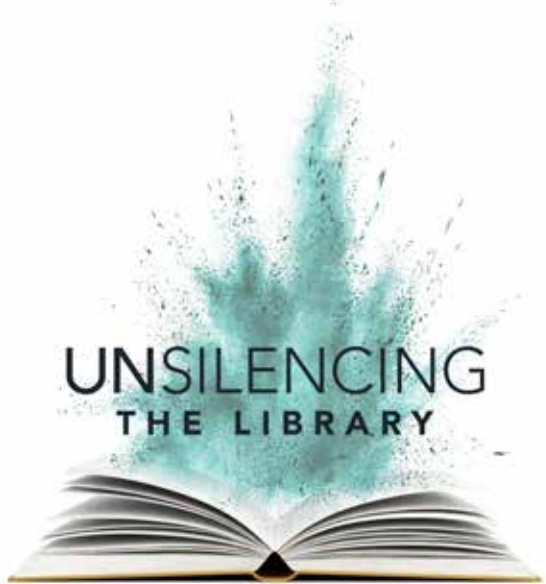
Join him for walk around the grounds and woodland to learn more about Compton Verney's history and landscape.

Bird Walk

Wed 29 Aug, 1.30pm – 2.30pm. £3 per person*

Alwyn Knapton, our volunteer bird specialist will lead a walk focusing on spotting and identifying birds making their beautiful calls from the woods, the lake and the meadow. With up to 100 species recorded on site, it's easy to see and hear a wide variety of birdlife.

*Please note you will need a valid Membership, Annual Pass or DAY TICKET. Sign up on the day. Walks start from The Clearing. This tour includes some areas of uneven ground. Please speak to the tour leader if you require a level, smoother surface.



New Curators

From Sat 30 Jun

The Woman's Library was created in around 1860 by Georgiana Verney, wife of the 17th Lord Willoughby de Broke. An enthusiastic champion of women's reading, education and ultimately, suffrage, we invite you to sit down, learn about Georgiana and the history of the room.



This exciting reinterpretation, developed jointly with Oxford University, continues this year with six new guest curators.



Find all our books chosen by our six guest curators in our Gift Shop. You can also browse through the books chosen by our six new guest curators celebrating inspirational literature to women today.

Sophie Grigson

English cookery writer and celebrity chef who has dedicated her career to cooking simple, easy dishes using new and exciting ingredients. She is a keen supporter of organic and local food suppliers and is an advocate for healthy children's food.

Dr Ozak Esu

Winner of the Institution of Engineering and Technology's Young Woman Engineer of the Year Award 2017.

Susan Stockwell

Contemporary British artist and sculptor who has contributed works to our recent *Created in Conflict* exhibition. Her art addresses political, social, ecological and feminist issues.

Compton Verney Dementia Café

Over recent months our Dementia Café participants have been selecting the books that mean the most to them to add to our collection.

Professor Fiona Sampson

A British author and poet, and previously concert violinist, who has just published a major new biography, *In Search of Mary Shelley: The Girl Who Wrote Frankenstein*.

Emma Watson

Actor, model, activist and UN Goodwill Ambassador, Emma returns this year as one of our guest curators.

Whistler and Nature

Sat 20 October - Sun 16 December

In this exhibition we will share new research into the influence of engineering, topography and Japanese woodblocks on one of the greatest artists of the nineteenth century, through his depictions of natural and industrial landscapes.

James Abbott McNeill Whistler (1834–1903) was an American artist who lived most of his life in the UK. He was known for his innovative artistic style and bold personality, with a reputation for verbal and legal retaliations against

art critics, dealers, and artists who insulted his work.

Through this intriguing collection of paintings, sketches and prints, we will examine how his appreciation of Japanese art impacted his style and approach to composition, as well as the influence of his military training and employment in the US Navy on his skill for observational drawing and cartography. Whistler's smoky images of warehouses, harbours and industrial scenes were designed to showcase a new kind of productive, wealth-generating landscape; a view of nature constrained by man-made structures.

The exhibition has been developed in partnership with The Hunterian, Glasgow University.



Battersea Reach from Lindsey Houses © The Hunterian, University of Glasgow 2017

Autumn Light Installation

This autumn will see the return of our installation in the grounds, in partnership with the award-winning artists Musson+Retallick. Tickets for this spectacular light and sound display will be on sale soon via our website.

M+R

Volunteer

Join our team of friendly and enthusiastic volunteers and help make a real difference to Compton Verney.





'Supernature' Stoke Park, Guildford, 2012 © Musson & Retallick

As a registered charity, we have limited resources but our ambitions and standards are high. We offer a unique working environment and a variety of roles across the organisation that supports us in achieving our aims.

How do I join?

Take a look at our current opportunities on our website or just ask a member of staff today!



Support Us

Did you know that Compton Verney Art Gallery & Park is an educational charity where art meets nature for the benefit of all? There are lots of ways you can help, from adopting an artwork, tree or bench, to taking out a Supporter, Patron or Benefactor membership, or leaving Compton Verney a gift in your will. For information contact polly.hawkes@comptonverney.org.uk or see our website comptonverney.org.uk/join-support-us.

Corporate Membership

Local, national and international corporate members can promote their brand, products and services to our 97,000 annual visitors, whilst providing invaluable support to our exhibition, learning and events programmes. They also enjoy a wide range of benefits including free tickets, private view invitations and discounts on room hire. Contact the Development Department on 01926 645 562 for more details.



COMPTON KITCHEN

Step inside to enjoy a break from running through the meadows, or to give yourself time to contemplate the art you've been admiring, with a meal from Compton Kitchen.

Supplying fresh, locally sourced food, the menu changes seasonally to ensure you have a variety of options every time you visit. There are vegan, dairy-free

and gluten-free selections, and younger visitors can pick a half portion of any main meal for just £5.25.

This summer you can choose to keep your meal light with a selection of fresh salads, treat yourself to an ice-cream as you stroll around the grounds, or indulge in the delicious cake of the day or homemade fruit scone.

AMADEUS™
MADE the difference

Featured Deals

2 meals and 2 hot drinks
£22.95

Cake and a hot drink
£5.45

Soup of the day
with artisan bread
£5.95



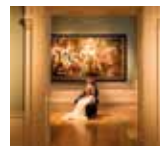
Unique and Unforgettable

Did you know that you can hire Compton Verney for private parties, weddings and corporate events? Our landscaped grounds, beautiful Grade I-listed Georgian mansion and world-class art collections make Compton Verney a unique and memorable setting for any occasion. Contact our Events Team on 01926 645 523 or email events@comptonverney.org.uk.



Weddings

at Compton Verney



Romantic, Unique, Unforgettable...

Don't forget to visit our fabulous Gift Shop...

Featuring a distinctive selection of products inspired by our current summer exhibitions, our 'Capability' Brown landscape and our six diverse permanent collections.

Browse contemporary crafts, exhibition merchandise, art and design books and children's toys!



So much more to enjoy!

- Save money with 12 months unlimited FREE entry to our Special Exhibitions, Collections and Park
- Discover more with discounts on selected talks and events
- Entertain the family with FREE entry for two family children (aged 5-15) every visit
- Introduce members of your family to Compton Verney with three one day guest passes*
- Enjoy exclusive Gold Member events, including previews of exhibitions*
- Get more from your visits with occasional offers in our Gift Shop & Compton Kitchen*

*Benefit for Gold Members only.

	Individual	Joint
Gold Membership	£32	£62
	£28.80 Direct Debit	£55.80 Direct Debit
Silver Membership	£28	£54
	£25.20 Direct Debit	£48.60 Direct Debit

Terms and conditions apply, please visit comptonverney.org.uk/members for more information and to purchase membership online. Membership is valid for 12 months and benefits are subject to change.

Give a year of art and adventures

Gift Membership makes the perfect present for lovers of art, heritage and nature. Vouchers include space to add you own handwritten personalised message to your friend or loved one.



BUY NOW online or call 01926 645 500

Available as Individual and Joint Gift Gold Membership Vouchers. Please note Gift Vouchers are sent to the purchasers address. Direct debit options not available.



Installation shot of The Last Words exhibition © Compton Verney, photo by Jamie Woodley

For the latest information visit
comptonverney.org.uk

Events and Activities

Open Tue – Sun **Park** 10.30am – 6pm

Exhibitions, Galleries & Activities

11am - 5pm.

Last entry one hour before closing

Compton Kitchen 10.30am - 4.30pm

All season

Collection Tour	Daily, 2pm
Orienteering	Daily until Sun 16 Dec
Tiny Tuesdays	Every Tue, term-time, 11.30am – 3pm
Dementia Café	Every second Tue of the month, 10.30am – 12.30pm
Art in the Afternoon	Every first Wed of the month, 2pm – 4pm
Early Years Forest School	Every Thu, term-time, 12.30pm – 2.30pm
Parkland Tour	First Thu of the month, 1.30pm
Tai Chi	Every third Sat of the month, 11am

June

My Favourite Object	Tue 12 Jun – Fri 6 Jul, 12 noon
Father's Day*	Sun 17 Jun
Summer Fayre	Sun 24 Jun, 11.30am – 4.30pm
Gold Member Preview	Fri 29 Jun, 1.30pm – 3pm and 3pm – 4.30pm
Marvellous Mechanical Museum Family Trail	Sat 30 Jun – Sun 30 Sep

July

Marvellous Mechanical Museum Family Trail	Sat 30 Jun – Sun 30 Sep
Curator's Tour and Tea	Wed 4 Jul, 2.30pm – 3.30pm
Exhibition Tours	Sat 7 Jul – Sun 30 Sep, 12 noon and 2.30pm
National Meadows Day	Sun 8 Jul, 10.30am – 4.30pm
Natural Mindfulness Walk	Sun 15 Jul, 11am – 1pm
Historic Quest	Sun 22 Jul, 11.30am – 3.30pm
Artspace	Tue 24 Jul – Fri 31 Aug, 11am – 4pm
Forest School Family Thursdays	Every Thu, 26 Jul – 30 Aug, 11am – 3pm

August

Artspace	Tue 24 Jul – Fri 31 Aug, 11am – 4pm
Exhibition Tours	Sat 7 Jul – Sun 30 Sep, 12 noon and 2.30pm
Orienteering Day	Wed 15 Aug, 11am – 4pm
Tall Stories: Guided Tree Walk	Fri 17 Aug, 1.30pm – 2.30pm
Bird Walk	Wed 29 Aug, 1.30pm – 2.30pm
Forest School Family Thursdays	Every Thu, 26 Jul – 30 Aug, 11am – 3pm

September

Exhibition Tours	Sat 7 Jul – Sun 30 Sep, 12 noon and 2.30pm
TALK: Automata in Literature and Culture: <i>'A Machine as wonderful and complex as a Man'</i>	Wed 5 Sep, 2.30pm – 3.30pm

Please note that ticketed events are non-refundable.

*Dad's and Grandad's go FREE

Visitor information

Public transport links

Bus: The Number 6 bus runs Mon-Sat and stops at Compton Verney – Spring Hill. The 67A and 67B bus service running on Sundays and most Bank Holidays' final stop is Compton Verney. For further information visit: www.stagecoachbus.com/

Rail: The nearest stations are Leamington Spa, Banbury and Stratford-upon-Avon.

Access

The Gallery is fully accessible on all floors, and there are wheelchair friendly paths throughout the Park. Large print guides, wheelchairs and hearing loops are available. Assistance dogs are welcome.

Dogs

Assistance dogs only in the Gallery and main park. Dogs on leads are allowed along the footpath in the Old Town Meadow only.

Parking

Parking is free. Blue badge spaces are available. Visitors can be dropped off at the gallery.

Shuttle bus

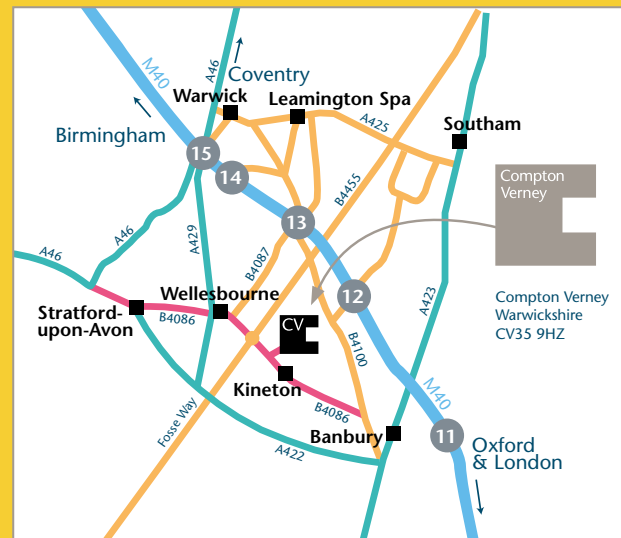
To take you from the car park to the gallery. Subject to volunteer availability.

Group visits

Discounted admission, free organiser tickets and exclusive offers are available for groups of 15+. Call Emily on 01926 645 516 for more details.

Further information

Please call 01926 645 500 or email info@comptonverney.org.uk



How to find us

We are situated 9 miles south-east of Stratford-upon-Avon, on the B4086 between Wellesbourne and Kineton. From the M40 take junction 12 or 15 and follow the brown signs.



Compton Verney

ART GALLERY & PARK

Warwickshire, CV35 9HZ

T. 01926 645 500

comptonverney.org.uk



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**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



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