

The Queen's Gallery & Royal Mews

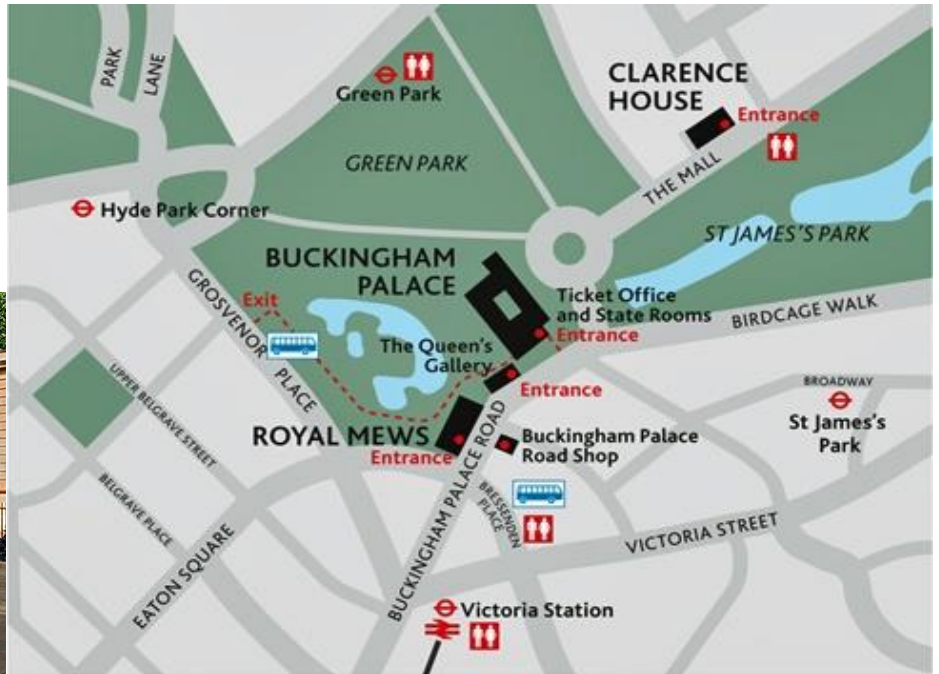
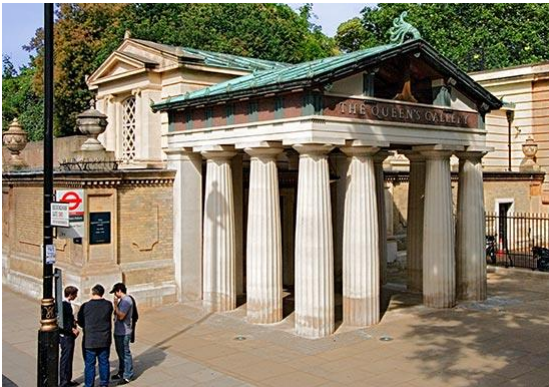
Buckingham Palace, London SW1A 1AA

Tube: Victoria, Green Park, Hyde Park Corner

Bus: 11, 211, C1, C10 stop at Buckingham Palace Rd

Coach: Victoria Coach Station is a 10 min. walk

10 AM – 5:30 PM (Every Day) £19



The building that originally stood on the site of the current Queen's Gallery was **designed by John Nash** as one of Buckingham Palace's three identical conservatories or pavilions in the form of Ionic temples. It was constructed on the south-west corner of the Palace, facing the garden, and was completed in 1831. The conservatory was converted into a **private chapel for Queen Victoria in 1843**, but destroyed in an air raid in 1940. At the suggestion of The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh, it was redeveloped as a gallery for the Royal Collection in 1962.

John Simpson's design for the new entrance portico uses the Doric order, similar to that employed by John Nash in the Quadrangle of Buckingham Palace. The entrance hall provides a space for visitors to gather before making their way to the galleries and activity areas on the level above. High on either side are two friezes (symbolising the reign of The Queen) and four relief panels (representing the **Patron Saints of the United Kingdom**). Framing the entrance to the exhibition areas, are two free-standing winged figures. The entrance hall's robust rusticated style contrasts with the interior of the stair hall beyond, which is polychromatic and ornate. Here the ceiling is painted in red and green **anthemion** patterns above Ionic columns and **pilasters** in green **scagliola**.

Upstairs rooms - the Pennethorne Gallery, the Nash Gallery and the Chambers Gallery - can be used in a variety of combinations for special exhibitions.

The £20-million expansion of The Queen's Gallery was the most significant addition to Buckingham Palace in 150 years. The project was funded entirely by the Royal Collection Trust through public admissions to the official residences of The Queen (Buckingham Palace, Windsor Castle and the Palace of Holyroodhouse) and through associated retail activities. The project involved stone masons, wood carvers, fibrous plaster and **scagliola** workers, copper and bronze workers, specialist joiners, blacksmiths, specialist painters and cabinet-makers.

The Queen's Gallery was opened by Her Majesty The Queen in May 2002, as part of the Golden Jubilee celebrations. It hosts a programme of changing exhibitions from the Royal Collection.