**u3a Outing to Leeds Castle**

**Wednesday 15 April 2026
Coach leaves at 8.30am from Fairfield Halls, Park Lane, Croydon, arriving back between 6-6.30 pm**

**Cost of this outing is £42 (including driver’s tip):**



Leeds Castle, is located near Kent’s County Town of Maidstone. As you step through the gates get ready for an experience to remember. Take in the glorious scenery, as each season brings new colours, scents, wildlife and discoveries that cover the grounds and 500 acres of parkland. Watch as nature calls for moments of wonder and spontaneity. It’s time to gather and time to cherish, as you explore the history of a Castle run by queens and heiresses.

Awe in delight as you stroll through their sun-drenched gardens filled with fragrant flowers and foliage, and admire the seasonal blooms, ever-changing for our delight. Glide into their 1930s country retreat, as you uncover the original interiors, take note of the eccentric purchases of owners past, and learn of lavish parties with Hollywood’s finest. Step back in time to experience the cinematic history of our queens from the middle ages, as they share their untold stories, in their own voices.

* Visit the Birds of Prey Centre, **which is included in your ticket price** or a Private Group experience is available to Meet the Owls for £5 (this would need to be pre-booked beforehand so please let me know). Learn about the conservation efforts supporting these incredible birds.
* Explore the 900-year history with the multi-guide including information about the Decadent 1930s, which you can purchase for £5
* There is the Stable Yard Café, offering lighter bites and refreshments as an alternative to the Castle View Restaurant (where you need to pre-book
* Elsie the Castle Train will take you from the main entrance up to the Castle
* The Black Swan Ferry takes passengers across the Great Water from the Boathouse Café to the maze and play areas. The cost for this is £1.50 each way
* Explore the many streams, rivers and the moat
* There is a wheelchair lift at the Castle

Return the booking form below to: Linda Grigsby, 37 Albatross Gardens, South Croydon CR2 8QW; Mob: 07754092042 **OR** Cariss Smith, 62 Penwortham Road, South Croydon CR2 0QS; Mob: 07904 163454, either at the Monthly Meeting in the Masonic Halls, **OR** by Bank Transfer account no. 13630003, sort code 23-05-80 **(PLEASE PUT THE OUTING NAME);** **OR** with a **cheque (payable to Croydon u3a) together with stamped addressed envelope.**.

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## BOOKING FORM – Leeds Castle 15 April 2026

**Leave 8.30 am from Fairfield Halls, departing approximately 4.30pm, arriving back around 6-6.30-pm.**

Name(s)................................................................................... Membership No(s) ............................

Address ..............................................................................................................................................

Postcode: ....................Mob No. ...................................E-mail ...........................................................

I would like .......... ticket(s). Total £.............. (cheque payable to “**Croydon u3a”) together with stamped addressed envelope** to. **OR** by Bank Transfer account no. **13630003, sort code 23-05-80** **(PLEASE PUT THE OUTING NAME);**

My contact in case of emergency is: Name.................................................Tel. No. …………………

**CROYDON u3a TRAVEL TEAM EVENT**

**General Information and Booking terms and conditions**

Please carefully read these **Booking Terms and Conditions**, as submission of a Booking Form will be taken as your acceptance of them**. PLEASE INCLUDE AN EMERGENCY CONTACT PHONE NUMBER, WHICH MUST BE LOCATED IN THE UK.**

**Coach Pick up and Drop off** are at Fairfield Halls concourse See cover page of poster for times. On the day of an outing, if you have any problems joining the trip, please ring the Trip Organisers (mobile numbers on cover page of poster or on the ticket) by 7:00am. Outings are for Croydon u3a members only. In the event of low take-up, we may take members from other u3as and non-u3a members on an occasional basis.

**Booking Forms**: Booking forms for each outing are dealt with individually. When booking for multiple trips, a **separate booking form and stamped addressed envelope** are required for each one. Your booking may be jeopardised if this is not done. If you request more than one place, we must have the first name and surname and u3a number of each person.

**Payment:** Make payment online to Croydon u3a Business Account No. 13630003 Sort Code 230580 **Reference** – insert the **Name of the Trip**. If you are paying for someone else insert their name and the name of the trip. Alternatively, pay by cheque. Chequesmay be dated for any time between Booking Form submission date and **two months** before the outing / event date. Please send your completed Booking Form, cheque and self-addressed envelope to the address given on the Booking Form.

**Reduced admission**: We can only offer the reductions which are advertised by the venue itself at the time we book it. We cannot deal with any special offers or discounts you may personally have.

**Refunds**: Refunds are generally non-refundable unless we are able to resell the place.

**Mobility Requirements**: Some, but not all, of our outings are suitable for members with manageable mobility restrictions. You must contact the named Travel Team Trip Organiser member on the poster cover page before booking if you wish to bring a mobility aid so that we can discuss your needs.

We will mention in our publicity and outing details any significant access or safety considerations of which we are aware. **YOU MUST BE ABLE TO GET ON AND OFF THE COACH UNAIDED.**

**Restricted mobility:** Members with restricted mobility may be accompanied by a carer on any outing, but a place needs to be booked. The carer does not have to be a U3A member but will be required to pay the full cost. Members are asked to think carefully about the physical demands of the outing and their own situation before submitting an application. We need to ensure that all participants are safe and that everyone enjoys the day. Ultimately the Travel Team reserves the right to decline applications in exceptional situations, regrettable as this may be.

**Your responsibilities**: You are asked to pay particular attention to the scheduled **Arrival & Registration, & Departure** times and assemble at the designated meeting point. If you are late, we may have to leave without you to enable us to keep to the time-table. In such an instance, you would have to arrange your own return home, and you would not be entitled to any refund for the cost of the unused portion of the day. If this should happen, we would endeavour to contact you and/or your emergency name contact number, which MUST be a number in the UK. We ask members for their mobile phone numbers and for them to ensure they are **switched on** during the outing. Participants are responsible for themselves and their belongings.

**Data protection**: The details you give us on the booking form will be held by the organisers until the outing has taken place and will be used only for the purpose of the outing. When it has taken place, they will be destroyed. We keep a record of your mobile numbers to save you giving us those details on every outing. Participants are responsible for themselves and their belongings.

**General**: We try to schedule comfort stops at a convenient time and place, but it is not always easy to do this for a large coach. Apart from the initial outbound departure time, most other times are approximate. We cannot predict traffic hold-ups or bad weather, both of which may affect our arrival and final departure