



The Royal Automobile Club

Join the Club



Welcome

Thank you for your interest in joining the Royal Automobile Club.

As one of the foremost private members' clubs in the world, we aim to provide our members and their guests with first-class service and high quality accommodation, dining, sports and leisure facilities.

Whether you are looking for a place to enjoy a leisurely afternoon tea, a cocktail, a fine-dining experience, a brasserie style meal, a light bite or a gastropub atmosphere, the clubhouses offer a wide range of restaurants, bars and lounges.

Both clubhouses offer a variety of accommodation, with 108 rooms, ranging from singles to suites, at Pall Mall and 22 at Woodcote Park.

With two 18-hole golf courses, modern well-equipped gymnasiums, weekly classes, squash and tennis, stunning swimming pools, Turkish Baths and treatment rooms, there are sports and recreation facilities to suit everyone.

In addition, the Club holds over 250 events a year for members and our Activity Groups – ranging from backgammon to bridge, choir to cycling and skiing to sub aqua – hold a further 500 events, meetings and matches, so there are plenty of opportunities to make new friends and learn new skills.

It is our aim to provide every member with an outstanding experience at the Royal Automobile Club. We hope you will decide to apply to join us and our Membership Team would be delighted to help with any queries you may have.





PALL MALL

The Pall Mall clubhouse is one of the world's finest, offering an unrivalled range of services to Club members.

Dubbed 'The Palace in Pall Mall' when it opened, the clubhouse is a vast and beautiful haven from the bustle of the city streets.

It was designed by architects Mewès and Davis and is a masterpiece, incorporating stately French public spaces that lead into restrained neoclassical English rooms, all sitting above the splendour of the marble swimming pool and Turkish Baths.



Restaurants, Bars and Lounges

The Great Gallery *(shown on page 2)*

One of the finest dining rooms in London, the menu in the Great Gallery includes a selection of healthy dishes alongside signature and seasonal plates – all served in the style you would expect in such a stunning location. The restaurant has recently been restored, enhancing the grandeur of its iconic classical interior.

The Minstrel's Gallery

With stunning views across the Great Gallery, the Minstrel's Gallery is a semi-private dining room ideal for parties of up to 12 guests.

The Brooklands Room *(shown right)*

The Brooklands Room is a brasserie-style dining destination offering breakfast, brunch, lunch, afternoon tea and dinner seven days a week. Whether you are looking for a quick pre-theatre meal, an informal lunch or family dinner, the Brooklands Room is the ideal venue.



The Cocktail Bar *(shown above)*

Overlooking Pall Mall, the Cocktail Bar is the place to meet for the perfect Martini or refreshing champagne cocktail before dinner or a show, and an ideal spot for a digestif after dining at the Club. Try the signature cocktails, peruse our extensive gin menu or chat to the skilled bar staff – they are always keen to take requests.

The Drawing Room

Bright, airy and overlooking Pall Mall, the Drawing Room is an understated, comfortable space where members and guests can relax over a light meal or drink. It is ideal for catching up with friends or stealing a quiet half hour between meetings or shopping.

The Long Bar

Linked to the sports area and Club Room, the Long Bar is a traditional bar where you can sample some of the finest ales in town in an inviting and relaxed environment. Enjoy a daily buffet selection of freshly prepared seasonal dishes, carved meats and salads. A menu for light snacks and sandwiches is also available.

The Club Room *(shown below)*

The stately yet relaxing Club Room boasts original features, plush sofas and an outdoor terrace area. Settle into an armchair and relax with the daily paper, or challenge your friends to a game of backgammon, bridge or chess. You can also enjoy a selection of salads, sandwiches and pastries or a traditional afternoon tea.





Accommodation

Pall Mall offers 108 rooms, from singles to suites. Each room boasts elegant furnishings and all the modern comforts for a pleasant stay.

Included in your visit is use of the gym and swimming pool and breakfast in the Brooklands Room.

Whether in London for business, to enjoy the sights or for the nightlife of the West End, just a few minutes' walk away, Pall Mall is an oasis for a restful night's sleep.



Sports and Wellbeing

Pall Mall is renowned for its swimming pool, turning an early morning dip into an unforgettable experience.

The squash courts, gym and studio classes all provide ways to relax and shape up. In particular, the yoga and Pilates studio offers class-based and one-to-one training.

Specialist sports masseuses and therapists can treat injuries, or you can turn to the Club's beauty therapists for facials, treatments and manicures.



Swimming

The Club's iconic swimming pool at Pall Mall was restored in 2015, retaining its original mosaics and marble columns. It is 26.3 metres long, ranges in depth from 1 to 2.3 metres and is heated to a temperature of 28°C.

Squash

Squash has been an important activity at the Pall Mall clubhouse for more than 100 years. Today, squash is one of the leading activities at both clubhouses. Pall Mall has four squash courts, including a doubles court.

The Gym

The gym is fully fitted out with Technogym equipment which is easily tailored to accommodate a wide variety of workouts. It has an extensive range of cardio and resistance equipment alongside a team of fully qualified personal trainers and fitness professionals. One-to-one training sessions are available, as are gym inductions to help you start your fitness journey.



Treatment Rooms

The treatment suite offers a selection of grooming and beauty treatments for both men and women, including manicures and pedicures, facials, waxing and body treatments. Sports massage therapies are also readily available. So, whether you are looking to treat an existing sporting injury or simply relax with a facial or massage, the Club's therapists are on hand to help.



The Turkish Baths

The Club's Turkish Baths are a special experience. Move freely between the five rooms, each with varying degrees of heat and humidity. Follow with a dip in the cold plunge pool and then, if desired, a full body wash and massage and, finally, a period of relaxation in a cooling room.



Banqueting and Private Dining

The Pall Mall clubhouse provides a beautiful West End setting ideal for holding meetings and conferences, throwing parties, or celebrating a special occasion. With stunning décor, fine art and a motoring heritage, the clubhouse provides the perfect backdrop for entertaining your guests.

The St James's Room

Overlooking Pall Mall and situated on the first floor, the St James's Room is a medium-sized banqueting room featuring the most modern décor of the Pall Mall banqueting rooms.

The Mountbatten Room *(shown below)*

The largest of Pall Mall's private rooms, catering up to 210 diners or a reception for 450 people, the stately Mountbatten Room is a spacious venue for weddings, conferences, drinks receptions and banquets.

The Mall Room

The Mall Room's pleasant southerly aspect and long windows make it among the lightest and quietest of the Club's banqueting rooms. Located on the first floor, this welcoming space is predominantly used for medium-sized meetings, dinners and drinks receptions.

The Small Mall Room

The most intimate of Pall Mall's banqueting rooms looks out over the Club Room's attractive terrace and gardens from the first floor.





The Terrace Room *(shown above)*

With classic French doors opening directly onto a private terrace, the Terrace Room is the most popular space for summer gatherings, dinners or drinks receptions.

The Committee Room *(shown below)*

Situated on the first floor and featuring a classic club interior, the Committee Room is a popular choice for medium-sized dinners, parties and meetings.



The Segrave Room *(shown above)*

Overlooking the bustle of Pall Mall, the Segrave Room is a medium-sized room adorned with much of the Club's motoring memorabilia, trophies and artwork.

It is named after Sir Henry Segrave: First World War fighter pilot, Grand Prix winning driver and holder of both the land and water world speed records.

Other Members' Facilities

The Simms Centre

Pall Mall's business centre provides members with a complete range of business facilities including complimentary hot desks and a range of meeting rooms to accommodate between two and 14 people.



Snooker and Billiards

Pall Mall benefits from exceptional, full-sized snooker tables with regular men's and ladies' competitions, ladders and social evenings throughout the year. All standards of play are welcome.

Barber Shop and Hairdressing

A choice of traditional or contemporary hairdressing for ladies and gentlemen is available on the lower ground floor at Pall Mall.

The Library

The Library is one of the best resourced motoring libraries in the country, where external researchers are also welcome by prior appointment with Library staff. The majority of books are available for members to borrow.



The Club's Concierge

The Club's concierge team is on hand to provide expert assistance with theatre, sports and concert tickets, gift shopping, car services and restaurant recommendations and reservations. They can also assist with arranging private tours and trips around London and further afield.

WOODCOTE PARK

Set in 350 acres of Surrey countryside, Woodcote Park features two 18-hole downland golf courses, squash and tennis courts, a modern gym, indoor swimming pool, family activities, treatment rooms, restaurants, bars and accommodation.

Whatever your age, it is at Woodcote Park that you will find the space and relaxing atmosphere to help you unwind amongst the beautiful countryside of the Epsom Downs.



Restaurants, Bars and Lounges

The 19th Hole *(shown right)*

The 19th Hole welcomes golfers and non-golfers alike, offering a full breakfast menu, a selection of hot and cold lunchtime snacks and an à la carte dinner menu.

Spike Bar and Terrace

Open from April until October, the Spike Bar and Terrace offers a menu of light bites and is an ideal venue for a refreshing drink in the sunshine.

The Fountain Brasserie *(shown below)*

The Fountain Brasserie is a lively and contemporary dining space at the heart of Woodcote Park. With an outdoor terrace, it is also the perfect spot for summer al fresco dining. The menu has a strong focus on fresh, sustainable and locally sourced British produce and has been designed with an emphasis on simple, classic brasserie dishes. A children's menu is available for our younger diners.

The Vault

Enjoy a private dining experience in The Vault at the Fountain Brasserie. Originally the cellar, the room has been transformed into an exquisite dining space for up to eight people.

The Cedar Room

Woodcote Park's popular buffet-style Sunday lunch is an event in itself. Sit down with all the family and tuck into succulent roast beef and all the trimmings. Always popular, reservations are essential.

The Lounge

Comfortable, relaxed and with views over the grounds, the Lounge at Woodcote Park has a full bar and a light daytime menu offering snacks, sandwiches, salads and afternoon tea.





The Hurricane Bar

The Hurricane Bar also has a full bar and a light daytime menu offering snacks, sandwiches, salads and afternoon tea.

Stirling's *(shown left)*

Stirling's is a destination restaurant and cocktail bar, inspired by the life and tastes of racing legend Sir Stirling Moss OBE. The Club's Executive Head Chef worked with Sir Stirling to develop dishes inspired by his favourite destinations, such as Monaco.

Accommodation

The clubhouse offers 22 unique bedrooms, each individually designed. Many of the rooms have interconnecting doors so that families can easily be accommodated.

With a wide range of facilities on site, walking and cycling routes on the doorstep and many fascinating places to visit nearby, Woodcote Park is the ideal location for a break with friends or family.



Sports and Wellbeing

Gym

The state-of-the-art gym looks out onto the stunning grounds and is equipped with the latest Technogym equipment. Your trainer will assess your current fitness levels, discuss your training goals and create a bespoke training programme for you. The gym team is also available to offer health and lifestyle advice, regular programme updates and one-to-one personal training.

Treatments

The treatment suites offer a wide selection of grooming and beauty treatments for both men and women, including manicures and pedicures, facials, waxing and body treatments. A range of complimentary therapies are also available, including consultations and treatments from a sports massage therapist.

Fitness Studio

The Club offers a wide range of classes that cater for varying fitness levels and training goals. From traditional Pilates and yoga to innovative HIIT circuit classes and Studio Cycle, there is something for everyone.





Swimming Pool

The attractive glass-fronted 30-metre pool can be enjoyed for both fitness and relaxation. Following a swim, ladies can enjoy time in the steam room and men can head to the sauna located in the changing room. Ideal for those in training or for some family fun, the pool's weekly timetable includes adult-only, open and aqua aerobics sessions.

Tennis

Woodcote Park has six outdoor floodlit courts and the Club runs social tennis, leagues, an annual Club tournament and fixtures against other clubs. The Club has two professional tennis coaches available for individual and group coaching sessions.

Squash

Cedars Sports boasts two singles and two doubles squash courts. Currently ten singles leagues and five doubles leagues are run at Woodcote Park. In addition, Woodcote Park holds an annual squash tournament, and members also take part in external fixtures and leagues.

Snooker and Billiards

The main clubhouse at Woodcote Park has two tables for use by members and their guests. Singles and doubles knockout competitions and matches against other clubs take place throughout the year, as well as a range of other social occasions.





Golf

With two exceptional downland 18-hole golf courses in the beautiful surroundings of the Epsom Downs, Woodcote Park offers members and their guests the perfect golfing experience.

Sweeping up towards Epsom Racecourse, the tree-lined grounds make for a dramatic backdrop to a round of golf at any time of the year. Members' golf groups and societies are welcome and golf pass holders have access to a host of benefits.

Coaching

All levels of golfers can benefit from the first-class coaching and training facilities available at the Club.

Our PGA qualified professionals will help take your game to the next level, with both group and individual lessons available for adults and juniors seven days a week. Using the latest video technology, our professionals will work with you to analyse your game and develop your skills and expertise.



Walking and Cycling

Woodcote Park is a gateway to some of the most beautiful countryside in the South East. It neighbours the 600-acre Epsom Downs and is only a short distance from the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Nearby Headley Heath also has a wide network of tracks and is a Site of Special Scientific Interest with a rich variety of wildlife.

A number of walking and cycling routes from the clubhouse are available, ranging from short strolls for families to day-long walking and cycling routes – or there are many opportunities to plan your own route.



Banqueting and Private Dining

Whether you are looking to host a board meeting, wedding or birthday party, Woodcote Park has a range of banqueting rooms to suit any occasion.

The Library *(shown right)*

Fine, old leather-bound volumes line this classic private dining room, boasting pleasant views over the estate.

The Cedar Room and Lawn *(shown below)*

The largest of Woodcote Park's private rooms is surrounded on two sides by French windows, opening onto the Cedar Lawn. The Cedar Room boasts diverse room configuration options, with several room partition choices and marquee hire available on the Cedar Lawn to increase entertainment space.



The Derby Room *(shown above)*

A versatile room with stunning views across the golf courses towards the famous Epsom Downs Racecourse, the Derby Room is ideal for dinners, lunches and meetings.

The Oaks Room

The Oaks Room boasts fine views over the expansive Woodcote Park golf courses. This charming corner room is perfect for smaller gatherings or business meetings.



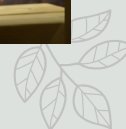




The Woodland

The 12-acre woodland behind the clubhouse at Woodcote Park provides an exciting space for members to enjoy some fresh air with their families and friends, of all ages, throughout the year.

The network of paths joins children's zones, biodiversity areas and spaces for picnics while the woodland itself has been restored to provide areas to explore, play and rest.





The Walled Garden

The Club now has facilities designed specifically for children and their families.

With walls enclosing a space of some 12,000 square metres, the Walled Garden has been developed into an exciting, safe and welcoming environment with a range of facilities aimed primarily at pre-teens and their families – including a children's swimming pool and a variety of play areas.

With such a large area available within the Walled Garden, many activities will take place outdoors. The outdoor play equipment is divided into distinct areas for different age groups and the two 'Multi-Use Games Areas' (MUGAs) provide surfaces suitable for junior sports such as football, basketball and tennis, whether in organised sessions or for informal play.

Open throughout the year, it is also the venue for a programme of activities such as sports lessons, holiday camps and birthday parties.





MOTORING

When the Club was awarded its royal title by King Edward VII, it sealed the Club's status as the nation's oldest and most influential motoring organisation, where the early years were focused on promoting the motor car and its place in society.

Today the focus has shifted towards the membership, with a flourishing range of activities now being offered including automotive factory tours, motoring dinners at both clubhouses, participation in world-class concours events and drive-ins to Woodcote Park.

The extensive choice of member events during the year includes the Annual Motoring Dinner, Le Mans Dinner and London Motor Week Dinner, with guests including some of the highest profile leaders from the automotive and motorsport industries. The Club also recognises landmark achievements and anniversaries from the motoring world with bespoke celebration dinners.

The Club's motoring year reaches a crescendo at the end of October and beginning of November as London Motor Week takes centre stage. It is a diverse, week-long series of events and functions, including lectures, dinners and awards for members, guests and the wider motoring community, reflecting the Club's broad passion for motoring. The highlights of the week are the Regent Street Motor Show and the London to Brighton Veteran Car Run.

Within motoring there is also a growing range of events and activities for the motorcyclist, including ride-outs, hospitality at motorcycling championships and riding experiences both on and off road.

An eclectic range of vehicles adorns the rotunda at the Pall Mall clubhouse throughout the year, providing a special welcome for members and their guests as they arrive.

At Woodcote Park, the Old Barn has undergone award-winning restoration and has been transformed into the fabulous Motor House, which houses the Club's heritage fleet and an accompanying modern workshop to service it. A 1950s-style garage display has been created as a backdrop to one of Sir Stirling Moss's cars while exhibits and displays tracking the motoring history of the Club are displayed throughout the building. The Motor House has now also become a venue in which the Club hosts a number of its events, such as watching several Formula 1 races during the season.

Outside of member activities, the Club continues to develop and support automobilism through representation on the Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA), Motorsport UK and RAC Foundation.

The Club also awards a series of prestigious historic trophies and medals celebrating motoring achievements, including the Segrave Trophy, the Tourist Trophy, the Simms Medal, the Motoring Book of the Year, the Dewar Trophy, the Torrens Trophy and the Club's recently launched Historic Motoring Awards.



Events

One of the highlights of Club membership is the wide range of social activities and the extensive calendar of events for members to enjoy. There is something for everyone.

Over 250 events are held each year across both clubhouses – ranging from annual favourites such as Derby Day, the Midsummer Drive-In and the November fireworks, to exclusive musical performances, visits and lunches and dinners with inspiring guest speakers.

The programme includes events specifically for Young Members (aged 18-40) and children's events.



Activities

The Club has a variety of busy Activity Groups, providing members with many opportunities to learn new skills, refresh games played in years gone by, or refine and improve their talents through classes and coaching, including:

Backgammon	Golf
Book Club	Photography
Bridge	Running
Chess	Skiing
Choir	Snooker/Billiards
Cricket	Squash
Cycling	Sub Aqua
Film	Swimming
Gardening	Tennis

The Activity Groups cater for all levels and there is room for both social elements and serious competition, whether internally or against other clubs.



Junior and Woodcote Junior Members

The Club offers two types of junior membership for the children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews of existing members.

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- Woodcote Junior (0 to 12 years)
 - Junior (13 to 17 years)
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Children of all ages are very welcome at Woodcote Park while Pall Mall is generally more suited to older children.

Woodcote Junior and Junior Members can take part in a wide range of activities and events according to their age. At Woodcote Park these include coaching in sports such as swimming, tennis, squash and golf. They also enjoy free access to the swimming pool during family swim times and free or discounted golf.

The full-day programmes held during school holidays are particularly popular and Woodcote Juniors receive priority booking and discounted prices. When it opens, Woodcote Juniors will also enjoy free of charge use of the Walled Garden and its facilities.

Throughout the year, a wide range of special events are organised for Woodcote Junior members, from Christmas shows and a Halloween Party to meeting animals and decorating Easter eggs.



Reciprocal Clubs

Membership of the Club provides you with access to over 80 private members' clubs around the world. Whether you are travelling for business or pleasure, take advantage of this network of carefully selected clubs which offer a variety of facilities and services to suit your needs.



History of the Club

The Automobile Club of Great Britain, and later Ireland, was established by Frederick Simms in July 1897, to promote the automobile in society and to champion the interests of motorists, at a time when mechanical vehicles not propelled by horses were met with fear by the public.



In 1907 King Edward VII decreed that the Club be henceforth known as 'The Royal Automobile Club'. The Club's achievements on behalf of automobilism had already been considerable: in 1899 it had staged one of the first motor shows, in Richmond, and, in 1900, it had organised the 1,000 Mile Trial, with vehicles touring the country to market the automobile as a reliable means of transport.

The Club successfully campaigned for increased speed limits, vehicle registration and basic driving tests and, between 1908 and 1912, touring, legal and insurance services were introduced to aid the motorist.

In 1911, a grand, new, state-of-the-art clubhouse was opened at 89 Pall Mall and in 1913 Woodcote Park was purchased as a country clubhouse where large car gatherings and golf could take place.

The Club was also the birthplace of motorsport in the UK. In 1926, it organised the first British Grand Prix (at Brooklands) and, in 1950, the first Grand Prix at Silverstone.

However, the most famous motoring event in the Club's history is the annual London to Brighton Veteran Car Run, which the Club has organised since 1930. It still takes place on the first Sunday in November every year.

In 1999, the Club's Motoring Services division was sold, including the breakdown services.

As the oldest motoring club in the United Kingdom we enjoy celebrating our heritage whilst looking towards future developments, just as our pioneering members did.

Applying for Membership

Thank you for your interest in joining the Royal Automobile Club. If you have any questions about the application process, or any other aspect of the Club, please do not hesitate to contact our Membership Team at members@royalautomobileclub.co.uk or on 01372 229600 (9.00am to 5.00pm, Monday to Friday).

Application form

If you would like to apply for membership, please complete the online form in the membership section of the Club website.

Age

To apply for Full Membership of the Club, you will need to be 18 years of age or above.

Process

Our preferred process is for applicants to be proposed and seconded by two existing Full Members, who have been members of the Club for at least one year. However, if you do not know two existing members, please contact our Membership Team who will be able to advise you on how else you can apply.

Entrance and annual fees

A summary of current fees can be viewed in the Membership area of the Club's website. Full details will be provided with the application form or can be obtained from the Membership Team.

The waiting list

Once we receive a fully completed application you will be placed on the waiting list. The waiting list can fluctuate and the current length of this can be found on the Club's website. The waiting list will be shorter if you are the son, daughter, spouse or civil partner of an existing member. Once your application reaches the top of the waiting list, it will be reviewed by our Elections Committee, who may invite you in for a short meeting to discuss your application.

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Junior and Woodcote Junior Membership

Existing Full Members seeking Junior or Woodcote Junior membership for their children, grandchildren, nieces or nephews should download the relevant form from the Club website or contact the Membership Team.



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