

## LEEDS CASTLE GROUNDS AND CASTLE TRAIL

Welcome to Leeds Castle, we hope you enjoy your visit, and that this trail will help you get the best from your day. We suggest that you split into 3 groups and follow the timetable below, allowing 30 minutes for the Castle, 30 minutes for the Grounds, 45 minutes for the Maze and playground and 15 minutes for the Dog Collar Museum

Group A	Group B	Group C
Castle	Dog Collar Museum	Maze & Play Area
Dog Collar Museum	Grounds	Castle
Grounds	Maze & Play Area	Dog Collar Museum
Maze & Play area	Castle	Grounds

### THE GROUNDS

The last owner of Leeds Castle, Lady Baillie, loved birds and wildlife. She had deer and llama roaming in the grounds, as well as many different species of ducks, geese and swans.

1. As you walk round, look for three different birds. Write down their name, where they come from.

A)

B)

C)

### THE DOG COLLAR MUSEUM

2. From which country do the spiked collars originate?

### THE MAZE & GROTTTO

Enjoy the challenge of the Maze and see if you can find your way to the middle. How long did it take you?

## THE CASTLE ISLAND

Before going into the castle look carefully at the Gatehouse

3. Who do you think would have lived here?

A. King & Queen

B. Servants

C. Guards/Soldiers

## THE CASTLE HISTORY

Leeds Castle is over 900 years old and was royally owned from the 13<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> centuries. It was privately owned from the 16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> century. The last owner, Lady Olive Baillie bought it in 1926. The interior that you will see today has been presented as it may have looked like during and after the restoration, she undertook in the 1920s and 1930s.

## INSIDE THE CASTLE

### ENTRANCE HALL

Enter through the large door into the Outer Front hall and turn right into the Library

### THE LIBRARY

This room was once the schoolroom for Lady Baillie's two daughters. When they grew up it was turned into a library – there are now 3,000 books in this room. If it took you a week to read each one it would take 57 years to read them all!

### THE DINING ROOM

If this room is open you may see a large dining table that can seat up to 30 people. This room is also used for weddings and dinners.

### THE SERVANTS QUARTERS

Here you can read about the different people employed during lady Baillie's time here. Above the wood panelling are pictures of the Fairfax family who inherited the castle in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. As you leave this room and go down the Servants Corridor, you are crossing the moat into the Gloriette, the oldest part of the castle.

### THE PRIVATE DINING ROOM

This room was Lady Baillie's private dining room. The fireplace dates from the 16<sup>th</sup> century. What symbols can you see engraved in the stone.

### THE GAMES ROOM

Weekend guests of Lady Baillie would play cards and games in here. You too can play!

### THE PRIVATE WRITING ROOM

Walk through the private writing room until you come to the salon

### THE SALON

Lady Baillie used this room for dancing, and the ebony floor was sprung! Feel free to join in the dancing!

### THE SPIRAL STAIRCASE

This staircase was installed by Lady Baillie to give direct access between to the two floors. How many steps are there?

### LADY BAILLIE'S BOUDOIR

This room was designed for Lady Baillie in the 1960s. The dressing table is covered in sharkskin!

### LADY BAILLIE'S BEDROOM

This room, designed in 1936 follows the French regency style of the 18th century. The Louis Vuitton trunk is a very early one and was just as fashionable then as it is today.

### LADY BAILLIE'S DRESSING ROOM

As you pass through this room, look at the luxurious bathroom on your left. Every bath in the castle has a bell next to it, to ring for a servant to help you get dressed!

### THE BAILLIE ROOM

This room today is a temporary display space. In 1927 it was Lady Baillie's boudoir, and the display shows Lady Baillie's love of birds.

### THE YELLOW BEDROOM

Lady Baillie had this decorated as a guest bedroom, it has an adjoining marble bathroom.

### THE BOARDROOM

If this room is open, have a quick look in. Many important meetings, including some between world leaders, have taken in place in this room.

**MAIN STAIRCASE**

Upstairs, where you can't go today, are the bedrooms that are used by people who visit the castle for meetings, weddings and parties.

**DOWNSTAIRS**

You will now walk through the Yellow Drawing Room, Thorpe Hall Drawing Room and the Inner Hall.

5. Look out for the following, and tick as you find them

Marble Lion	<input type="checkbox"/>	Piano	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wooden panelling	<input type="checkbox"/>
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**YELLOW DRAWING ROOM**

The walls in this room are covered in silk, not wallpaper. The piano is over 150 years old and sometimes played by volunteers.

**THORPE HALL DRAWING ROOM**

The wooden panelling on the walls comes from Thorpe Hall in Cambridgeshire. Lady Baillie bought them in 1928. So the walls are 200 years older than the room.

6. As you leave the room you will see the only portrait of Lady Baillie, with her two daughters, what are their names?

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As you walk back to your coach, take the opportunity to take some photographs as a memory of your visit.

Tick the following as you do.

The Castle	<input type="checkbox"/>	Flowers	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trees	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lake	<input type="checkbox"/>
Birds	<input type="checkbox"/>	A selfie	<input type="checkbox"/>