

West Berkshire Heritage is a service provided by West Berkshire Council committed to safeguarding the local heritage whilst supporting education and encouraging community involvement.



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Shaw House



Shaw_House



shawhouse1581



Company/Shaw House

& Conferences
& Meetings



SHAW HOUSE

Shaw House is one of the best preserved Elizabethan mansions in England.

Over the centuries Shaw House has welcomed royalty, seen action during the Civil War, housed soldiers during World War II and schooled generations of local children.

Little remained of the historic furnishings at the time of restoration, which allows the rooms to be presented with a minimalistic finish – perfect for hosting highly efficient conferences, meetings and seminars.

The surroundings may be steeped in history but the facilities are very much set in the twenty first century with digital and audio visual equipment.

We warmly welcome you to Shaw House.

- Competitive hourly rate
- Inclusive technical facilities
- Free WiFi
- Free parking
- Discrete environment
- 1 hours reach of London, Bristol, Oxford & South Coast



‘We enjoy using Shaw House because it is such a beautiful and unique venue. The service we receive is responsive, efficient and cost effective for the range of meetings we hold there.’

South Central Ambulance Service

A brief history of the House

1581 \

Shaw House was built by Thomas Dolman II. It was then home to successive Dolman families, the flamboyant Duke of Chandos and the Andrews, Eyre and Farquhar families.

1644 \

Shaw House was used as a Royalist strong hold during the English Civil War. It is said that a musket ball was fired at the House, narrowly missing King Charles I.

1939 \

When World War II broke out Shaw House was requisitioned by the War Office to be used as accommodation for British and then American troops.

1943 \

Shaw House began a new life as a school for generations of children after bombs destroyed a local school. The building was then vacated in 1985 due to structural concerns.

2003 \

Restoration began which transformed this historic House into a venue for conferences and events, thanks to grants from the Heritage Lottery Fund, Vodafone and English Heritage.

The House Today \

Shaw House reopened in 2006 and continues to thrive as a unique conference venue as well as offering free public access and a year round programme of events and activities.

Our meeting spaces

If you are looking for a unique location for conferencing, seminars or meetings then Shaw House is the ideal venue to create an inspiring and productive environment.

We have ten stunning rooms, all with their own historic character, plenty of natural daylight and a restful ambience. We can arrange rooms for 2 to 100 delegates depending on your layout specification.

All rooms are equipped with ClickShare, allowing you to connect wirelessly to the projectors and sound system. There are no additional costs for the use of equipment and we provide all the technical support you need to ensure your event runs smoothly.

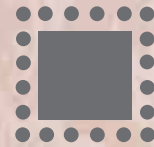
Our rates

Our versatile and flexible approach to room hire ensures that our rates are highly competitive within the local area.

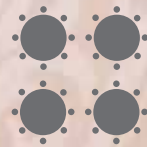
We offer our customers hourly room rates which are inclusive of all technical facilities, without the restrictions of minimum hire periods and the extra expense of delegate day rates.

Room layout options

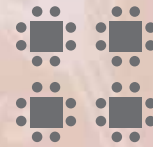
Suitable layouts vary for each room. These are illustrated by the icons below with a guide to maximum numbers on the following pages:



Boardroom



Round groups



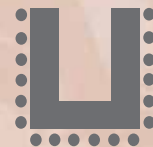
Square groups



Theatre



U of chairs



Horseshoe

‘We thoroughly enjoyed holding our meeting at Shaw House, the room was perfect and the staff were so helpful and came to help with any queries as soon as I called them.’

Vodafone, Newbury



First Floor

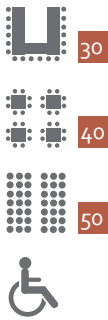


The Dolman Suite

The three rooms across the central range of the first floor form a suite. When Queen Anne stayed at the House in 1703 this suite would have been used as her state apartment where she slept, dressed and welcomed visitors.

Dolman 1

The largest of the suite and is a very versatile and popular space for large meetings, or those that need breakout areas.



Dolman 2

This is the central room of the state apartment and would probably have been Queen Anne's bedchamber during her stay. Being at the centre of the House this room has fantastic views over the forecourt lawn.

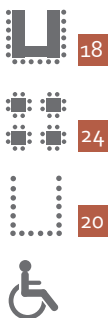
Dolman 2 is a compact room often used as a breakout area. It has beautiful panelled walls and historic fireplace, this room is ideal for smaller and informal meetings.



Dolman 3

The last of the Dolman suite rooms, with original wall panelling finished with reproduction blue wash and a beautiful fireplace.

This is a prestigious, medium-sized option for a meeting or conference.





Farquhar
This room is named after the Honorable Mrs. Farquhar, the owner of Shaw House from 1905–1935. It was used as one of the main chambers, furnished with expensive antique furniture and an oak four poster bed.

Farquhar is an attractive oak-panelled room with magnificent dual aspect views of the Orangery and Great Lawns.



16



King Charles
There is a local legend that in 1644, during the Second Battle of Newbury, a musket ball was fired through the window which narrowly missed King Charles I. A plaque dating back to 1759 can be seen on the wall showing the area where the musket ball is said to have hit the panelling.

King Charles is an oak-panelled room with a bay window and the oldest stone fireplace at Shaw House - it's of a medium size and is a versatile space full of character and history.



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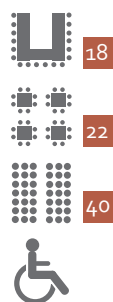
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30



1581 Chamber
Signifying the year that Shaw House was built, the 1581 Chamber would originally have been used as the family room and possible nursery for several generations of the Dolman children.

With panelled walls and historic fireplace, this is an ideal space for medium-sized meetings. Along the corridor you will find the exhibition rooms that can be opened on request for delegates to explore the history of the House.



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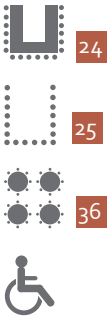
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Ground Floor



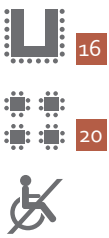
Chandos Dining Room
Originally used as a parlour, this room has been decorated to recreate some of the original splendour of the 'Chinese' Dining Room created here in the 1730's by the Duke of Chandos.

Chandos Dining Room features reproduction silk papers on the walls, natural oak wood floors and a beautiful chandelier and is perfect for group working or seminars.



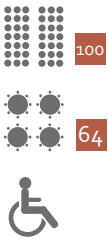
Oak Room
The Oak Room has the most intact 1580's interior in the House. First used as a family dining room and later, during the Edwardian era, known as the Gun Room. With its original features and characterful oak panelling this room is atmospheric and comfortable.

This room is perfect for smaller meetings, training sessions or seminars.



Great Hall
The Hall was symbolic of the status of Shaw House. It would have been at the centre of manorial life and hospitality, providing guests with a grand sense of arrival.

Decorated with panelled walls, a stone floor, and natural lighting through large windows, the Hall is an impressive and prestigious space for larger conferences and meetings.



Pink and Rose Room
This room was home to Mrs. Farquhar's housekeeper. During restoration original 'Pink and Rose' William Morris wallpaper was uncovered and a small sample can still be seen.

This is a small but versatile room with comfortable seating and boardroom table. A wall mounted 65" screen is available.



Looking for something different?

Outdoor areas

Beyond the walls of the House lay the beautiful Orangery and Great Lawns within 15 hectares of Grade II listed grounds. With a mix of grass and hard standing areas the gardens offer ample space for large marquees and performances.

IT Training Room

The Hatten Room compromises work stations, trainer station and interactive smart board. It is the perfect space for computer based learning or computer literacy classes.

Exhibition Rooms

Delegates can learn more about the history of the House in the permanent exhibition on the first floor. Along with an additional exhibition room that is used for a range of changing displays curated by West Berkshire Museum, with varying themes from the English Civil War to the Shaw House School years. The exhibition rooms can be opened on request.

Filming, rehearsing and recording

Shaw House is a stunning location for film projects, music, theatre and dance rehearsals, with excellent acoustics for recording music projects. All enquiries will be considered on application.

West Berkshire Museum

The museum is situated in the centre of the historic market town of Newbury and offers a meeting room for hire which can hold up to 50 people or, if you are looking for a more relaxed setting, the cafe is also available at certain times throughout the week.

For more information or to check availability call 01635 519562 or email museum@westberks.gov.uk



Article from 1888 on display in the exhibition room



Celebrate with us

Wedding drinks receptions

Shaw House is a beautiful place to get married and the Register Office is conveniently located on the second floor of the House. To enquire about wedding ceremonies please contact 01635 279230.

After your ceremony we would be delighted to offer a drinks reception while the happy couple have their photographs taken.

Reception drinks are served in the Chandos Dining Room, which is located on the ground floor close to the Ceremony Room and can host up to 50 guests.

Drinks receptions are available every Saturday throughout the year but must be the last ceremony of the day to guarantee exclusivity. Other days and times will be considered on application.

Bereavement receptions

The quiet and tranquil setting of Shaw House, next to St. Mary's Church, makes for a suitable location to hold a bereavement reception. We can offer a variety of rooms for receptions hosting up to a maximum of 100 guests along with options for afternoon tea, canapes and drinks. Audio-visual equipment is available for sharing remembrance photos or videos.

Private events

Shaw House is available to hire for a variety of bookings ranging from product launches, training and conferences, team building events, classic car tours, wedding fairs or outdoor cinema.

We also have bespoke and flexible raised staging in the Great Hall that is available on request for events and special occasions.



Please contact us for more information about bookings at Shaw House or to arrange a viewing: 01635 279279
shawhouse@westberks.gov.uk

Facilities

All of our rooms are equipped with ClickShare, allowing you to connect wirelessly to the projectors and sound system. There are no additional costs for the use of equipment and we provide all the technical support you need to ensure your event runs smoothly.

- Free WiFi
- Free Parking

Photocopying is available at a small charge, please enquire at reception.

Catering

We can provide tea and coffee for your meeting breaks plus biscuits, pastries or homemade cakes. Our sandwich and finger buffet lunch options are suitable for all budgets and dietary requirements. We are happy to discuss any specific requests.

Your lunch may be served in the cafe which is located in the old Elizabethan kitchen, above the original bakehouse. The enormous fireplace and surviving smoke jack, dating back to 1850, can still be seen. During the warmer months, delegates are welcome to use the picnic tables outside where they can relax and enjoy the lawns.

Gift Shop

The Gift Shop is adjacent to the reception area and stocks Shaw House gifts and locally sourced products.

Accommodation & Visitor Information

If you require overnight accommodation or any information on visiting the local area please visit www.visitnewbury.org.uk.

How to find us

Shaw House is ideally situated in tranquil surroundings on the north edge of Newbury, within an hours' reach of London, Bristol, Oxford and the South Coast, and just five minutes from the M4/A34 junction. Parking is free.

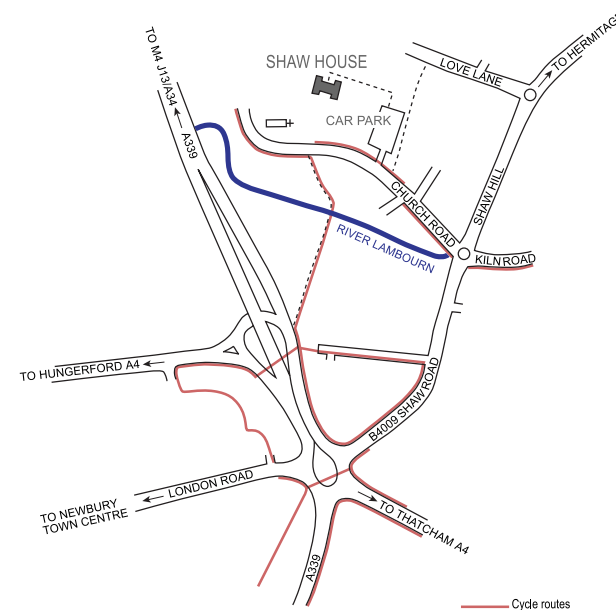
It is also within a leisurely 25 minute walk from Newbury town centre and is accessible by public transport.

How to book

Get in touch to find out about current prices, availability or to arrange a viewing:

01635 279279

shawhouse@westberks.gov.uk



Shaw House, Church Road, Newbury, Berkshire RG14 2DR | www.westberkshireheritage.org

Events

Shaw House is host to a year round programme of events and family activities.

To see what's on visit www.westberkshireheritage.org/whats-on

or, to join our mailing list and receive monthly event listings email shawhouse@westberks.gov.uk

