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- [Lighting Up Kedleston Hall for Diwali 2024](#) - visitors across all communities are warmly invited to join us in celebration of Diwali at Kedleston Hall, the National Trust house near Derby.
- Between 21 October - 10 November. The team of talented staff and volunteers have expanded Diwali celebrations across Kedleston Hall creating a joyful experience of light and togetherness.

This autumn, in celebration of Diwali, there will be a festival of light and colour at Kedleston Hall. Known to many as the 'Festival of Light' Diwali is the most celebrated festival in India. Visitors are invited to immerse themselves in the art and culture of Diwali in the magnificent rooms of the Hall, which has strong historical links to South Asia.

Jennie Lloyd, General Manager at Kedleston Hall explains; "Following the success of last year's celebrations at Kedleston Hall, and as a result of feedback from our local communities, we have widened our Diwali celebrations within the Hall.

The decorations will be spread throughout rooms on the State floor (first floor). We have also explored presenting the house in keeping with Diwali traditionally being a celebration where the whole family come together, with interactive activities which people of all ages can engage with."

- **There will be traditional decorations of hundreds of hand-crafted marigolds** (used for festive occasions in India) in a striking contrast of blue and orange as well as diyas (clay oil lamps) lighting the way throughout the Hall. Rooms will be lit with light projections of rangoli patterns (colourful traditional patterns created on the floor) delivered in conjunction with QUAD.
- **The table in the Dining Room will be set for Diwali celebrations** bringing to life some of the lamps from Kedleston's own Museum collection.
- **Visitors can play traditional oversized board games** in the historic setting of the Saloon.
- **A documentary which demonstrates the making of the vibrant hand-crafted marigolds embellishing the Marble Hall** will be showing in the Billiard Room.

Simran Sandhu, Senior Programming and Partnerships Officer at Kedleston Hall elaborates, "Diwali is traditionally a celebration for the whole family. Families play games, light up their homes and exchange presents.

This year at Kedleston we are including this element of family fun by including board games to play in the Hall. One of our talented volunteers has created bespoke wood crafted versions of Snakes and Ladders (Moksha Patam) and Ludo (Pachisi) - both of which originated in ancient India."

During the festivities, visitors can also experience live music events. On Friday 25 October, there will be a live music compilation of the traditional Indian flute (played by Shubham Tageja) and the Indian Tabla (played by Mendi Singh). On Saturday 9 November, visitors can experience live fusion music featuring the Indian Tabla (Indian drums) and Harp by Tāla Tarang (meaning Rhythm Waves).

Everyone is welcome to this celebration of Diwali at Kedleston Hall which is free to members, admission charges apply to non-members

Diwali programming runs from 21 October – 10 November. The House at Kedleston Hall is open every day throughout Diwali celebrations between, 11am - 4pm (last entry 3.15pm). For further information and opening times, please visit

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/kedleston-hall

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Image 1: The Marble Hall at Kedleston Hall decorated with a rangoli formed of hand-crafted sholapith marigolds.

Credit: National Trust Images/Karthi Abrey

Image 2: Caesar's Hall at Kedleston Hall with hand-crafted yarn marigolds and lighting by QUAD.

Credit: National Trust Images/Stephen Franklin

Image 2: The Library at Kedleston Hall with decorated diyas

Credit: National Trust Images/Stephen Franklin

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Notes for Editors:

About Kedleston Hall

Kedleston Hall was designed not just as a family house, but also to be a show palace for lavish entertaining and for displaying extensive collections of paintings, sculpture and original furnishings. Kedleston is a stunning example of the work of the 18th-century architect Robert Adam. Kedleston is surrounded by over 800 acres of naturalistic parkland including a lake, cascades and original Adam features. The parkland is full of wildlife, woodlands and walks for all to enjoy. The Curzon family have lived here since the 12th century and continue to live at the Hall.

About the Museum

Kedleston Hall has over one thousand objects from across the Asian continent. This collection was brought together by George Nathaniel Curzon, 1st Marquess Curzon of Kedleston (1859-1925) who inherited the Hall in 1916. Curzon travelled extensively across Asia and in 1899 became the Viceroy of India, making him the highest British representative in colonial India.

Once known as the 'Indian Museum' and later the 'Eastern Museum', the collection includes objects from countries as diverse as Japan and Turkey, Korea and Nepal. The largest group of objects originate from India, and reflect the period when Curzon was Viceroy (1899-1905). The collection ranges from tourist souvenirs to diplomatic gifts, commissioned pieces and personal items.

The museum at Kedleston was established in 1927 in collaboration with the Victoria and Albert Museum in London. The mode of display and the labelling reflect the period in which it was created.

Research is now underway to conserve and inform a re-presentation of the objects. There are many things we do not know about this collection, numerous questions to be answered and stories to unravel. How and where Curzon acquired the objects is one important question. So too, is their cultural, religious, and artistic significance. Over the coming months, different partners will help us re-present objects selected from the museum. By shining a light on small groups of objects we hope to explore different stories, spark conversations, and uncover new connections.

About the National Trust

The National Trust is an independent conservation charity founded in 1895 by three people: Octavia Hill, Sir Robert Hunter and Hardwicke Rawnsley, who saw the importance of the nation's heritage and open spaces and wanted to preserve them for everyone to enjoy. Today, across England, Wales and Northern Ireland, we continue to look after places so people and nature can thrive.

We care for more than 250,000 hectares of countryside, 780 miles of coastline, 1 million collection items and 500 historic properties, gardens and nature reserves. In 2023/24 we received 25.3 million visitors to our pay for entry sites. The National Trust is for everyone - we were founded for the benefit of the whole nation, and our 5.38 million members, funders and donors, and tens of thousands of volunteers support our work to care for nature, beauty, history for everyone, for ever.