

Summer in Kensington



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HIGH STREET KEN.

SOUTH KEN CULTURE QUARTER

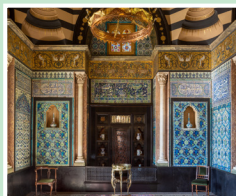
EXPLORE CULTURE IN KENSINGTON

1. LEIGHTON HOUSE

Step inside the colourful studio-home of Victorian artist Frederic Leighton, featuring the dazzling Arab Hall.

- **Current Exhibition:** The Arab Hall: Past and Present, until 4 October 2026

For more info, visit www.rbkc.gov.uk/museums/leighton-house



2. THE DESIGN MUSEUM

© Rob Harris for the Design Museum

Explore cutting-edge design from fashion to architecture at the award-winning Design Museum.

- **Wes Anderson: The Archives**, extended until 16 August 2026
- **NIGO: From Japan with Love**, until 4 October 2026
- **PLATFORM: Simone Brewster** (free display), until January 2027
- **Tools for Transition** (free display), until August 2026
- **Design Researchers in Residence: Mineral** (free display), from 13 June – 20 September 2026
- **Designer Maker User**, free permanent collection

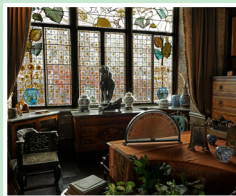
For more info, visit www.designmuseum.org



3. SAMBOURNE HOUSE

Discover the 'House Beautiful' interiors of illustrator Linley Sambourne, packed with Victorian charm.

For more info, visit www.rbkc.gov.uk/museums/sambourne-house



4. JAPAN HOUSE LONDON

Experience the very best of Japanese art, design and innovation at the cultural home of Japan in the UK.

- **Kyotographie: Kawada Kikuji x Iwane Ai** (free exhibition), until October 2026

For more info, visit www.japanhouselondon.uk



5. KENSINGTON PALACE

Explore the birthplace of Queen Victoria and home to young royals for over 300 years.

- **The Last Princesses of Punjab**, until 8 November 2026

For more info, visit www.hrp.org.uk/kensington-palace



6. SERPENTINE SOUTH

A leading contemporary gallery with free art exhibitions year-round and the iconic annual architecture commission the Serpentine Pavilion.

- **Serpentine Pavilion 2026. LANZA atelier: a serpentine**, 6 June – 25 October 2026
- **Cecily Brown: Picture Making**, until 6 September 2026

For more info, visit www.serpentinegalleries.org



7. SERPENTINE NORTH

Visit the free contemporary gallery in a former gunpowder store, plus a sleek Zaha Hadid designed café.

- **David Hockney: A Year in Normandie and Some Other Thoughts about Painting**, until 23 August 2026

For more info, visit www.serpentinegalleries.org



A Year in Normandie (detail), 2020–2021, composite iPad painting © David Hockney

8. HYDE PARK

Stroll, row, cycle, or hit the courts in London's famous green space.

- **BST Hyde Park**, 27 June – 11 July
- **Boating on The Serpentine**, daily until 31 October
- **The Courts at Hyde Park**, open daily

For more info, visit www.royalpark.org.uk/visit/parks/hyde-park



9. ROYAL ALBERT HALL

From ballet to blockbusters, comedy to classical, we have something for everyone.

- **BBC Proms**, 17 July – 12 September
- **Royal Albert Hall Tour**, most days
- **Café Bar, Afternoon Tea and Verdi Italian Kitchen**, open to the public daily

For more info, visit www.royalalberthall.com



10. KENSINGTON GARDENS

Stroll through tree-lined paths, flower walks, grand vistas and cultural landmarks, including the Albert Memorial, the Italian Gardens and Kensington Palace.

- **Hidden Stories of Kensington Gardens Walking Tour**, held monthly

For more info, visit www.royalpark.org.uk/visit/parks/kensington-gardens



Discover a vibrant mix of events and activities that bring Kensington to life over the summer. From inspiring exhibitions to tucked away gardens and unexpected local gems, there's always something new waiting to be explored.

11. ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC MUSEUM

Explore, hear and interact with more than 500 years of music-making at the RCM Museum.

- **Current free exhibition:** Shared Airs: The Thriving Folk Musics of These Islands, until 25 October

For more info, visit www.rcm.ac.uk/museum



12. OPERA HOLLAND PARK

Opera Holland Park Theatre is a canopied open-air auditorium in the gorgeous gardens in Holland Park. Enjoy wonderful opera and events throughout their summer festival.

For more info, visit www.operahollandpark.com



★ ROOTED IN KENSINGTON AUDIO TOUR

Explore Kensington's parks, botanical spaces and architecture through a self-guided audio tour. Discover how history, biodiversity and community projects are shaping one of London's most vibrant neighbourhoods.

For more info, visit www.highstreetkensington.co.uk/audiotours/



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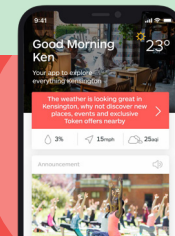
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SOUTH KEN CULTURE QUARTER:

With many cultural venues within walking distance, plan a great day out this summer with exhibitions, events, music, films and more on our website www.southkenculturequarter.com