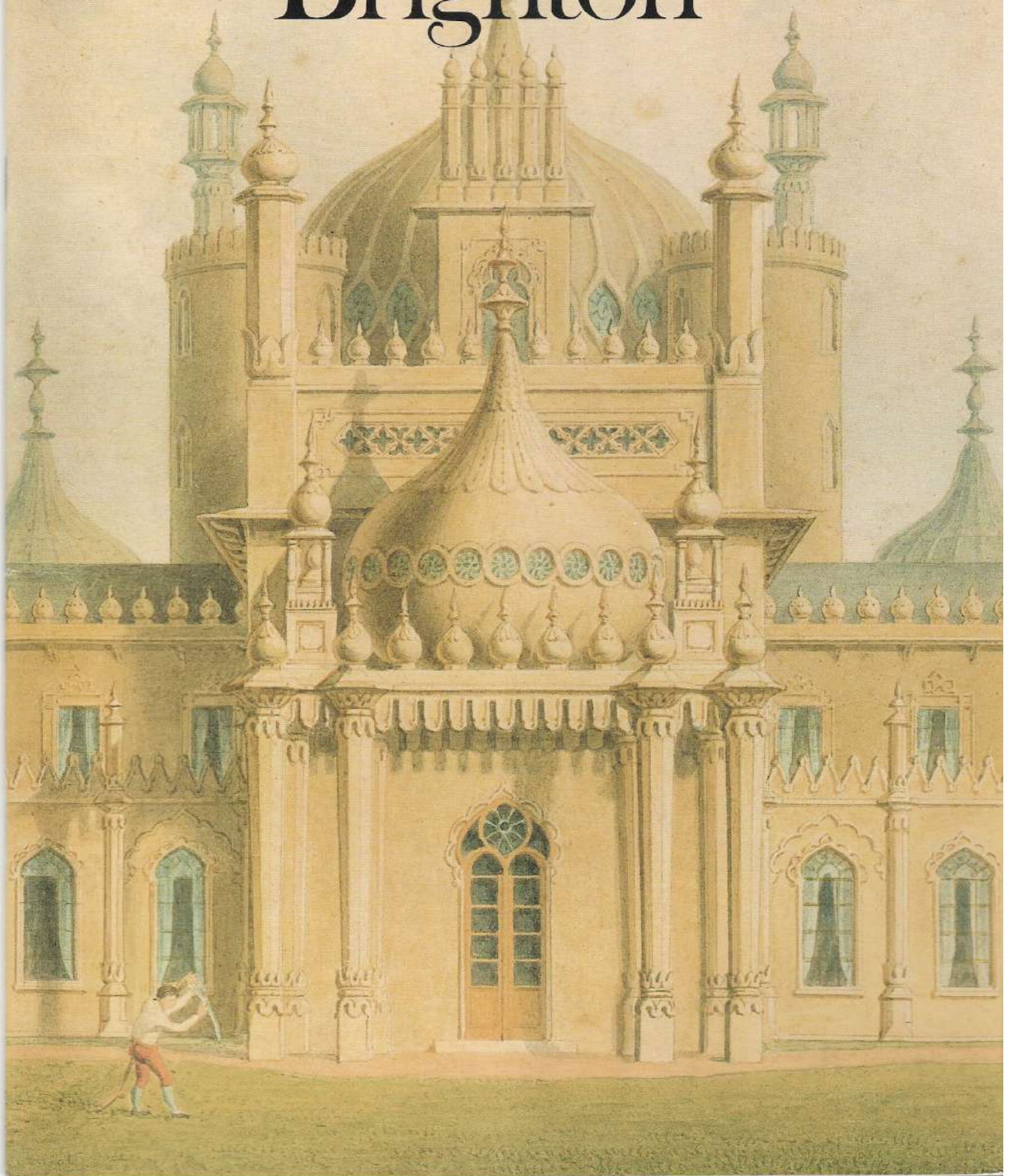
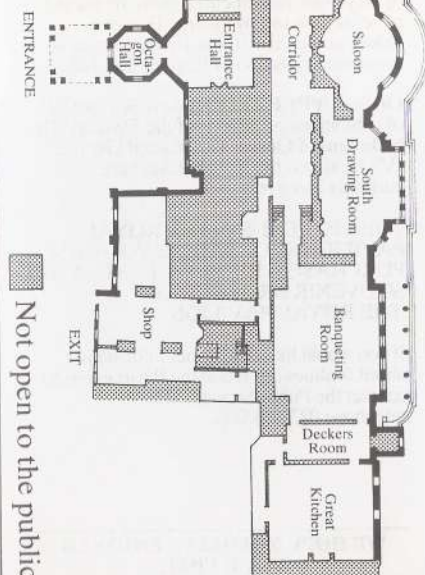


# The Royal Pavilion Brighton



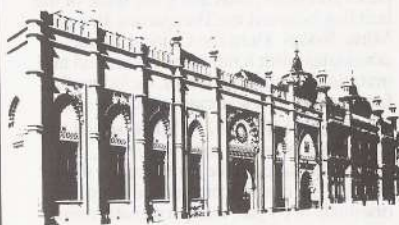


# GROUND FLOOR PLAN



## Why Not Also Visit?

### Brighton Museum and Art Gallery



This attractive Museum was opened in 1873 on the site of Queen Adelaide's stables. There are important displays of Art Nouveau and Art Deco furniture and decorative art as well as ...an award winning Fashion Gallery; old master and modern paintings; Sussex archaeology; the famous Willet Collection of pottery and porcelain ...and much much more.

The Museum is just around the corner from the Royal Pavilion in Church Street and admission is **FREE**.

Open: Tues-Sat 10.00am-5.45pm Sun 2.00-5.00pm  
Closed Mondays (except Bank Holidays)  
25th & 26th Dec, 1st Jan, Good Friday.  
(Opening times may vary please telephone for more information).

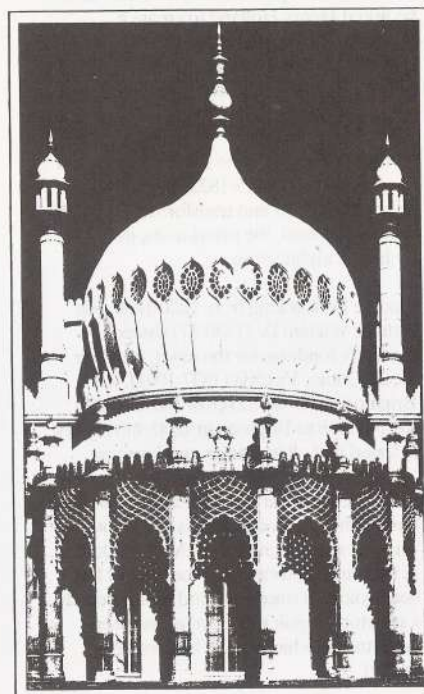


**BRIGHTON**

THE ROYAL PAVILION,  
ART GALLERY AND MUSEUMS  
BRIGHTON BN1 1UE

FAX: 0273 779108  
TELEPHONE: 0273 603005

## Welcome to The Royal Pavilion



### Visitors Guide

## The History

The Royal Pavilion began life as little more than a 'modest farmhouse' which George, Prince of Wales rented when he first began visiting Brighton in 1783. He enjoyed the informal atmosphere of the town and in 1787 he asked Henry Holland to create a classically styled villa on the site. This was known as the Marine Pavilion. From 1802 the interiors were decorated in the Chinese taste.

In 1811 George became Prince Regent and soon after this in 1815-1822, John Nash enlarged the villa and transformed it into the present Pavilion, the exterior inspired by Indian architecture.

George IV was king from 1820-1830. His brother William IV (1830-37) shared George's fondness for the town, but their niece, Queen Victoria (1837-1901), felt Brighton to be 'far too crowded' and sold the Pavilion to Brighton in 1850, having first stripped it of all its fittings and furniture.

Since then original furniture and decorations have been returned (exhibits include items on permanent loan from H.M. The Queen). A thorough restoration of the interior has been going on since 1948 and more recently a structural repair programme has been undertaken, which should be completed in 1991-2.

## The Tour

You enter via the tent-shaped **OCTAGON HALL** and then walk through the **ENTRANCE HALL** with its cool green walls and painted windows to reach **THE CORRIDOR**. This room, with its bright pinks and blues, runs along the spine of the building between the Banqueting Room and Music Room. Here the Chinese theme dominates, with a mixture of both real and imitation bamboo furniture, including the famous cast-iron staircases at each end.

The **BANQUETING ROOM**, added by John Nash, was designed to be as spectacular as possible for George's dinner guests. The magnificent central lamp, originally lit by gas, is approximately nine metres in height and weighs one ton. It has at its head a carved and silvered dragon. Displayed on the central table and sideboards around the room is one of the most important collections of Regency silver-gilt on public view.

The **GREAT KITCHEN** was one of the most modern of its time. The high ceiling and decorative copper canopies would draw away heat and cooking smells, leaving a cool and clean kitchen. Cooking too was made much easier with an 'automatic spit' and enclosed range. Structural cast-iron columns have been disguised as palm trees, and the collection of copper (**batterie de cuisine**) contains over 500 pieces.

The **SOUTH DRAWING ROOM**, **CENTRAL SALOON** and **NORTH DRAWING ROOM** have a more relaxed atmosphere and were used for activities such as playing cards, chess and backgammon. Here George would sit and tell stories for the amusement of his guests, and late evening suppers of wine and sandwiches would be served. These rooms formed the earlier Holland Pavilion, and the South Drawing Room was the area of the 'modest farmhouse'.

The **MUSIC ROOM** is the epitome of the Pavilion style. A spectacular fantasy which moved George to tears when he first saw it. It was used for both concerts and dancing. The rich red and gold wall paintings were returned from Buckingham Palace in the 1860s, but the chimney piece and mirror frame, curtains and carpet are all recent recreations of the originals. The room has been the scene of two serious disasters, an arson attack in 1975 and hurricane damage in 1987, but the room has been newly restored and is again looking as magnificent as it did in the time of George IV.

You enter the **KINGS APARTMENTS** via the servants' corridor and through a disguised door, two or more of which can be seen around the bedroom. The atmosphere of his private apartments is more restrained as befits their use by George IV when elderly and infirm. These rooms contain an important collection of Regency furniture.

On the **UPPER FLOOR** there is a variety of exhibitions on aspects of the Pavilion. The bedrooms of Queen Victoria and George IV's brothers (the Royal Dukes) are currently being restored.

THE VISIT ENDS IN THE ROYAL PAVILION SHOP WHERE YOU CAN PURCHASE A RICHLY ILLUSTRATED SOUVENIR BROCHURE OF THE ROYAL PAVILION.

If you would like any further information about facilities offered at the Pavilion please contact the Public Services Section, telephone 0273-603005.

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**WE HOPE YOU HAVE ENJOYED  
YOUR VISIT.**

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