AROUND LONDON

There are many things to do and see outside the centre of London which are within easy reach by train, coach or car, and occasionally, the Underground.

Stately homes and castles in luxurious surroundings are in abundance outside London. Windsor Castle, still used by the Royal Family, is open to the public. To the south-west of London is the riverside Tudor palace of Hampton Court, once the home of Henry VIII. Other country houses close to London include Knole, one of the largest mansions in England, Polesden Lacey, a Regency villa in lovely grounds, and Kenwood House, with its important collection of paintings.

Garden lovers are spoilt for choice. **Kew**, home of the Royal Botanic Gardens has the largest collection of plants in Britain. Beyond Kew, to the south-west is **Wisley**, the garden of the Royal Horticultural Society, which features the full range of garden types.

There are many sporting venues around London, the most famous of which is probably the All England Tennis Club or Wimbledon, as it is more commonly known. Even when the Open Championship is not being played there, you can visit the Lawn Tennis Museum. If you enjoy a day out at the races, you have a number of courses to choose from, including Sandown Park, Epsom and Kempton Park.