

4 March 2024

Palace of Holyroodhouse launches gin infused with herbs from its historical royal garden

A dry gin infused with botanicals grown in the Physic Garden at the Palace of Holyroodhouse, the Scottish seat of the Royal Family, is now available online and from all shops managed by the Royal Collection Trust, a department of the Royal Household.

The **Palace of Holyroodhouse Dry Gin** is infused with mint and lemon thyme hand-picked from the Physic Garden for their vibrant flavour. Inspired by the garden's history of cultivating medicinal and culinary herbs, the botanicals – which are steeped for 24 hours before the distilling process begins – combine with juniper to create a delicately fragrant gin with a complex citrus top note.

The gin pairs beautifully with mediterranean or elderflower tonics to further enhance the refreshing flavours of the herbs. Garnished with fresh mint leaves and a sprig of thyme, it makes an elegant aperitif.

The Physic Garden was opened adjacent to the Palace in 2020 to recreate the earliest known gardens on the site, and can be freely enjoyed year-round by the people of Edinburgh and visitors to the Palace.

Founded in the grounds of the Palace in 1670 by two Scottish physicians, Sir Robert Sibbald and Sir Andrew Balfour, the original garden provided fresh ingredients for pharmacists and allowed students to learn the medicinal properties of plants. It was the first garden of its kind in Scotland and was the forerunner of the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh.

Today, visitors to the Physic Garden will see plants such as fennel, lavender, and lemon balm growing. Alongside, a meadow of wildflowers with healing properties evokes the 15th-century monastic gardens of Holyrood Abbey, while 17th-century royal gardens have been reimagined through geometric springtime displays of bulbs including crocuses, tulips, and alliums.

In a further nod to its historical surroundings, the floral bottle design of the Palace of Holyroodhouse Dry Gin is inspired by the 17th-century Scottish textiles seen on the bed in Mary, Queen of Scots' Bedchamber inside the Palace. With interlacing leaves, vines, and flowers, the stylised foliage is typical of Jacobean crewelwork, a fashionable type of embroidery from the time.

All profits from sales of the gin go towards the care of, and access to, the Royal Collection through the public opening of the Royal Residences, exhibitions, loans, and educational programmes managed by Royal Collection Trust, a registered charity.

The [Palace of Holyroodhouse Dry Gin](#), 40% abv, can now be purchased from the Royal Collection Trust shops in Edinburgh, London, and Windsor, and on the [online shop](#) for £40.00 for a 70cl bottle.

Official Royal Residence Gins

The Palace of Holyroodhouse Dry Gin is the latest gin to be launched by Royal Collection Trust. Each gin is flavoured with ingredients sourced from the grounds of the Official Royal Residences, and completing the range are:

Buckingham Palace Sloe Gin

Hand-picked whole sloe berries are steeped in gin infused with botanicals from the gardens of Buckingham Palace. These include hawthorn berries and the heart shaped leaves of mulberry trees – a plant that is known to have been growing in the grounds of Buckingham Palace since as early as 1608 when James I planted a Mulberry Garden. The juicy hedgerow fruit lends this dry gin an intense plummy flavour and rich colour, making it the perfect choice for a Sloe Royale.

Royal Windsor Pink Gin

Hand-picked raspberries from across the Royal Estate in Windsor are infused into the Windsor gin, creating a spirit with a vibrant pink hue and fruity top note. Orange peel and rose petals lend sweetness, while pink peppercorns and warming cassia bark add a subtle hint of spice.

Buckingham Palace Dry Gin

The original Buckingham Palace Dry Gin was launched in July 2020 and is infused with 12 botanicals such as lemon verbena, hawthorn berries, bay, and mulberry leaves gathered by hand from the Palace gardens. The grounds of Buckingham Palace provide a habitat for 30 species of birds and more than 250 species of wildflowers in the heart of London.

ENDS

A selection of images of all four gins is available from [Dropbox](#).

For further information, please contact the Royal Collection Trust Press Office, +44 (0)20 7839 1377, press@rct.uk.

Instagram: [@royalcollectiontrust](#) Facebook: [@royalcollectiontrust](#) Twitter: [@RCT](#)

Notes to Editors

The **Palace of Holyroodhouse** is the official home of His Majesty The King in Scotland and is used for State ceremonies and official entertaining. The Palace has been a royal residence for over 500 years and is closely associated with Mary, Queen of Scots.

The Palace is open year-round, remaining closed on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. The Physic Garden, which is free and non-ticketed, is situated on the Abbey Strand, the road leading up to the Palace, and opened in November 2020.

Royal Collection Trust, a department of the Royal Household, is responsible for the care of the Royal Collection and manages the public opening of the official residences of The King. Income generated from admissions and from associated commercial activities contributes directly to The Royal Collection Trust, a registered charity. The aims of The Trust are the care and conservation of the Royal Collection, and the promotion of access and enjoyment through exhibitions, publications, loans and educational programmes.

The Royal Collection is among the largest and most important art collections in the world, and one of the last great European royal collections to remain intact . It comprises almost all aspects of the fine and decorative arts, and is spread among some 15 royal residences and former residences across the UK, most of which are regularly open to the public. The Royal Collection is held in trust by the Sovereign for his successors and the nation, and is not owned by The King as a private individual.