

# 02

# Culture, Arts and Leisure

## Culture, Arts and Leisure in the Royal Borough

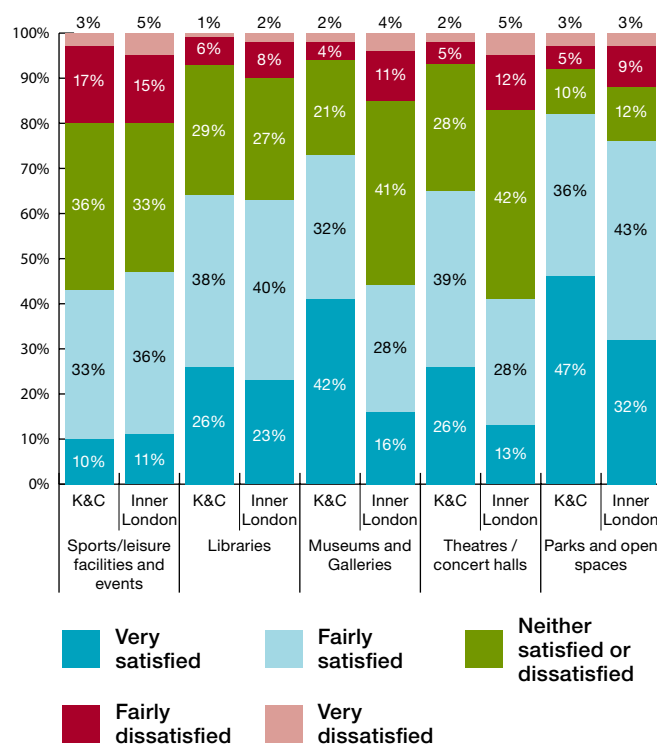
The Royal Borough is rich in art and culture and is host to many national institutions, museums, and significant cultural events and festivals. The borough also has a number of public libraries, leisure centres, parks and open spaces. Map 2.1 details a comprehensive listing of culture, arts and leisure in Kensington and Chelsea broken into the classifications of: 'Culture and Arts: Museums, Galleries, Exhibitions, Theatres and Music', 'Community Arts Venues', 'Events and Festivals', 'Libraries', 'Sports and Leisure' and 'Cinemas'.

Survey data show that residents are satisfied with the culture, arts and leisure facilities in the borough and this data can be seen in figure 2.1 compared against data for inner London. Satisfaction is particularly high for museums and galleries, and parks and open spaces.

### CULTURE AND ARTS

The borough is home to many museums, galleries, exhibitions and other cultural and artistic institutions and venues. The council manages two small museums; The Leighton House Museum and Art Gallery and the Linley Sambourne Museum. There are three major national museums located in South Kensington; The Science Museum, The Natural History Museum and the Victoria and Albert Museum. See table 2.1 for visitor figures. The Saatchi Gallery opened in autumn 2008 in Chelsea and the borough is also home to Kensington Palace and the Royal Court Theatre. See map 2.1 for the location of these and many more museums, galleries, exhibitions, theatres and cultural venues located in the borough as well as community arts venues.

**FIGURE 2.1**  
Satisfaction with culture, arts and leisure in Kensington and Chelsea and Inner London 2006/07



Figures rounded up or down  
Source: MORI Best Value General User Survey 2006/07  
Updated: Ad-hoc

## MAP 2.1

### Culture, arts and leisure in Kensington and Chelsea 2008



**● Culture, Arts: Museums, Galleries, Exhibitions, Theatres, Music**

1. Leighton House Museum and Art Gallery
2. Linley Sambourne Museum
3. Ice House Gallery
4. Orangery Gallery
5. Science Museum
6. Natural History Museum
7. Victoria and Albert (V&A) Museum
8. National Army Museum
9. Carlyle's House
10. Royal Court Theatre
11. Royal Hospital Museum
12. 20th Century Theatre
13. Cadogan Hall
14. Chelsea Studio
15. Chelsea Theatre
16. East West Gallery
17. Finborough Theatre
18. Gate Theatre
19. Institut Francais Du Royaume-Uni
20. Kensington Town Hall
21. Chelsea Old Town Hall
22. The Muse
23. Louise T Blouin Foundation
24. Kensington Palace
25. Saatchi Gallery
26. Museum of Brands, Packaging and Advertising
27. Chelsea Physic Garden

**● Community Arts Venues**

28. Lazy Daisy Café
29. Inn on the Green
30. ACAVA Blechynden Studios
31. Open Door Friendship Centre
32. Tabernacle Arts Centre
33. Troubadour Café

**● Events and Festivals**

34. Chelsea Flower Show
35. Portobello Rd Film Festival - Westbourne Studios
36. Portobello Rd Film Festival - Inn on the Green
37. Portobello Rd Film Festival - Hornimans
38. Holland Park Opera and Theatre
39. London Fashion Week
40. Earls Court Festival
41. Chelsea Festival

**● Libraries**

42. Kensington Library
43. North Kensington Library
44. Chelsea Library
45. Brompton Library
46. Notting Hill Gate Library
47. Kensal Library

**● Sports and Leisure**

48. Kensington Leisure Centre
49. Chelsea Sports Centre
50. Westway Sports Centre
51. Portobello Green Fitness Club

**● Cinemas**

52. Chelsea Cinema
53. Cineworld Fulham Road
54. Gate Cinema
55. Odeon Kensington High Street
56. Cineworld Kings Road
57. Coronet
58. Electric Cinema

**■ Notting Hill Carnival Area**

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The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea  
100021668 (2008)

Source: The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, Transport, Environment and Leisure Services - Arts and Leisure  
Updated: N/A

**TABLE 2.1**

Visitor figures for museums and galleries in Kensington and Chelsea 2005/06 - 2007/08

	Leighton House Museum and Art Gallery	Linley Sambourne Museum	Science Museum	Natural History Museum	V&A Museum (Kensington Site)
2005/06	14,347	4,409	2,019,931	3,180,753	1,902,587
2006/07	15,944	3,703	2,604,612	3,776,108	2,751,042
2007/08	16,021	3,849	2,711,680	3,652,003	2,280,759

Source: Sourced directly from institutions  
Updated: Annually

**LIBRARIES**

The borough has six public libraries as located on map 2.1. Table 2.2 shows the numbers of visitors, issues of items and items in the catalogue for each library.

**TABLE 2.2**

Visitors, catalogues and issues for libraries in Kensington and Chelsea 2005/06 - 2007/08

Visitors	Kensington Central Library	Chelsea Library	Brompton Library	North Kensington Library	Notting Hill Gate Library	Kensal Library	Total Visitors
2005/06	480,586	361,374	137,647	229,452	72,772	43,125	1,324,956
2006/07	446,733	267,007	133,060	290,987	61,960	36,852	1,236,599
2007/08	405,171	276,786	132,569	239,793	58,793	31,376	1,144,488
Catalogue	Kensington Central Library	Chelsea Library	Brompton Library	North Kensington Library	Notting Hill Gate Library	Kensal Library	Total Visitors
2005/06	8,344	4,336	2,321	3,465	826	813	20,105
2006/07	12,487	5,998	3,852	3,968	1,248	976	28,529
2007/08	11,679	7,134	3,599	5,809	1,905	1,613	31,739
Issues	Kensington Central Library	Chelsea Library	Brompton Library	North Kensington Library	Notting Hill Gate Library	Kensal Library	Total Visitors
2005/06	469,618	187,577	104,521	142,479	43,106	15,607	962,908
2006/07	430,007	176,236	97,692	122,152	34,783	14,540	875,410
2007/08	390,658	172,269	98,837	103,463	31,640	15,237	812,104

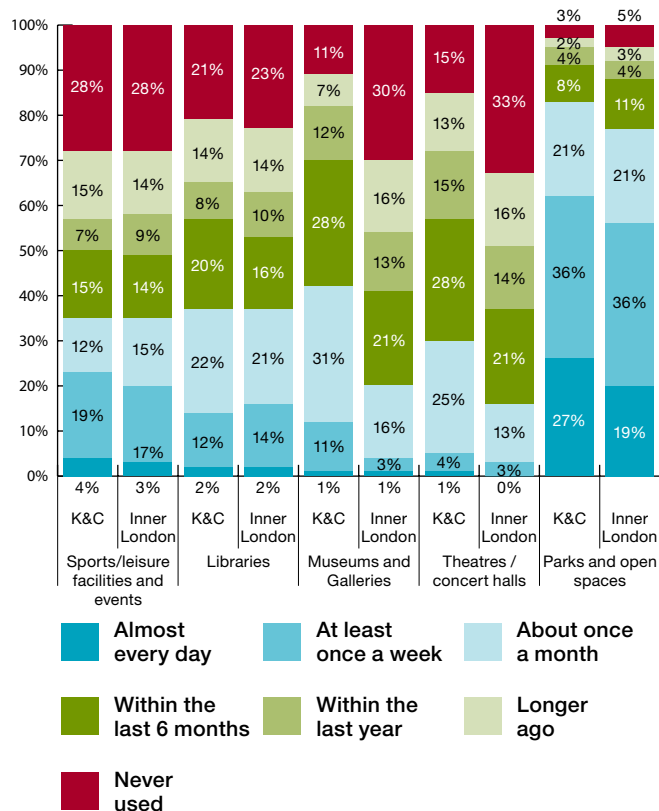
Source: The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, Family and Childrens Services - Community Learning  
Updated: Annually

## PARKS AND OPEN SPACES

When residents are asked what they think is the best thing about living in the Royal Borough they mention local parks more often than any other aspect of life in the borough. Map 2.1 shows where the parks and open spaces in the borough are located and as mentioned figure 2.1 illustrates satisfaction with parks and open spaces in the borough, compared with figures for inner London. Parks and open spaces are also used the most frequently of all culture, arts and leisure activities and usage is above inner London averages. In conjunction with figure 2.1, figure 2.2 illustrates usage figures for culture, arts and leisure. The colour schemes of the chart broadly represent frequent usage ('almost every day', 'at least once a week', 'about once a month'), casual usage ('within the last 6 months', 'within the last year') and infrequent use ('longer ago', 'never used').

### FIGURE 2.2

Culture, arts and leisure usage in Kensington and Chelsea and inner London 2006/07



Figures rounded up or down

Source: MORI Best Value General User Survey 2006/07

Updated: Ad-hoc

## EVENTS AND FESTIVALS

The borough is host to many well known events and festivals. These include the Notting Hill Carnival, Opera Holland Park, the Chelsea Flower Show and the Portobello Film Festival. The location of these can all be viewed on map 2.1 and it should be noted that some festivals have events at a variety of venues (such as the Chelsea festival) and in these instances a key location is represented on the map. Table 2.1 illustrates visitor figures for events and festivals in the borough from 2006 to 2008.

### TABLE 2.3

Visitor/attendance figures for some of the main events and festivals in Kensington and Chelsea 2006 - 2008

	Notting Hill Carnival		Chelsea Flower Show	Opera Holland Park		Portobello Film Festival			Chelsea Festival	Earl's Court Festival	
	Sunday attendance*	Monday attendance*	Attendance over 5 days**	Attendance	Capacity filled	Westbourne Studios***	Inn On The Green***	Other locations***	Estimates from all locations*	Street fair*	Other events*
2006	330,000	500,000	157,000	40,500	99%	5,850	3,600	4,900	20,000	3,000	1,080
2007	250,000	600,000	157,000	44,000	97%	5,880	3,600	3,500	22,000	2,000	2,079
2008	350,000	650,000	157,000	45,500	99%	7,800	1,400	2,050	25,000	2,000	2,689

\*Estimated attendance

\*\*This event is capped and sells out every year

\*\*\*Estimated figures based on capacity of venues and turnover

Source: Sourced directly from festivals and events coordinators

Updated: Annually

## SPORT AND LEISURE

Three main public leisure centres serve the borough; Kensington Leisure Centre, Chelsea Sports Centre and the Westway Sports Centre which is run by the Westway Development Trust. Each of the main parks has a range of sports facilities on offer. Table 2.4 illustrates estimated usage figures for each of the three main centres.

### TABLE 2.4

Annual estimated usage figures for sports and leisure centres in Kensington and Chelsea 2006 and 2007

	2006	2007
Kensington Leisure Centre	408,357	386,455
Chelsea Sports Centre	353,706	329,024
Westway Sports Centre	503,635	500,596

Source: Sourced directly from sports and leisure centres

Updated: Annually