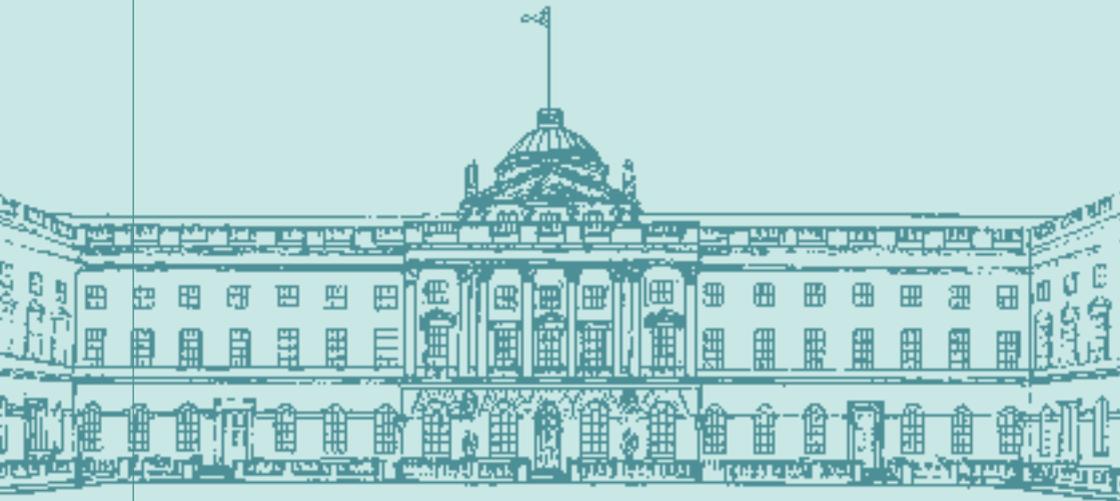


VENUE HIRE



Somerset
House, is
without a
doubt, the
best venue
in town.

TIFFANY & Co.



VENUE HIRE AT SOMERSET HOUSE

Built on historic foundations at the very heart of the capital, Somerset House is home to the UK's largest creative community and one of the city's best loved public spaces.

The spectacular, neo-classical building offers 12 blank canvas, versatile event spaces, including indoor and outdoor spaces suitable for staging events of all styles and sizes - ranging in capacity from 10 to 1,500. Somerset House is ideally located, sitting between the River Thames and Covent Garden, and is accessible via all major transport links in the centre of the capital.

Somerset House is more than a building: it's a global platform for creativity, dedicated to nurturing and empowering ideas, backing newness and championing openness. Somerset House draws on its diverse cultural programme and creative community to provide event organisers with a unique offering. Planners can enhance their events by combining the artistic and commercial offering, including private tours of the building and exclusive access to exhibitions. Run as a charity by Somerset House Trust, all

event hire income directly contributes to the venue's cultural public programme, extensive education and outreach work, and helps maintain the Grade 1 listed site for over 3 million visitors to enjoy annually. You can be confident that your event will be directly supporting an organisation offering immense value to an audience that goes far beyond your attendees.

The grandeur and heritage of Somerset House, coupled with the expertise of its Commercial Events team, offers an unrivalled location for unforgettable events.

To find out how we can help to develop your event from concept to reality, contact us on +44(0)20 7845 4618 or via events@somersethouse.org.uk

More information about Somerset House's commercial event spaces, and [online 360° tours](https://www.somersethouse.org.uk/venue-hire), can be found via [somersethouse.org.uk/venue-hire](https://www.somersethouse.org.uk/venue-hire)



THE PORTICO ROOMS

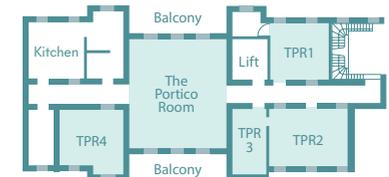
Located on the first floor of the South Wing, the [Portico Rooms](#) are a spacious and versatile suite of rooms offering a contemporary and elegant location for both daytime and evening events.

With original features, natural daylight and uninterrupted views of the London skyline, the Portico Rooms offer a stylish and versatile backdrop which can be tailored to any event brief. This network of four elegant 18th century spaces can be adapted for press days, fashion events, meetings, conferences, receptions, dinners, wine tastings and exhibitions.

Included in the hire are two private balconies for your guests. Whether you prefer to watch the sunset across the River Thames from the south facing balcony or marvel at our sensational fountains from the north facing balcony, the Portico Rooms are a truly stunning venue for your event.

The Portico Rooms are connected to the Navy Board Rooms, and you can hire the two venues in tandem for larger bookings.

200 Reception
100 Dinner
100 Theatre Style
60 Cabaret Style



Available for daytime, evening or all-day hire
 Available for set up 24-hour set ups

TPR	The Portico Room	.....	10m x 11.5m
TPR 1	The Portico Room 1	.....	5.5m x 5.8m
TPR 2	The Portico Room 2	.....	5.5m x 8.5m
TPR 3	The Portico Room 3	.....	5.5m x 4m
TPR 4	The Portico Room 4	.....	5.5m x 6.3m



‘The event was a wonderful success and all our delegates were - dare I say - blown away by the venue, how we were able to transform the space and bring our training event to life in the most inspiring manner because of all your support!’

– CHANEL



NAVY BOARD ROOMS

Steeped in history and dating back to the 18th century, the [Navy Board Rooms](#) are an impressive suite of rooms with a distinctive sense of charm and heritage.

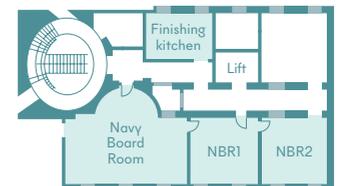
Climbing the grand, sweeping Nelson Staircase is an experience in itself, as each flight is a one-off architectural work of art. Entering the main space, marble fireplaces and wooden floors create a grand atmosphere, with large sash windows offering panoramic views across the River Thames.

Originally home to the Navy Board, overseeing British naval affairs around the globe, the Navy Board Rooms are now a hugely popular venue for meetings, conferences, receptions, intimate dinners and press days.

The interconnecting rooms offer wonderful natural light, original features and great flexibility. You can focus your booking on one room or use all three spaces for different purposes. For larger events, you can combine the rooms with the adjoining Portico Rooms.



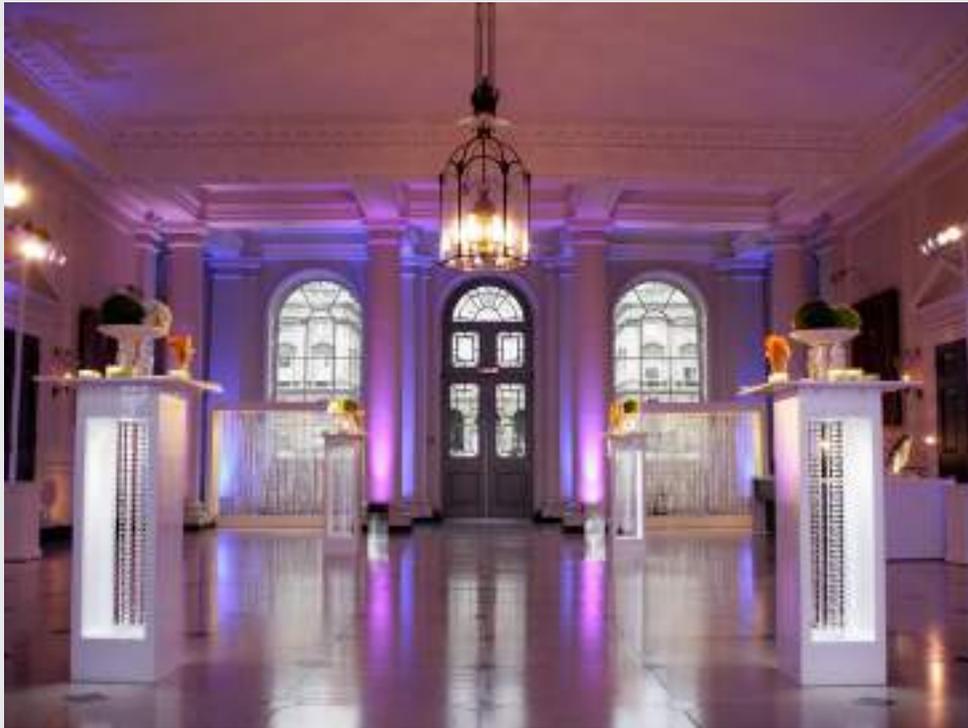
100 Reception
50 Dinner
60 Theatre Style
32 Cabaret Style



Available for daytime, evening or all-day hire
 Available for 24-hour set ups

NBR	Navy Board Room	.....	10m x 5.5m
NBR 1	Navy Board Room	1	..... 5.5m x 5.5m
NBR 2	Navy Board Room	2	..... 5.5m x 6m





SEAMEN'S HALL

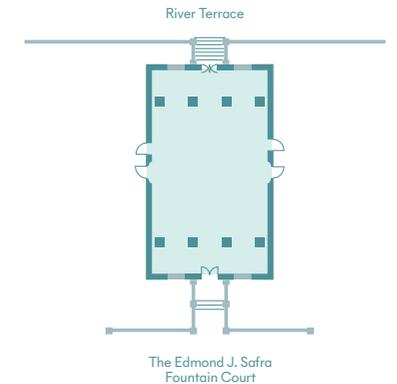
The Seamen's Hall, located on the ground floor of the South Wing, has marble floors, imposing Corinthian columns and huge windows, making it the perfect space for receptions, private dinners and other evening gatherings.

panoramic views of the Thames and surrounding iconic London landmarks. With original period features including black and white marble flooring, it offers an air of expansive elegance, lending itself beautifully as an evening venue.

Entered via central doors from our stunning Edmond J. Safra Fountain Court, the Hall leads directly out onto our exclusive River Terrace, a section of which is included in the hire of the Seamen's Hall, offering

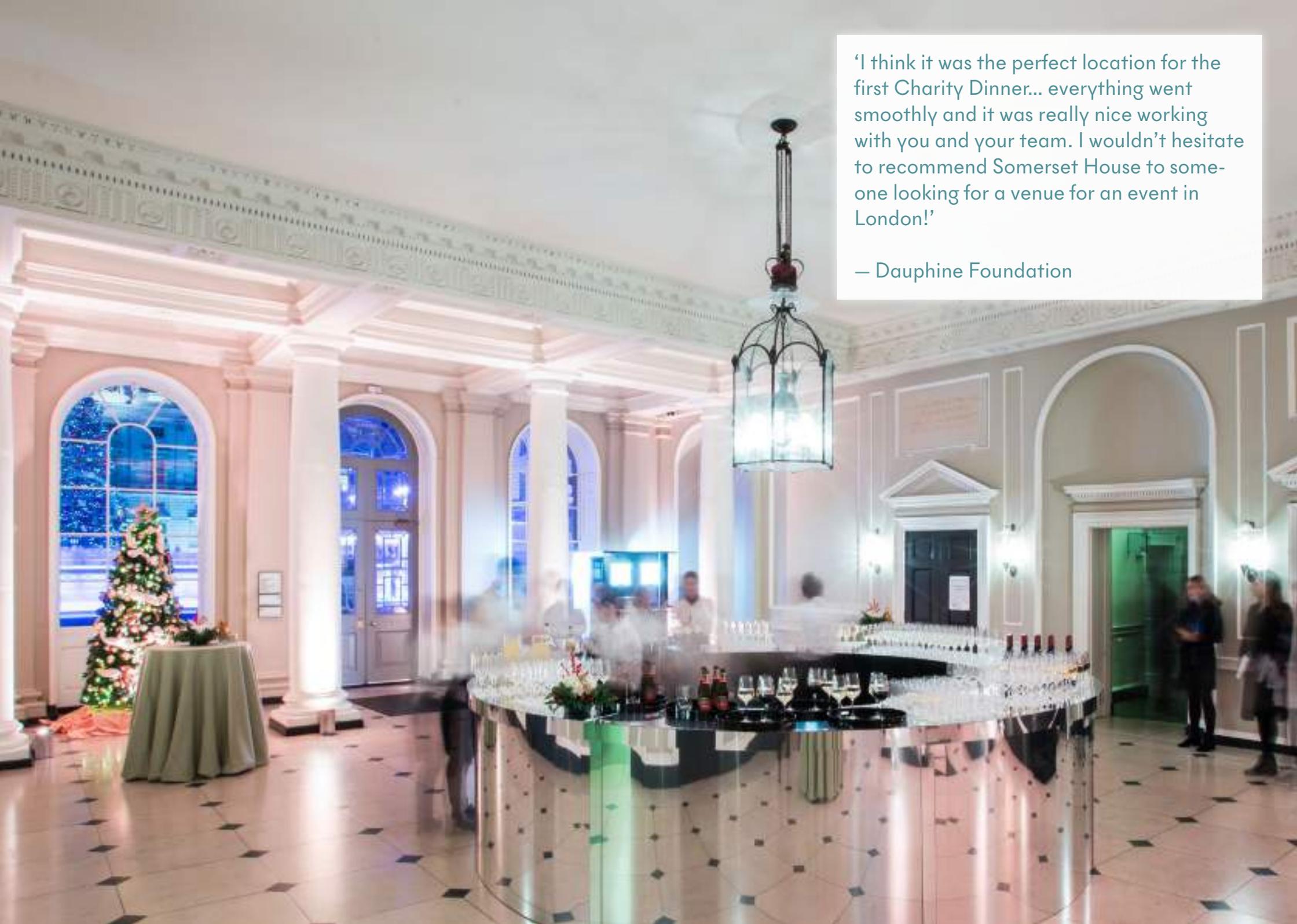
You can hire the Seamen's Hall as a stand-alone venue or in combination with other spaces – for instance, a drinks reception in the Portico Rooms followed by dinner in this beautiful room.

200 Reception **100** Dinner



Available for evening hire only
Late night license available upon request

Seamen's Hall 17m x 10m



'I think it was the perfect location for the first Charity Dinner... everything went smoothly and it was really nice working with you and your team. I wouldn't hesitate to recommend Somerset House to someone looking for a venue for an event in London!'

– Dauphine Foundation



RIVER TERRACE

Set against the backdrop of Somerset House's iconic 18th century façade and with sweeping views across the Thames, the [River Terrace](#) is one of our most exclusive spaces and the perfect location for up to 500 people for a standing reception.

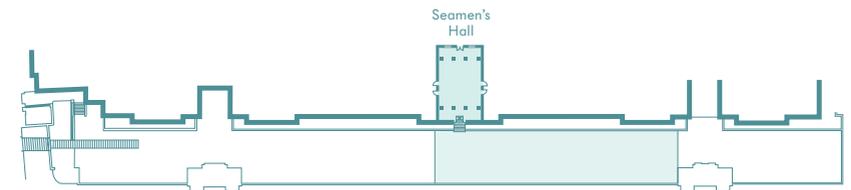
Hall is included in your hire as a wet weather contingency, with a capacity of up to 200, along with jumbrellas should a British seasonal downpour prevail.

Perfect for summer parties, you can invite your guests to a private barbecue expertly planned by one of our caterers or simply enjoy a drinks reception while the London landmarks light up your event.

The River Terrace is a glamorous alfresco London setting to entertain guests in the warmer months and the stunning Seamen's

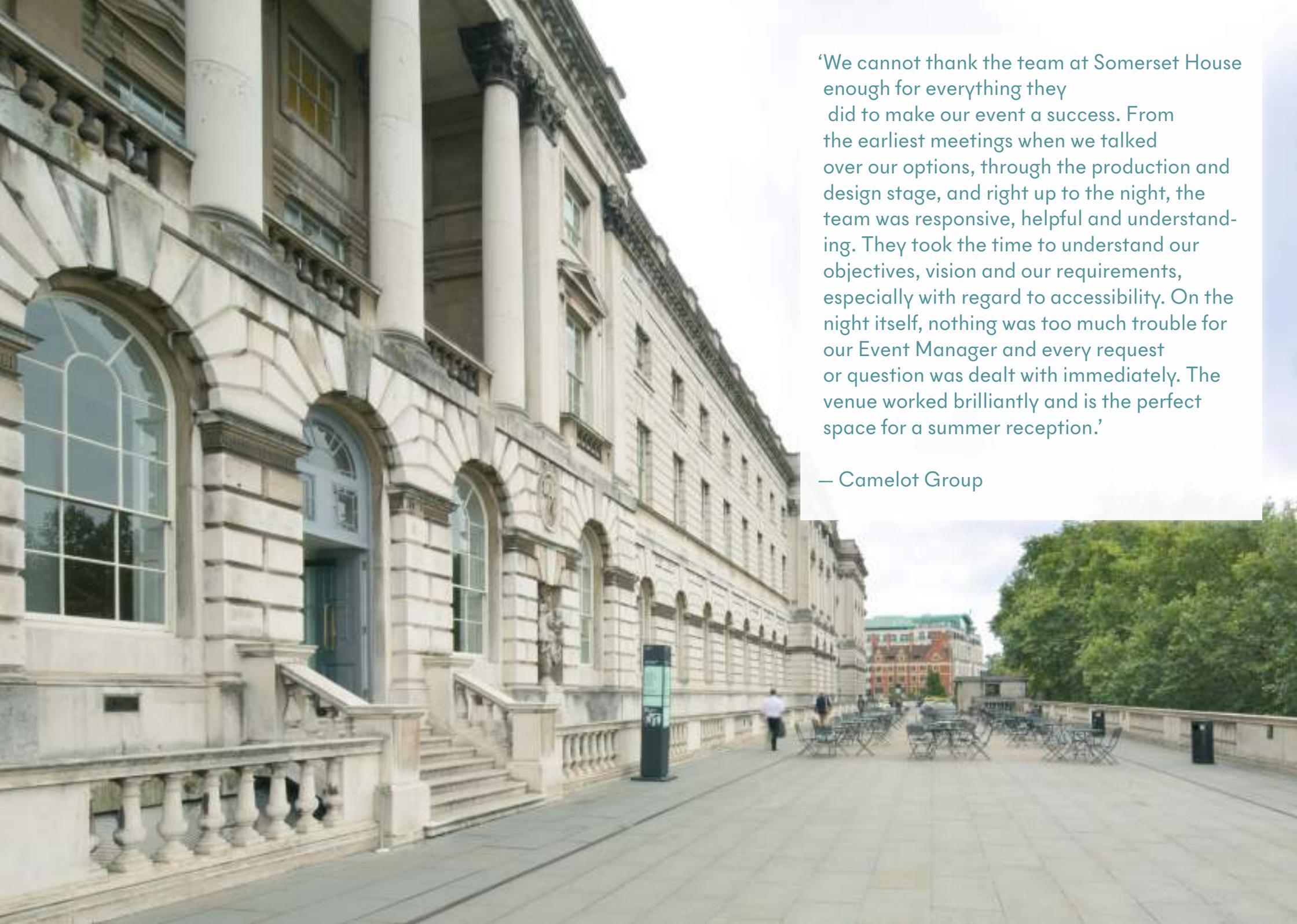


500
Reception



Available for evening hire only
Late night license available upon request
*With use of Seamen's Hall as a wet weather option

River Terrace.....49.5m x 11.7m



‘We cannot thank the team at Somerset House enough for everything they did to make our event a success. From the earliest meetings when we talked over our options, through the production and design stage, and right up to the night, the team was responsive, helpful and understanding. They took the time to understand our objectives, vision and our requirements, especially with regard to accessibility. On the night itself, nothing was too much trouble for our Event Manager and every request or question was dealt with immediately. The venue worked brilliantly and is the perfect space for a summer reception.’

– Camelot Group

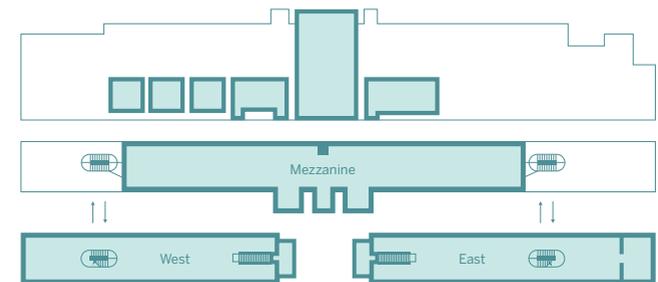


EMBANKMENT GALLERIES

Originally a barrel vaulted bargehouse linked directly to the Thames, the Embankment Galleries are now our most modern and adaptable event space. Spread over the ground floor and mezzanine level, this network of rooms have been reinvented as home to some of Somerset House's most celebrated exhibitions.

Dramatic steel and glass feature staircases, hard stone flooring and bright feature walls introduce a contemporary and urban element to this historic space. The mezzanine level is an impressive space for large scale dinners and receptions, while the entire gallery spaces offer a spectacular setting for fashion events, press days and conferences.

800 Reception
340 Dinner
320 Theatre Style



Limited availability
 Available for day time and evening events
 Available for 24-hour set ups

Embankment Galleries.....1,059m²





EAST WING

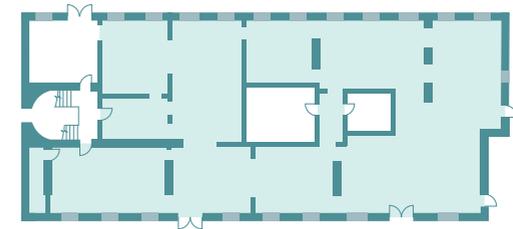
Located just across from our famous Edmond J. Safra Fountain Court, this venue offers a blank canvas space featuring beautiful high ceilings and large windows, with a series of open plan, interlinking rooms.

including press days and drinks receptions, while proving equally popular with location managers. The East Wing combines ultramodern flourishes with neo-classical lines, conveying a real sense of occasion to your guests.

The [East Wing](#) offers an abundance of space and natural light, perfect for events

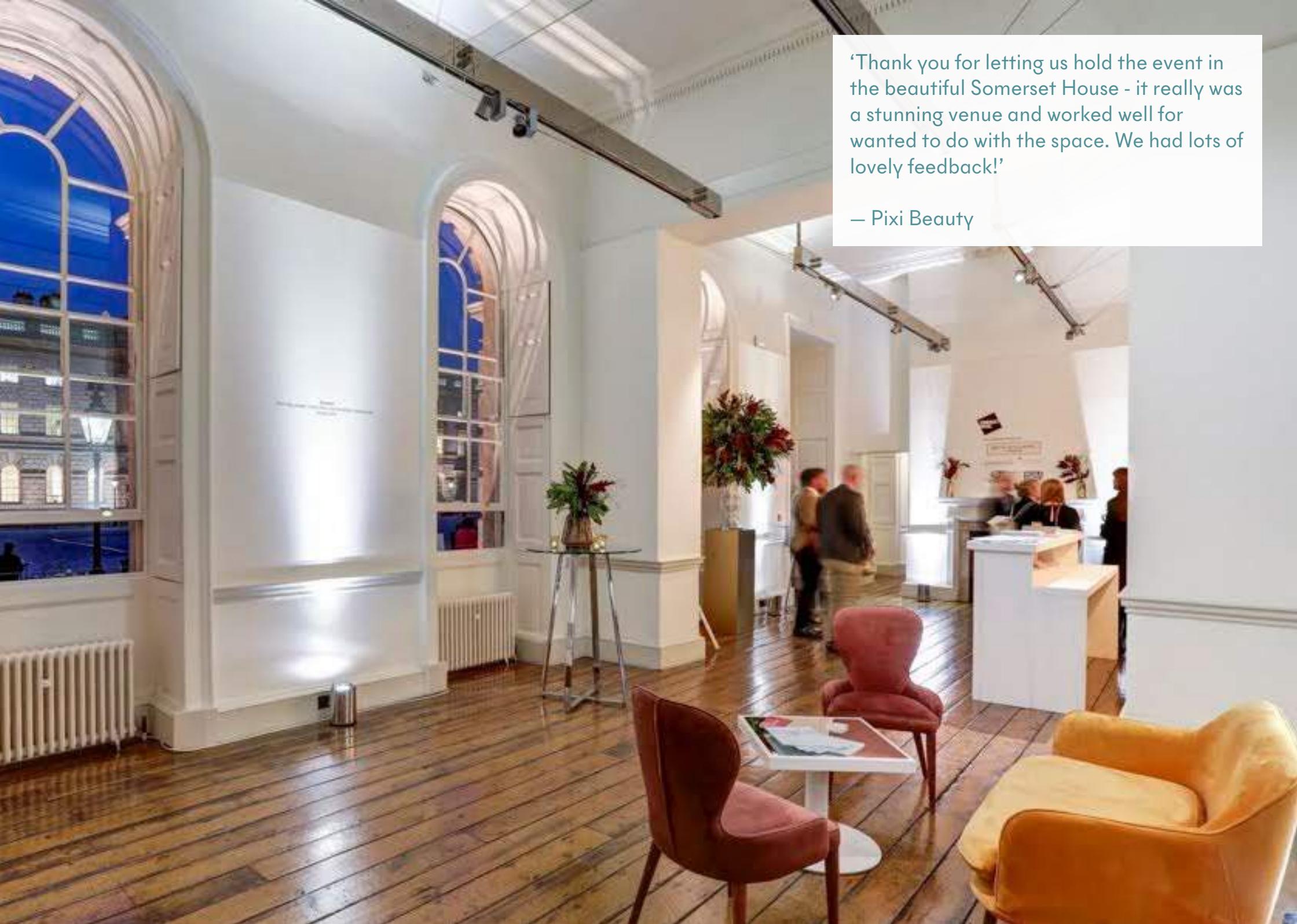
300

Reception



Available for all-day hire
Available for 24-hour set ups
Late night license available upon request

East Wing 338m²



‘Thank you for letting us hold the event in the beautiful Somerset House - it really was a stunning venue and worked well for what we wanted to do with the space. We had lots of lovely feedback!’

— Pixi Beauty



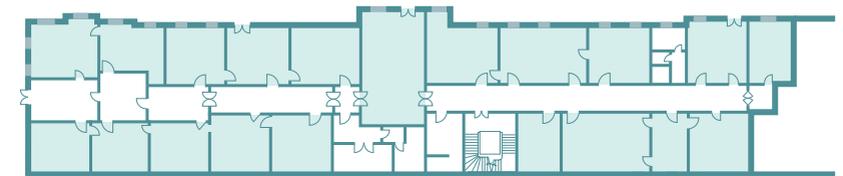
WEST WING

Entering directly from the grandeur of The Edmond J. Safra Fountain Court, linked via spacious, stylish corridors and connecting doors, the West Wing can be adapted for a multitude of events.

with the blank canvas nature providing a fantastic backdrop for exhibitions, showcases, press days, product launches and experiential events.

With 19 renovated rooms, this expansive area boasts light wooden flooring, beautiful fireplaces, high ceilings and ample natural light. The understated elegance of the West Wing has something to suit all tastes,

When hiring the West Wing, you can choose to hire the entire space, or the space can be divided into 3 separate galleries, known as The Fountain Galleries 1, 2 & 3. Perfect for smaller exhibitions, presentations and showrooms.



Available for all-day hire
 Available for 24-hour set ups
 Late night license available upon request

West Wing679.2m²





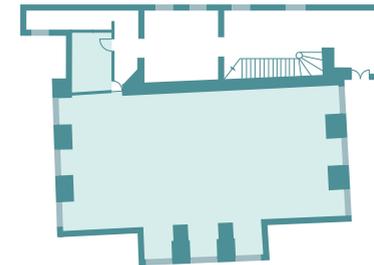
LANCASTER ROOM

Located in our New Wing, the [Lancaster Room](#) is unlike any other venue at Somerset House. The aesthetically raw finish of the room, with dramatic pillars, high ceilings and exposed floorboards set against the stunning views over the Thames takes the original features of Somerset House and adds a contemporary cutting edge.

With its own private entrance, this venue has a huge potential for dressing and is the ideal choice for creatives. It is particularly popular as a space for immersive and experiential events, product launches, fashion shows and photoshoots.



220 Reception
110 Dinner
150 Theatre Style
120 Catwalk



Available for daytime and evening events
 Available for 24-hour set ups
 Late night license available upon request

Lancaster Room 17.4m x 8.7m



‘Both the River Rooms and Lancaster Rooms are amazing spaces, providing a raw blank canvas to facilitate all manner of creative concepts. Helped only by the ever accommodating events team at Somerset House.’

– Studio Boum



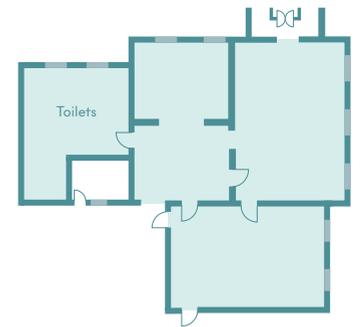
RIVER ROOMS

The River Rooms are a versatile suite of rooms situated in the New Wing, with a creative and raw aesthetic. These interlinking, open plan rooms retain faint touches from their former tenants which are highlighted by the

custom-built lighting tracks. The room is complete with dramatic original fireplaces and exposed brick archways, making the River Rooms perfectly suited for fashion events, exhibitions and product launches.

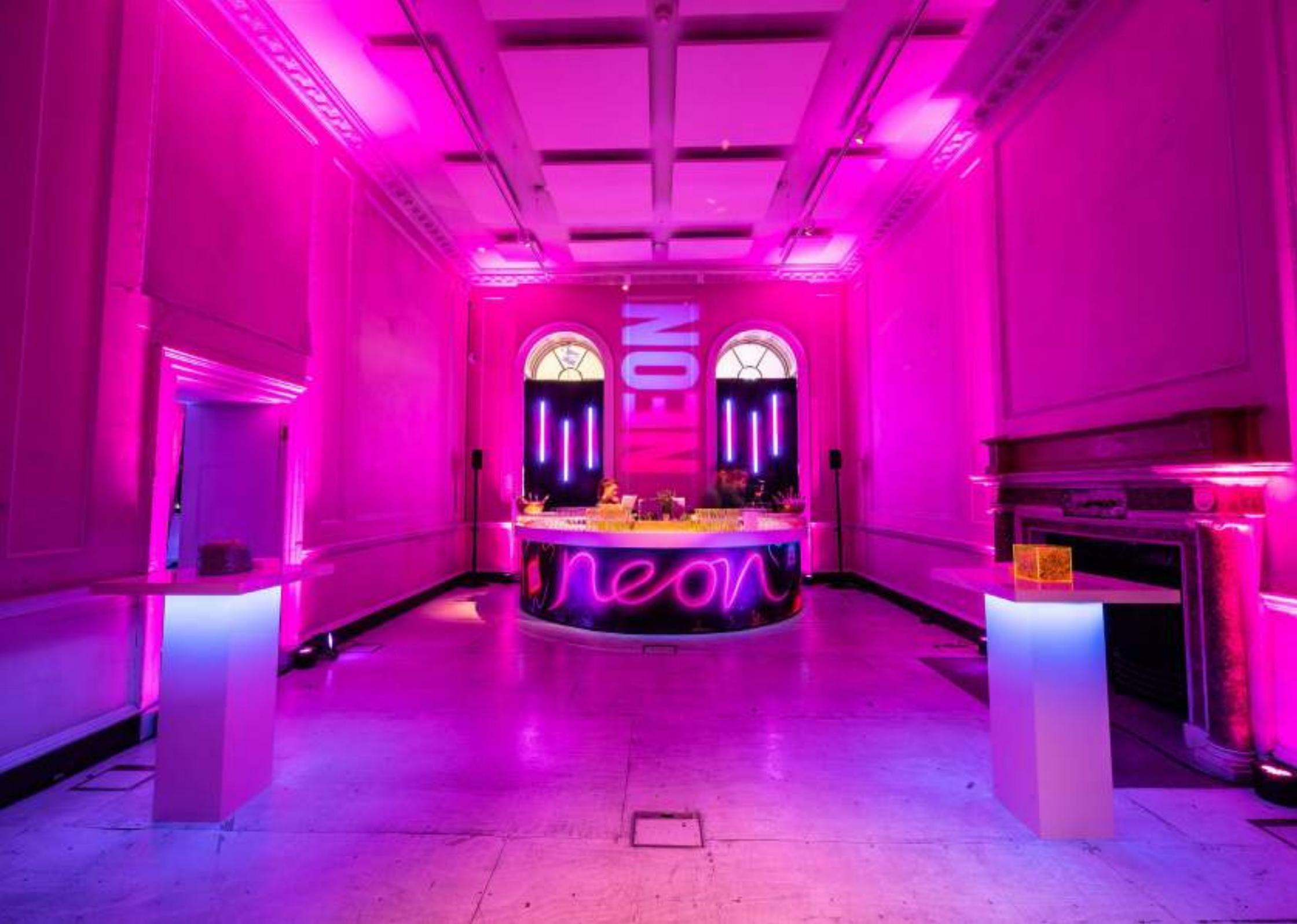
220

Reception



Available for daytime and evening hire
 Available for 24-hour set ups
 Late night license available upon request

River Rooms 162m²



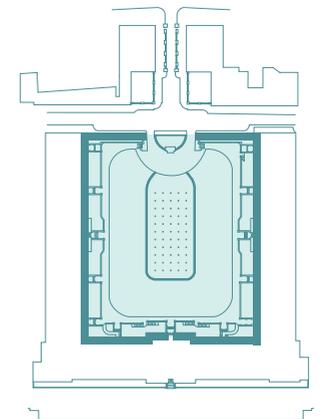


THE EDMOND J.SAFRA FOUNTAIN COURT

Located just a few short steps from the bustling activity of the Strand, in the heart of London, [The Edmond J. Safra Fountain Court](#) is centred around the iconic fountains and surrounded on all sides by glorious 18th century architecture. Popular with the public throughout the year, the courtyard hosts some of the city's best loved major events such as Summer Series, Film4 Summer Screen and Skate, our annual ice rink.

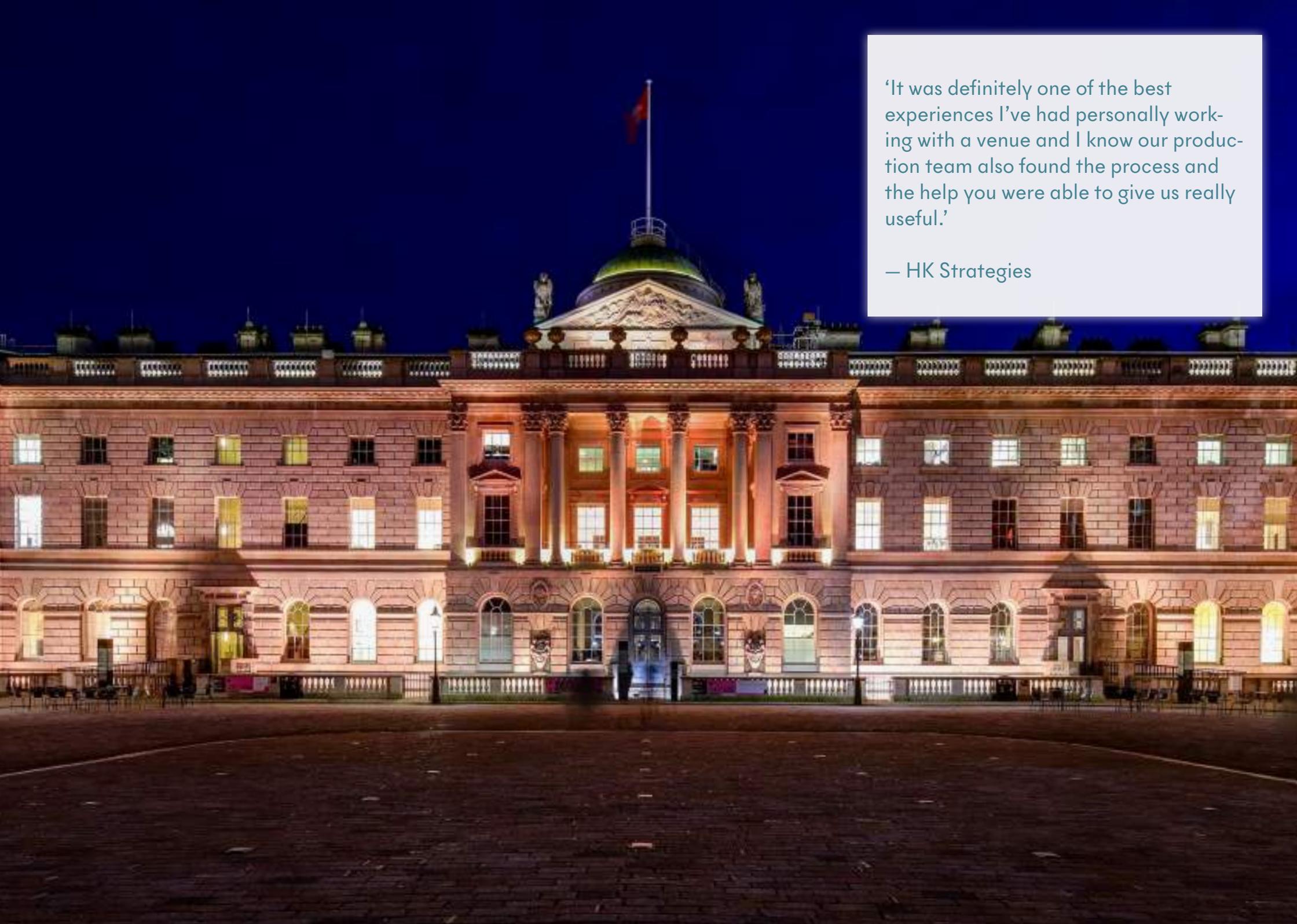
The Edmond J. Safra Fountain Court and Sir William Chambers' neoclassical backdrop is at the heart of Somerset House, offering a spectacular oasis for bespoke and unforgettable events, perfect for dinners, receptions and brand activations.

1,500 Reception
600 Dinner



Exclusive hire from 18:00
Available for 24-hour set ups
Limited availability

The Edmond J. Safra Fountain Court 60.3m x 44.2m



‘It was definitely one of the best experiences I’ve had personally working with a venue and I know our production team also found the process and the help you were able to give us really useful.’

— HK Strategies



LIGHTWELLS AND DEADHOUSE

If you are looking to take your event beyond the ordinary and into the unknown, this unique subterranean space, rich in atmosphere and character, is the ideal location.

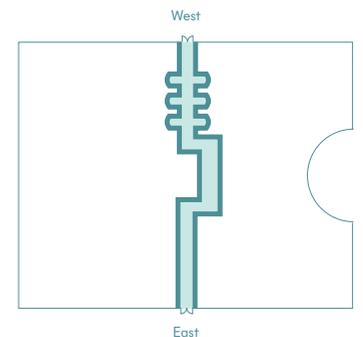
Our most atmospheric space lies hidden from the public gaze, one level below our famous fountains. Running along three sides of The Edmond J. Safra Fountain Court, the Lightwells are a long-time favourite of location managers for major film and television series. The Deadhouse, meanwhile,

runs directly beneath the Edmond J. Safra Fountain Court, and its eerie memorials set into the walls help lend this underground tunnel an ambience all its own.

Descending the stairs from the courtyard, you will discover the unique architecture and unexpected hidden depths of Somerset House. With an abundance of secret nooks and crannies, this fascinating space is perfect for creative and surprising events with an edge.

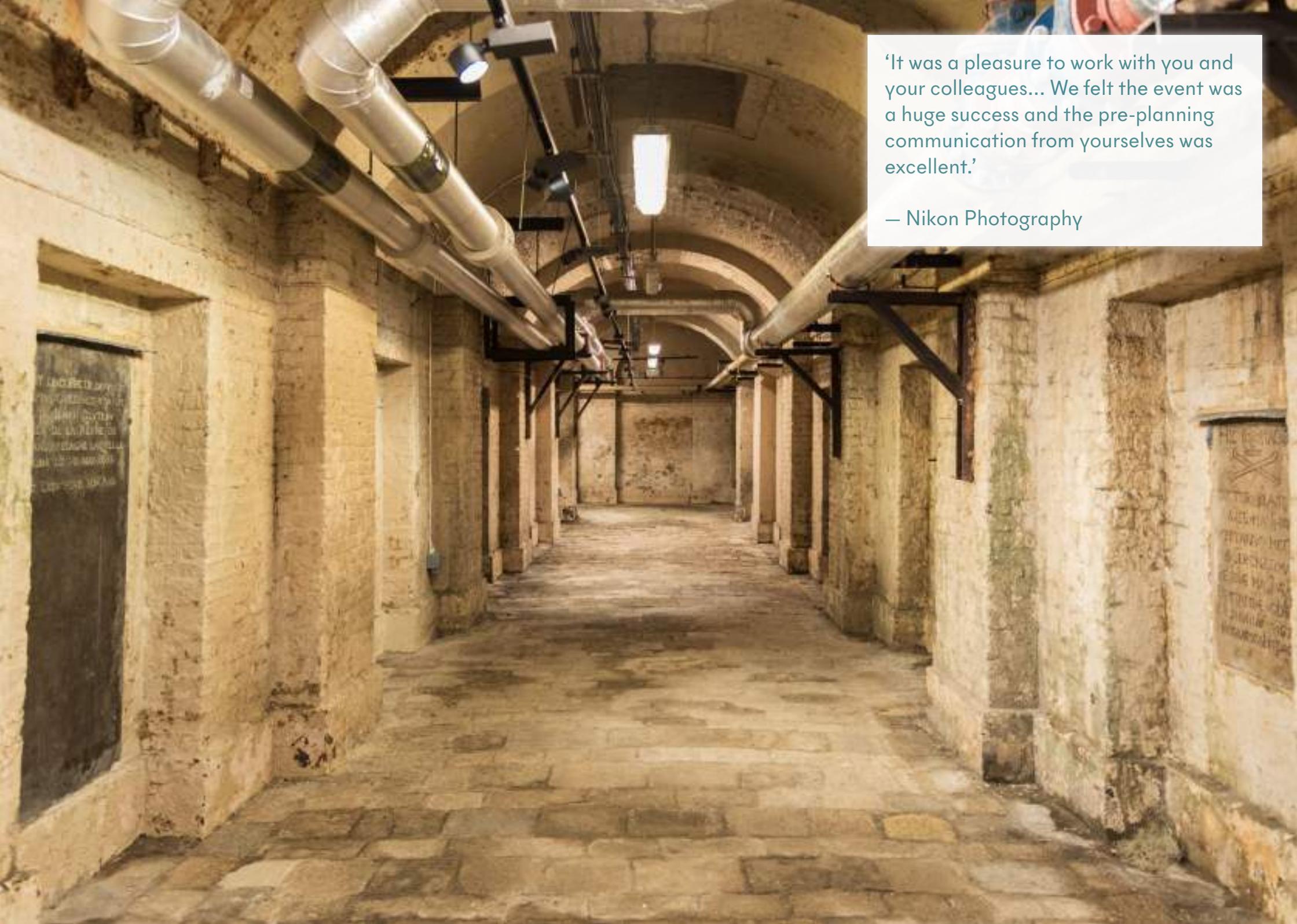
200

Reception



Exclusive hire daytime and evening events
Available for 24-hour set ups
Limited availability

Lightwells and deadhouse 188m²



'It was a pleasure to work with you and your colleagues... We felt the event was a huge success and the pre-planning communication from yourselves was excellent.'

— Nikon Photography



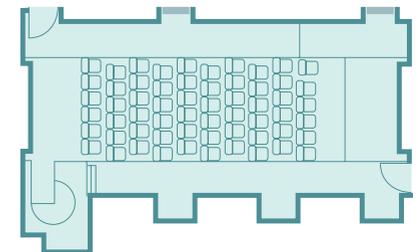
SCREENING ROOM

With fixed seating for 60 guests, and the possibility of adding 10 additional seats, the Screening Room offers an ideal space for presentations and lectures. With built in AV and a technician on hand, you can sit back and let your event run smoothly and

efficiently in this quiet, stylish space. Offering a blank canvas, clients can brand the Screening Room as they wish. For a breath of fresh air, you can step outside and enjoy the nearby Embankment Galleries which host some of our major exhibitions.

60

Theatre style*



Exclusive hire daytime and evening events
Late night license available on request

Screening room 57.1m²

EVENT PACKAGES

CHRISTMAS PARTY PACKAGES

Host your Christmas celebration at one of London's most spectacular festive settings. Set in the heart of London, our Christmas package combines the perfect location for your party with all of your food, drink and entertainment options taken care of, while our dedicated team will be on hand to ensure your guests enjoy a celebration like no other.

Get in touch with the team today for more information on this year's package options and download a copy [here](#).

'The venue was great, everybody said how they liked that it was in different rooms and not one big room and it was just the right size. The DJ was brilliant and played some great music so all in all everything was perfect. Thank you so much...I will be in touch next year to re-book...'

— Newton Investment Management

'Our event was a total success, it was amazing to host our guests at such an iconic venue! We have had extremely positive feedback and having the ice rink for an hour exclusively was really the icing on the cake. Everything ran so smoothly as well, your team were great.'

— GHD

DAY DELEGATE RATES

Inspire your guests and hold your conference at Somerset House, available for guest numbers for up to 100 in either our Portico Rooms or Navy Board Rooms

Every detail of your conference will be taken care of by our dedicated team, who will arrange your catering with our fantastic onsite caterer and make sure your AV is all set up ready for guest arrival.

Why not make the most of your surroundings by arranging a historical tour of Somerset House for your delegates or include tickets to one of our acclaimed exhibitions? Talk to us about how we can motivate your guests with individual experiences.

Download our current Day Delegate Rate Packages [here](#).

'The event went very well, the atmosphere was great, the space worked very well, the AV team were very professional and were instrumental in creating a quality feel to the day. The food was ideal and everyone went away happy'

— Adept



EVENT OFFERS

SUMMER 2022 EVENT OFFERS

Set against the backdrop of Somerset House's iconic façade and with breath-taking views across the Thames, the River Terrace is one of our most exclusive outdoor spaces - the perfect location to invite your guests to enjoy a private reception while the London landmarks light up your summer event.

Our River Terrace can host up to 500 people for a standing reception or, can be made to feel more intimate for smaller numbers.

This summer we have partnered with some of our brilliant suppliers to bring you some exciting, exclusive offers - including catering options from [Restaurant Associates Events](#), [Clement Worrall](#) and [By Word of Mouth](#), and entertainment options from [Euphonica](#). In addition to your venue hire you can choose from these bespoke options to create the perfect, all-inclusive Summer Package.

Sit back and relax, we will do all the hard work for you. Our dedicated team will be on hand to ensure your guests enjoy a celebration like no other.

Get in touch with the team today for more information on this year's options and download a copy [here](#).

WEDDING CEREMONIES

Steeped in 18th Century history, bathed in natural light with pale decor and stunning views across the Thames and the Courtyard, our Portico and Navy Board Rooms offer a truly glamorous London setting in which to marry and celebrate afterwards.

One of the fantastic benefits of having your wedding at Somerset House is the opportunity to have photographs in our famous Edmond J. Safra Fountain Court with its dancing fountains (seasonal).

Available for up to 100 guests and at weekends only, the grandeur and heritage of Somerset House's diverse venue, coupled with the expertise of the Events team, offer an unrivalled location for unforgettable wedding ceremonies.

Download more information [here](#).

'We had the best day and can't thank you enough for all your help and advice. The ceremony ran seamlessly. We truly loved getting married at Somerset House and will remember the day forever.'

- Lizzie and Joe

'I don't think we, or any of our guests could process how special it was to get married in such an incredible location.'

- Rose and Oli





‘The activities were well organised and stress free. In particular the Historical Tours were very informative and interesting, combined with the Ice Skating and the Gingerbread City meant it covered all staff interests. I had many staff come up to me afterwards saying how much they enjoyed the day as a whole.’

– UCLB

ENHANCE YOUR EVENT

“Our event at Somerset House was a great success. From the initial enquiry to the main event we were looked after by a highly professional team who were on hand to assist every step of the way. I would highly recommend the Historic Tours as this was greatly received and the tour guides were just amazing! So knowledgeable which rounded off a perfect event experience!”
EDF – Corporate Communications Manager

From season to season, our diverse cultural programme is ever changing, offering opportunities to enhance your event and provide guests with an unforgettable experience at Somerset House.

PRIVATE VIEWS

Combine your event with exclusive access to one of our current exhibitions.

GUEST TICKETS

Surprise your guests with tickets to an exhibition alongside your event.

EXHIBITION TOURS & TALKS

Offer your guests a unique insight into one of our exhibitions with a private tour. Alternatively, give your guests a curated talk on the themes of the exhibition before exploring the show.

BEHIND THE SCENES TOURS

Discover evidence of Tudor intrigue and Georgian Enlightenment, of scientific curiosity, naval power and extravagant entertainments by enhancing your event with one of our many tours. These cover the rich history of the neoclassical building and its place in contemporary culture – not only as a global platform for creativity but also as a popular location for Hollywood blockbusters and major TV series. Your guide will lead the group from the intricate lightwells to the atmospheric, subterranean Deadhouse, visiting elegant staircases and the iconic Edmond J.Safra Fountain Court.

To find out more on our current cultural programme contact the team.

LOCATION FILMING & PHOTOGRAPHY

Somerset House has elegant rooms, sweeping staircases, atmospheric lightwells, picturesque terraces, a spectacular courtyard and all manner of interesting lesser known spaces.

From our commanding series of rooftops you'll find the perfect shot of the London skyline, with views across the city and River Thames, taking in the Southbank, the London Eye and Westminster to the east, and St. Paul's Cathedral to the West. They also make the perfect location for high level shots, stunts and chase scenes.

Somerset House has become a leading location for major film and television

series, and an iconic backdrop for major brands' photoshoots. Our flexibility and ability to find new spaces to utilise on-site, featuring both the historic and the contemporary, means that we are always likely to have something that will raise the bar for your brief.

Download our Film Location and Photography Pack [here](#).

'A gem of a place and your team were all great. Very professional, personable and understanding of us. Thank you so much for your hard work, enabling a successful shoot in a fantastic location.'

— Locations Manager



SUPPORT US



Somerset House is London's working arts centre. We are an independent charity, receiving no regular public funding. Instead, we generate income through renting space, commercial event income and with the generous support of our patrons, charitable trusts and foundations and our visitors.

The funds we raise help to present our diverse cultural programme, sustain our community of resident artists and deliver our young people's programmes.

There are many ways you can support as either individual or through your business. Please get in touch with our Development Team to learn more at supportus@somersethouse.org.uk

INDIVIDUALS

- Individuals and couples are able to join our Supporters' Court, an initiative for patrons who share in our artistic vision and support for the next generation of creatives.

CORPORATE PARTNERS & SPONSORS

- Opportunities are available for brand partnerships ranging from headline sponsorship of specific exhibitions and events to pouring rights and year-round partnerships across the site.
- Businesses and organisations can join as Corporate Members with employee and client engagement benefits across our wide-ranging cultural programme

SUSTAINABILITY

At Somerset House we are actively responding to environmental issues, and aim to be cultural leaders in championing sustainability, both through the practical management of our Grade 1 listed historical site and thematically as part of our year round cultural programme. This includes an Edible Utopia programme, developed to utilise waste from on-site cafes and restaurants to create inspired new menus.

A combined cooling, heating and power plant generates over 50% of all electricity used

on-site. The heat generated by this process then goes to warm the building during winter and cool it in summer, dramatically reducing our CO2 emissions.

By working together with visitors and the 2500+ resident creative community, we are committed to collectively reducing our impact on the planet.

You can download our sustainability booklet, featuring top tips on how to host a sustainable event at Somerset House, [here](#).



Somerset House is proud to be an accredited Living Wage payer. We pay all of our staff and sub-contractors the London Living Wage.

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION



Somerset House is more than a building, it is a global platform for creativity, dedicated to nurturing and empowering ideas, backing newness and championing openness. Somerset House draws on its diverse cultural programme and creative community to provide event organisers with a unique offering.

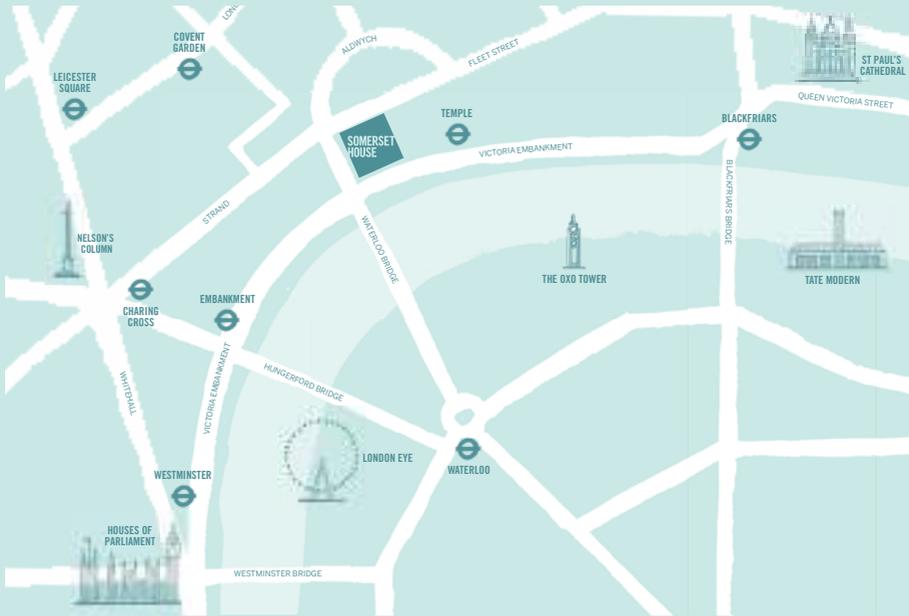
We are committed to building a diverse and inclusive community reflecting the diversity of our society. A community of staff, residents, and audience where everyone feels valued, where their contribution matters and where they can reach their full potential, irrespective of their background, identity or circumstances.

We aim to ensure the diversity of all our staff including volunteers and trustees reflects our society as fully as possible. Similarly, we aim to be home to a resident community of artists and enterprises from an equally diverse range of situations, backgrounds, and disciplines.

On 1 June 2020, Somerset House released a public statement, adding our voice in support of an end to systemic racism and inequality against Black people. Since then, Somerset House has been publicly releasing information on the actions it is taking to combat racism. We have committed to sharing our progress every six months, providing greater transparency to our work so that we can continue to be held to account and enact change. We recognise that this is a journey. We regularly discuss our areas of priority and develop our approaches in between the updates we share. We continue to work towards the end of systemic racism. We are committed to being actively anti-racist across all areas of our work and we are determined that all this work in progress will lead to long term culture change at Somerset House. We have divided our focus into 5 key areas: History, Community, Workforce & Recruitment, Language and Procedures & Policy. A comprehensive list of our current actions can be found [here](#).

Somerset House, Strand
London WC2R 1LA

OUR LOCATION



By London Underground

Nearest stations:

Temple (Circle & District lines;
250 metres, 5 min walk)

Covent Garden (Piccadilly line;
650m, 8min)

Charing Cross (Bakerloo & Northern lines;
700m, 10min)

Embankment (Circle & District lines;
700m, 10min)

Waterloo (Bakerloo, Waterloo & City,
Jubilee & Northern line; 800m, 11min)

By rail

Nearest stations:

Charing Cross (700m, 10min)

Blackfriars (1km, 13min)

Waterloo (1km, 13min)

By river

River Bus Services RB1, RB2 and RB6
all stop at Embankment Pier, roughly 600
metres from Somerset House.

By bicycle

There are bike stands on the Strand,
Aldwych and Victoria Embankment, close
to Somerset House. There are also several
Santander Cycles docking stations near
Somerset House.



Illustrations by lukecharles

 @somersethvenue

 @somersethouse_venuehire

 venue hire at somerset house