



***The Field of the Cloth of Gold***, painted c. 1545 © Royal Collection Trust / His Majesty King Charles III



**Design for a royal pavilion in crimson and gold, surmounted by 18 King's Beasts,  
said to be for Henry VIII at the Field of the Cloth of Gold**

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## Section describing the English camp at the Field of the Cloth of Gold from Edmund Hall's *Chronicle*, published 1548

### Original text

Mondaye the iiii daye of lune the kynges grace with all the nobles aswell the quene with her trayne of ladyes as other, ... remoued from Calis to his lordship royall of Guisnes into the most noble and royall lodgyng before sene, for itwas a palays,the palays was quadrant, .... This palayce was sette on stages by great connyng and sumpteous woorke.

On the other hande or syde of the gate, was sest a pylier which was or auncient Romayne woorke borne with iiii. Lyonsof golde,the pyllers wrapped in a wrethe of golde curiously wroughte and intrayled, and on the sommet of thesayde pyller stode animageof the blyde God Cupid with his bowe and arrowes of loue redy by his semyng, to Stryke the younge people to loue.

The forgate of the same palays of place with great mighty masonry by sight was arched, with a tower on euery syde of thesameporte rered by great crafte, and inbattayled was the gate and tower, an in the fenestres and wyndowes wereimages resemblyngemen of warre redy to caste greate stones: Also the same gate or tower was set with compassed imagesof auncient Prynces, asHercules, Alexander and other by entrayled woorke, rycheley lymned with golde and Albyn colours, and welland warly wasmade ouer the gate louns, and enfoced with battaylementes and inthesame gate a lodge for theporter: whyche there aperedand other, sumpteously apparayled lyke vnto kynges officers.

### Modern translation (by H. Carrel)

[On] Monday the 4th day of June, the king's grace with all the nobles as well [as] the queen with her train of ladies as well as others... removed from Calais to his lordship royall of Guisnes into the most noble and royal lodging before seen, for it was a palace; the palace was [a] quadrant... This palace was set on stages by great cunning and sumptuous work.

On the other hand or side of the gate was set a pillar which was of ancient Roman work born with four lions of gold, the pillars wrapped in a wreath of gold, curiously wrought and inlaid, and on the summit of the said pillar stood images of the blind god Cupid, with his bow and arrows of love ready by his appearance to strike the young people to love.

The front gate of the same palace was placed with great, mighty stonework by sight was arched, with a tower on every side of the same gate rendered by great skill, and reinforced was the gate and tower, and in the window settings and windows were images resembling men of war, ready to cast great stones. Also, the same gate or tower was set with a display of images of ancient princes, such as Hercules, Alexander and others, by inlaid work, richly lined with gold and white colours, and well and warlike was made over the gate loops and reinforced with battlements and in the same gate [there was a] lodge for the porter, who also appeared there sumptuously dressed, as did the king's officers.

## Section describing the English camp at the Field of the Cloth of Gold from Edmund Hall's *Chronicle*, published 1548

### Original transcription

And from this palaice or place into the mightie and strong fortresse and Castell royall ofguisnes, was a galery for the secrete passage of the kynges persone into a secrete lodgyngwithin the same Castle the more for the kynges ease.

Also to this palaice was all houses of offices, that to suche an honourable courte shoudapperteigne, that is to wete, the lord Chamberlaine, lorde Steward, lorde Thresourer of thehoushold, for the Comptroller, and office of grene Clothe, Wardroppes,... and office of houshold seruice, as Ewery, Pantrie, Seller, Buttery, Spicery, pitcher house, Larder and Poultrie, and all other offices so large and faire that the officers might and did marueiles, as inthe craft of viandes, by Ouens, harthes, reredorses, Chimnays, Ranges and such instrumentesthat there was ordained. In this palaice as ye haue heard, was the kinges grace lodged and allthe nobles after their degrees. And for that the tounde of Guysnes was litle, and that all the noble menne might not there be lodged, thei sette vp tentes in the felde, to the number oftwentie and eight hundred sundery lodgynges, whiche was a goodly sighte. Thus was the kyngin his Palais royall at Guysnes.

### Modern translation (by H. Carrel)

And from the palace or place into the mighty and strong fortress and royal castle of Guisnes, was a gallery for the secret movement of the king's person into a secret lodging within the same Castle, the more for the king's ease.

Also to this palace was all the houses of the officers, that to such an honourable court was appropriate, that is to say, the lord Chamberlain, the lord Steward, the lord Treasurer of the household, for the Controller of the accounts, and office of green cloth, wardrobes, and the office of household services, such as the ewery, pantry, the cellar, buttery, spicery, pitcher house, larder and the poultry, and all the other offices so large and fair that the officers might and did marvels, as in the craft of cookery, by ovens, hearths, fireplaces, chimneys, ranges and such instruments that there were ordained. In this palace, as ye have heard, was the king's grace lodged and all the nobles according to their rank. And because that town of Guisnes was small, and because all the noblemen could not be lodged there, they set up tents in the field, to the number of 820 different lodgings, which was a good sight indeed. Thus was the king in his royal palace at Guisnes.



**Armour with full 'tonlet' (skirt), designed for Henry VIII to use at the Field of the Cloth of Gold. The second image is a close-up of the detailing on the skirt.**

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