

DUCHESS OF CAMBRIDGE

KATE

The Royal Life

You just never know where you'll meet Prince Charming. Kate met hers in 2003 while studying art history at the University of St Andrews in Scotland. (Prince William also majored in art history before changing to geography.) They were able to keep their relationship out of the press for more than a year—which is quite an achievement, given the royal-obsessed British paparazzi. But after Kate was seen on a royal family ski trip, life was never common for her again. On April 29, 2011, the former college roomies became the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge when they wed in front of millions of viewers worldwide. Less than a year later, Kate and Will announced they were expecting a baby—and on July 22, 2013, George Alexander Louis arrived. The tyke isn't just adorable—he's also third in line to the throne after his grandpa Prince Charles and his dad, but before his sister, Charlotte Elizabeth Diana, who was born on May 2, 2015, and is fourth in line for the throne.



BORN:

January 9, 1982

HOMETOWN:

Reading, Berkshire, England

REGAL BEGINNINGS:

Kate and Prince William started their relationship as roommates! Living in an apartment with several other university students, the couple fell in love. Still, they waited eight years to tie the knot and turn Kate from a commoner into a princess.



ROYAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Kate is the ultimate “People’s Princess”—a title also bestowed upon William’s late mother, Princess Di, for her naturalness and warmth toward others. Even though there isn’t a speck of anything royal in Kate’s background (she hails from a family of coal miners and builders, although her parents are self-made millionaires), the duchess has never made a misstep in following her royal protocol and duties, which is quite an achievement given so many are tracking her every move. She does find certain aspects of life as a princess stressful—like her wardrobe changes, which can number as many as five a day—and having the secret service and household staff always around. But she’s managed to maintain a sense of normalcy, even if it’s just putting on her own makeup (which she does) and wearing her dresses more than once (which she also does!). Kate can be spotted at the supermarket, pushing a cart full of groceries like any ordinary mom. Her default evening isn’t a grand ball, but a night at home cooking William’s favorite dinner of roast chicken and then binge-watching TV.



Kate, one-year-old Prince George, and Will



Kate and Will with their newest royal,
Princess Charlotte