

## Glorious Gardens and Castles of Wales 9th - 15th July 2023 (6 nights)



This delightful, high season tour travels the length of Wales and incorporates superb scenery including Snowdonia and the Brecon Beacons National Parks. We visit medieval castles, famous gardens, private estates and stay in two lovely hotels. We also include a day at the famous Italianate village of Portmeirion.

### Sunday 9th July

We meet at **London Euston Train Station** for our mid-morning departure. We take a relaxing train journey to Crewe where the coach will meet us for our transfer to the hotel. We arrive, mid-afternoon at the **4-star Bodysgallen Hall**. This lovely country house hotel is situated in 200 acres of parkland with a unique 17th century parterre garden. We have time to look around the delightful gardens with drinks before dinner in the hotel (included).



### Monday 10th July

We begin our day with a visit to **Bodnant Gardens** – often described as one of the most spectacular gardens in Britain with their formal terraces giving far reaching views to the mountains of Snowdonia. We have an introductory talk on arrival followed by free time to explore the gardens and have lunch (independent). In the afternoon, we journey across North Wales, passing Conwy Castle to the **Island of Anglesey**. Here we visit **Plas Cadnant Hidden Gardens**. This large estate has been restored since 1996 and the historic gardens have undergone a spectacular transformation. They are now considered a plantsman's paradise with three distinct areas: the walled garden, valley gardens and upper woodland garden. We have dinner in a local restaurant (included).



### Tuesday 11th July

Today we take a scenic drive through **Snowdonia National Park** to the fascinating and quirky village of **Portmeirion**. We will enjoy a guided tour through the Italianate village which was developed by Welsh architect, Sir Clough Williams-Ellis over 50 years from the 1920's. His vision was to show how a naturally beautiful site could be developed without spoiling it. We then have lunch (included) in the Art Deco restaurant overlooking the estuary. In the afternoon we head back to our hotel, stopping en-route to visit the majestic **Caernarfon Castle**. Dinner in the hotel (included).



### Wednesday 12th July

After checking out of our hotel, we travel south and visit **Powis Castle**. We enjoy a guided gardens tour and free time for lunch (independent). This impressive medieval castle houses the treasures collected by the Clive family and the terraced garden

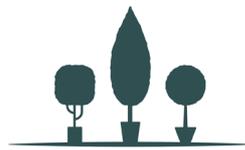


Photo credits: Brockhampton Cottage © P. Clay; High Glanau © H. Gerrish.

boasts spectacular yew hedges, lavish herbaceous borders and Italianate terraces. We then continue to **Abergavenny**, an attractive market town on the edge of the **Brecon Beacons National Park** to check into the **4-star Angel Hotel**. We have dinner in the hotel (included).

#### Thursday 13th July

After a leisurely start this morning we visit **Llanover Gardens**. This wonderful estate sits in the Usk Valley at the foot of the Black Mountains. The 18-acre Grade II-listed garden features a walled 'round garden', two arboreta and extensive herbaceous borders and lawns. We pause, nearby, for a light lunch (included). In the afternoon we stop at **the home of two self-confessed 'plantaholics'** whose knowledge of botany and plant breeding is unsurpassed. They will show us around their 2-acre garden which is densely planted to generate an exuberant display through the seasons. Your evening is at leisure in Abergavenny.

#### Friday 14th July

Today we visit two gardens that have flourished under the creative eye of landscape designer Tom Stuart-Smith. We begin with a visit to **Brockhampton Cottage** that sits on a rise in the south Herefordshire countryside and gives wonderful views of the landscape beyond. The garden is a harmonious mixed palette of perennials and grasses that flows through the gardens and blends with the landscape beyond.

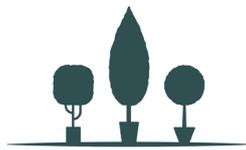
We continue to a nearby **18th century manor house, surrounded by a delightful garden**. We have lunch (included) on arrival then stroll through the garden which is planted on two levels. This contemporary two-acre garden features mixed planting of perennials and grasses and was also designed by Tom Stuart-Smith, so expect drama, texture and colour. We return to the hotel for dinner (included).

#### Saturday 15th July

We check-out this morning and head back towards London. En-route we make a stop at a true Arts & Crafts gem – **High Glanau Manor**. This beautiful house was the home of Avrey Tipping, editor of Country Life Magazine in the 1920's. The current owners have restored the gardens to their original glory and we are invited to have lunch with them in the house (included) before strolling through the gardens.

In the late afternoon, we drop off at The Sheraton Heathrow Hotel and Heathrow Airport Terminal 3 for inter-terminal transport links and the Heathrow Express train travel into London.

[Full details of tour joining and departure can be found on our website.](#)



## OUR HOTELS

Our hotels are 4-star and selected for their high standards of comfort and service. All rooms are ensuite and offer free wifi access.

### **Bodysgallen Hall, Llandudno (3 nights)**

Secluded in over 200 acres of parkland with spectacular views of Snowdonia, Grade 1 listed Bodysgallen Hall provides all that is best in country house hospitality. Beautiful gardens include a 17th century parterre of box hedges, a walled rose garden and several follies. All 31 rooms are individually designed in a traditional country house style and thoughtfully furnished with antiques and paintings.

### **The Angel, Abergavenny (3 nights)**

The Angel is a smart, lively hotel in the middle of picturesque Abergavenny. The elegant former coaching inn, has 32 comfortable rooms, a stylish restaurant and a separate cosy bar. The interiors have been finished with a subtle country feel, elegant chandeliers, big ferns in vases and works by local artists.



## TOUR PRICE:

All tours are priced in £GBP

**£4,150** price per person (sharing twin or double room)  
£330 single supplement (solo occupancy of a double room)

### **Prices include:**

- 6 nights' accommodation at 4-star hotels with en-suite facilities.
- Breakfast daily, 4 lunches and 5 dinners.
- All garden visits including tours with garden owners and head gardeners.
- All tour gratuities (driver, tour director and hotels).
- Deluxe coach travel with professional driver.
- An information pack with detailed booklet about the gardens we will be visiting.
- Services of your Sisley tour director throughout.

### **Prices exclude:**

- Airfares.
- Passport and/or visa fees if applicable.
- Meals not included in the tour, drinks, laundry, and telephone calls.

### **Tour Payment:**

A 10% non-refundable deposit is required to secure your place(s) on the tour. Your balance payment is due 90 days prior to the tour departure.

## BOOK YOUR TOUR

**There are three ways to book your garden tour:**

### **With your own travel agent:**

You can book a Sisley Garden Tour in your local currency through your own travel agent. Just provide us with their contact details on your booking form and we will take care of the rest.

### **With our travel partner in the USA:**

After 20 happy years of partnership, Worldwide Traveler has retired as our US travel partner. We are currently seeking to appoint a new representative to work with in the US. Please contact us for details.

### **With Sisley Garden Tours:**

All clients are welcome to book a tour directly with us. We can accept payment in GBP£ by bank transfer or by credit/ debit card.

Contact: Fran Pride or Colette Walker  
T: +44 (0)1423 396506. E: [tours@sisley.co.uk](mailto:tours@sisley.co.uk)

**Booking form:** To book your place(s) please complete our online booking form at [www.sisley.co.uk/2023-booking-form](http://www.sisley.co.uk/2023-booking-form). As soon as we receive your booking form, we will confirm availability on the tour of your choice and arrange collection of your deposit which secures your booking.

**Booking terms & conditions:** Full details of our booking terms & conditions can be found at [www.sisley.co.uk/terms-and-conditions](http://www.sisley.co.uk/terms-and-conditions).

Please see the **Frequently Asked Questions** section on our website for further information.  
[www.sisley.co.uk/frequently-asked-questions/](http://www.sisley.co.uk/frequently-asked-questions/)