



Iconic English Gardens with Chelsea Flower Show - Tour 1 20th - 27th May 2023 (7 nights)



Visit the world-famous Chelsea Flower Show on members-only day, the Royal Horticultural Society's garden at Wisley, the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew and the majestic Hampton Court Palace. We also spend four days in Kent, exploring some of England's most iconic gardens including Great Dixter, Sissinghurst Castle and Hever Castle.

Saturday 20th May

We meet at the **Sheraton Heathrow Hotel** and depart mid-morning. We make the short journey to the **4-star Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court**. We drop off our bags at the hotel and stroll across the road to **Hampton Court Palace**. Discover the world of King Henry VIII and his Tudor Court and the vast formal gardens that extend over 60 acres. There is free time for lunch (independent). In the late afternoon we enjoy a **private cruise along the River Thames** from the hotel's jetty. We have dinner in the hotel (included).

Sunday 21st May

Today we visit **RHS Wisley** – the Royal Horticultural Society's headquarters. We will have a guided tour of the superb and varied gardens, followed by lunch (included) in the Tulip Room. We return to the hotel in the afternoon where your evening is at leisure.



Monday 22nd May

This morning we head to the **Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew**. On arrival we will have a guided tour of the extensive gardens which have been designated as an UNESCO World Heritage Site. There is then free time to further explore and have lunch (independent). We depart mid-afternoon and return to the hotel. Dinner in the hotel (included).



Tuesday 23rd May

Today we enjoy the first members-only day at the **RHS Chelsea Flower Show**. Marvel at the magnificent floral displays proudly presented by the best nurseries and specialist growers in the main pavilion. Be inspired by the extraordinary show gardens created by the leading lights in horticulture and see the 'Fresh Gardens' designed by emerging talent. Enjoy the extensive array of gardening tools, sculptures, clothing and garden gifts. In the late afternoon we travel to Kent and check into the **4-star Spa Hotel, Royal Tunbridge Wells**. Dinner in the hotel (included).



Wednesday 24th May

This morning we take a pre-opening tour of **Hever Castle**. This picturesque, double-moated castle was the childhood

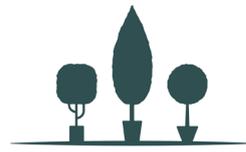


Photo credits: Hever Castle ©VisitBritain/Pete Seaward.
and Hampton Court Palace ©VisitBritain/Historic Royal Palaces.

home of Anne Boleyn, second wife of King Henry VIII. The extensive grounds feature a 35-acre lake, fountains, and magnificent original Roman and Italian Renaissance statuary. Time for lunch (independent) at Hever Castle.

In the afternoon we are treated to an exclusive visit to the beautiful private gardens at **Long Barn**. This was the first home of Vita Sackville-West and Harold Nicolson, where they ‘served their gardening apprenticeship’, before moving to Sissinghurst. We have dinner in a **traditional English pub** (included).

Thursday 25th May

Our first visit today is a pre-opening guided tour of **Great Dixter House and Garden**, a cottage garden on a grand scale developed by the late Christopher Lloyd. The gardens are now superbly curated by internationally renowned gardener, Fergus Garrett.

Afterwards, we head to the delightful town of **Rye** for lunch (included) and shopping. We continue onto **Godinton House and Gardens**, a superb ancient estate where we will enjoy a private guided tour of the splendid formal gardens. Both the Jacobean house and gardens have been lovingly restored. Your evening is at leisure in Tunbridge Wells.

Friday 26th May

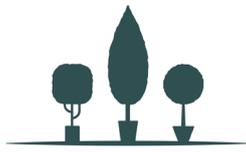
We begin the day with a pre-opening visit to **Sissinghurst Castle Gardens**, a romantic garden created around a slender brick-built castle tower. Its designer Vita Sackville-West’s own words describe the garden, “Profusion, even extravagance and exuberance within the confines of the utmost linear severity”. After, we head to **Pashley Manor**, an immaculate garden with emphasis on colour and form that surrounds a beautiful, timbered Tudor house with 18th century additions. After lunch (independent) we enjoy an introductory talk and time to explore the gardens. We return to the hotel for dinner (included).

Saturday 27th May

After checkout, our final visit is to **Chartwell House**, home of Sir Winston Churchill the British wartime Prime Minister. Chartwell is much more than just a fascinating house, it boasts an extensive garden with far-reaching views and his studio which is home to the largest collection of Churchill’s paintings. Lunch (independent) at Chartwell. In the 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.](#)

NOTE: This tour includes one year’s individual membership of the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS).



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.

The Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court (3 nights)

Overlooking the River Thames, and built around the same time as Hampton Court Palace, this delightful 4-star hotel is refined, yet relaxed. It has recently undergone a complete refurbishment, and the blend of colour and antiques give each room its own individual style. The riverside bar and restaurant have spectacular views over the river and Hampton Court Palace is located just a few paces from the front door of the hotel.



The Spa Hotel, Royal Tunbridge Wells (4 nights)

Situated in 14 acres of picturesque grounds on the edge of Royal Tunbridge Wells, The Spa is a 4-star family run hotel offering 70 well-appointed and individually styled bedrooms. Originally built in 1766 as a country mansion, the hotel is surrounded by glorious gardens and includes an indoor swimming pool, gym, floodlit tennis court and 2 AA rosette restaurant.



TOUR PRICE:

All tours are priced in £GBP

£4,350 price per person (sharing twin or double room)
£440 single supplement (solo occupancy of a double room)

Prices include:

- 7 nights' accommodation at 4-star hotels with en-suite facilities.
- Breakfast daily, 2 lunches and 5 dinners.
- All garden visits including tours with garden owners and head gardeners.
- All tour gratuities (driver, tour director and hotels).
- One year's membership of the Royal Horticultural Society RHS.
- 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 in 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

Booking form: To book your place(s) please complete our online booking form at 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.

Please see the **Frequently Asked Questions** section on our website for further information.

www.sisley.co.uk/frequently-asked-questions/