



A Garden Lovers' Tour of Chester, Chatsworth & the Peak District 16th - 22nd June 2024 (6 nights)



This delightful, new two-centre tour focuses on the beautiful gardens and scenery of Cheshire and the stunning Peak District National Park. We spend time in the historic city of Chester, explore the majestic Chatsworth House – Britain's finest stately home, discover some fabulous private gardens and enjoy a visit to the Royal Horticultural Society's newest garden, RHS Bridgewater.

Sunday 16th June

We meet at **London Euston Train Station** for our mid-morning departure. We take a relaxing train journey to Warrington with lunch on the train (independent). We then meet our coach and make our way to **RHS Bridgewater Garden**, the newest member of the RHS family of gardens. Reviving the gardens of the historic 156-acre Worsley New Hall estate represents one of the largest gardening projects in Europe this decade. Leading landscape architect Tom Stuart-Smith was appointed to create the master plan and design the Paradise Garden within the extensive walled garden.

We continue on to the **4-star Hotel Indigo, Chester** to check in and have dinner (included).

Monday 17th June

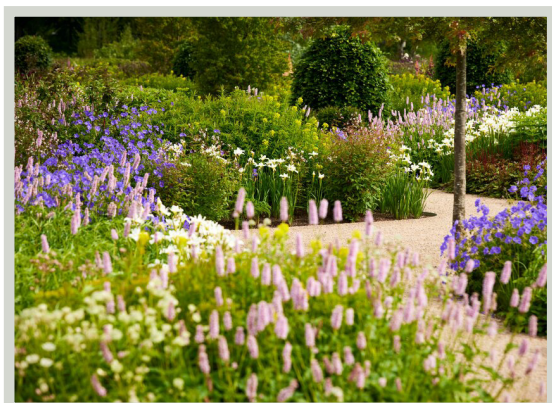
Today we visit **two of Cheshire's finest private gardens** that are seldom open to the public. Our first visit is to a garden of contemporary delights, created by its owners and head gardener. With new areas always under development, it is a garden full of big ideas. We have lunch in a **traditional English pub** (included).

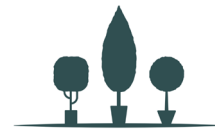
After lunch, we head to **the second wonderful private garden** which has been described as the 'Highgrove of the north'. The owner's only instruction to his head gardener and chief designer was simply to make it 'amazing'. We return to Chester where your evening is at leisure (dinner independent).

Tuesday 18th June

We begin today with a visit to one of the best private gardens in the country, **Wollerton Old Hall**. It is set around a 16th century 'hall house' and has been developed over the last 25 years in the English Garden tradition with echoes of Arts & Crafts. We will have a light lunch (included) and a tour of the gardens with the Head Gardener. Wollerton Old Hall is an absolute Sisley favourite!

In the afternoon we head back to **Chester** for a **walking tour** of this fascinating historic city, founded on the River Dee by the Romans. Its distinctive black and white half-timbered buildings, with their unique covered walkways known as 'the Rows', are full of character and stories. Your evening is at leisure in Chester to enjoy dinner in one of its many eateries (independent).





Wednesday 19th June



After checking out of our hotel, we enjoy two fascinating gardens. First, we are treated to an exclusive tour and private lunch (included) at **Biddulph Old Hall**. This unique garden has been created in the romantic ruin of a 17th century manor house. It was home to the pre-Raphaelite artist Robert Bateman and has been lovingly restored by the current owners.

We continue next door to **Biddulph Grange Gardens**. These extraordinary Victorian gardens take you on a global journey from Italy to the pyramids of Egypt, from a Chinese temple to a Himalayan glen. In the late afternoon we travel through the **Peak District National Park** to check in to the **4-star Cavendish Hotel, Baslow** on the Chatsworth estate. We have dinner in the hotel (included).

Thursday 20th June



This morning, we walk through the beautiful countryside to nearby **Chatsworth House** – home to the Duke of Devonshire and England's finest stately home. We have a tour of the gardens which have been developed by horticultural greats including Joseph Paxton and Lancelot 'Capability' Brown. We then have lunch (included) in the private Burlington Room. After lunch, we explore the wonderful interiors of the house. Later, we take a **scenic drive through the Peak District National Park** and return to the hotel. Your evening is at leisure to enjoy one of the village pubs and restaurants or dine at the hotel (independent).

Friday 21st June



Today we begin with a visit to the Tudor **Haddon Hall**, one of England's finest examples of a medieval manor. We will have a guided tour of the hall and gardens. Parts of the house date from the 12th century, but Arne Maynard – gold medal winner at RHS Chelsea Flower Show – as garden designer, is giving the gardens a historic make-over.

We stop in the charming Peak District market town of **Bakewell** for lunch (independent) and shopping. Later we visit the lovely gardens at **Thornbridge Hall** with its 12 acres of stylish English gardens before returning to the hotel for dinner (included).

Saturday 22nd June

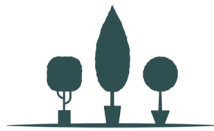


We check out this morning and enjoy a private visit to **Felley Priory** – a 16th century house with beautiful gardens situated on the grounds of a former priory established by Augustinian monks in 1156. We have Afternoon Tea for lunch (included) in the garden before continuing onto East Midland Parkway Station. From here we take the train to **London St Pancras station**, arriving late afternoon – for your onward journeys.

Full details of tour joining and departure can be found on our website.

Note: This tour can easily be combined with our Exclusive Gardens & Magnificent Roses in the Heart of England tour or the Grand Houses and Gardens of Yorkshire & the Lake District.

Photo credits: ©Biddulph Old Hall; ©RHS/Bridgewater Hall; ©VisitBritain/Chatsworth.



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.

Hotel Indigo, Chester (3 nights)

This modern, boutique hotel is located close to the heart of the historic, walled city of Chester with its excellent restaurants, shops and handsome Cathedral. The individually styled bedrooms are complemented by contemporary bathrooms and a comfortable lounge area and bar. The on site restaurant, The Forge focuses on British ingredients and is led by notable chef, Mike Robinson.



The Cavendish Hotel, Baslow (3 nights)

Located in one of the Peak District's most picturesque villages, the Cavendish Hotel at Baslow became the property of the Chatsworth estate around 1830 and in the early 1970s was rebuilt as the Cavendish Hotel. The Duchess of Devonshire selected the decor and furnishings, some of which came from Chatsworth House. NB: This hotel does not have a lift due to the historic nature of the building and some rooms are accessed via a staircase.



TOUR PRICE:

All tours are priced in GBP£

£4,500 price per person (sharing twin or double room)
£595 single supplement (solo occupancy of a double room)

Prices include:

- 6 nights' accommodation at 4-star hotels with ensuite facilities.
- Breakfast daily, 4 lunches and 4 dinners.
- Assistance with luggage at the hotels.
- All garden visits including tours with garden owners and head gardeners.
- Deluxe coach travel with professional driver.
- First-class train travel to and from London at the start and end of the tour. (Please note: During train travel you will be responsible for managing your own luggage on and off the train.)
- An information pack with detailed booklet about the gardens we will be visiting.
- Services of your Sisley tour director throughout.
- All tour gratuities (driver, tour director and hotels).

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 120 days prior to the tour departure.

BOOK YOUR TOUR

To book your place(s) please complete our online booking form at www.sisley.co.uk/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.

There are three ways to pay for your tour and you will be asked on the booking form which you prefer:

With our travel partner in North America:

You can book your tour in USD\$ or CAD\$ by credit/debit card, check or bank transfer with our partners at DHTour – a London and UK specialist travel agent who can assist with all aspects of your trip.

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.

With your own travel agent:

We are happy to work with your preferred travel agent. Just provide us with their contact details on the booking form and we will take care of the rest.

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/