

# Chelsea Flower Show, Cotswolds & the Royal Gardens at Highgrove 19th - 25th May 2024 (6 nights)









This delightful two-centre tour combines the world-famous RHS Chelsea Flower Show on members-only day, RHS Wisley and the Royal Gardens at Highgrove, with a selection of superb private gardens in the Cotswolds. On this tour you can be assured of wonderful scenery, great hotels and inspirational gardens.

# Sunday 19th May

After our morning pick up at the **Sheraton Heathrow Hotel** at Heathrow Airport, we head to the **Royal Horticultural Society's flagship garden at RHS Wisley.** We enjoy a guided tour so you'll be sure to see the very best of these impressive and extensive gardens, which cover some 240 acres and inspire in any season. We have lunch (included) in the Tulip Room. In the afternoon we check in to the **4-star Foxhills Hotel**. Dinner is in the hotel (included).

# Monday 20th May

We begin our day at **The Manor at Upton Grey** with its garden designed by Gertrude Jekyll in 1908. The current owner spent years researching the garden's history, then set about restoring it, and it is now considered to be the most complete and authentic Jekyll designed garden still in existence.

We continue to **West Green Garden**, one of England's finest manor house gardens created by acclaimed garden designer and Chelsea Flower Show award winner, Marylyn Abbott. We enjoy lunch in the gorgeous garden conservatory (included), time in the gardens and a floral demonstration. We return to the hotel where your evening is at leisure (dinner independent).

# **Tuesday 21st May**

After checking out, we head to central London to enjoy the first members-only day at the **RHS Chelsea Flower Show**. Marvel at the magnificent floral displays 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 enjoy the extensive array of gardening tools and gifts. There is time for lunch (independent).

Later, we travel to the Cotswolds and check in to the **4-star Close Hotel in Tetbury.** Dinner is in the hotel (included).

## Wednesday 22nd May

Today, we begin with a visit to **Rodmarton Manor**, one of the finest Arts & Crafts houses in Britain. It is still owned by the Biddulph family for whom it was built in 1909. We enjoy a private tour of the house followed by time to explore the gardens. We then return to **Tetbury** for free time for shopping and lunch (independent).









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In the afternoon, we visit the **Royal Gardens at Highgrove.** This is the private home of His Majesty King Charles III and Queen Camilla. It is widely regarded as one of the most innovative gardens in the UK and is managed on the strictest sustainable and organic principles. We enjoy dinner at Highgrove (included).

Please note: Visits to Highgrove are limited and dependent on the King's diary. Dates are released in early spring each year, therefore it is not possible to guarantee a visit before this time. Our itinerary may be re-ordered to accommodate the visit, or an alternative garden will be included should a visit not be possible.

# Thursday 23rd May

We begin the day with a pre-opening visit to **Iford Manor**, a Grade I Italianate garden designed by the architect and landscape gardener, Harold Peto. The manor house is also famed for its tranquil beauty and romantic setting. We will have a tour of the gardens with the owner.

We then drive through the historic **city of Bath** to a **privately owned house, with award-winning gardens** which were designed and developed by Julian and Isabel Bannerman over twenty years. The gardens are truly romantic and a rare treat. We will enjoy a light lunch (included) then take a stroll through the gardens before departure. We return to the hotel for dinner (included).

# Friday 24th May

After a leisurely start, we visit the attractive market town of **Cirencester** with its Roman heritage and beautiful, 11th century church. There is time for you to explore independently and have lunch. In the afternoon we visit **Througham Court Garden**. This extraordinary private garden is inspired by scientific facts and theories, and the numbers and patterns found in nature. Afterwards, we continue on to **Miserden Garden**, a delightful Cotswolds garden that was designed, in part, by Edwin Lutyens. After meeting the owner and exploring the garden, we have a private dinner (included) in the Glasshouse Cafe.

## Saturday 25th May

This morning we visit a **delightful private garden**, originally designed by Arne Maynard, with the picturesque River Avon at its heart. We enjoy a final lunch (included) in the garden. 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.

<u>Full details of tour joining and departure can be found on our website.</u>

**Note:** This tour includes one year's individual membership of the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS). This tour can easily be combined with our Garden Gems of Cornwall, Devon & the Isles of Scilly tour.

# **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.

## Foxhills Hotel & Spa, Ottershaw (2 nights)

Foxhills is an oasis of tranquillity with a 19th century manor house at its centre on a 400 acre estate with picturesque woodland. The hotel boasts two championship golf courses and excellent leisure facilities with four swimming pools. The executive bedrooms are complemented by three restaurants offering contemporary British cuisine.

## The Close, Tetbury (4 nights)

This handsome hotel is located in the heart of Tetbury with its irresistible antique shops and boutiques. With just 20 bedrooms, each of which has been individually styled, this 16th century house was originally built for a gentleman farmer. Today, the hotel offers an appealing restaurant & bar, a beautiful walled garden and a team of friendly staff. NB: This hotel does not have a lift due to the historic nature of the building and most rooms are accessed via a staircase.

# **TOUR PRICE:**

All tours are priced in GBP£

**£4,400** price per person (sharing twin or double room) £535 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 5 dinners.
- Assistance with luggage at the hotels.
- All garden visits including tours with garden owners and head gardeners.
- One year's membership of the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS).
- First members-only day at Chelsea Flower Show.
- Deluxe coach travel with professional driver.
- Transfers to and from the hotel and Heathrow Airport at the start and end of the tour.
- 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 <u>www.sisley.co.uk/terms-and-conditions</u>.

Please see the **Frequently Asked Questions** section on our website for further information. <u>www.sisley.co.uk/frequently-asked-questions/</u>





