

‘Marvels of Monmouthshire’ - an exclusive garden tour in partnership with *The English Garden Magazine*. 25th - 28th June 2024 (3 nights)



Join us for an exciting four-day tour opening the gates of some of the most exclusive gardens in Monmouthshire with Sisley Garden Tours and *The English Garden* magazine.

Accompanied by an expert local guide, we'll explore historic garden gems, gardens of innovative contemporary design and private, personal gardens of exceptional beauty.

Based at the award-winning Angel Hotel, Abergavenny, we will spend four days travelling around the beautiful Monmouthshire countryside. You can expect good food, the company of fascinating garden owners and head gardeners and first class service.



Tuesday 25th June

After independent journeys to Abergavenny, we'll meet in the early afternoon at **The Angel Hotel** in Abergavenny, our four-star base for the tour.

This elegant former coaching inn is located at the heart of the vibrant 'foodie' town of Abergavenny. Car parking is available at the hotel or Abergavenny is a 2.5-hour train ride from London (see our tour joining & tour end arrangements for more information [here](#)).



Our first visit is to the privately owned, **Highfield Farm**, the home of two self-confessed 'plantaholics' whose knowledge of botany and plant breeding is unsurpassed. They will show us around their 3-acre garden which is densely planted to generate an exuberant display through the seasons. Highfield Farm was recently voted the regional winner of 'The Nation's Favourite Garden' competition.

We return to Abergavenny and enjoy a private welcome dinner (included) at the hotel.

Wednesday 26th June

Today we are treated to three of the finest Arts & Crafts gardens in Britain designed and created by Henry Avray Tipping. A distinguished architectural historian, garden designer of note and architectural Editor of *Country Life* magazine for 17 years in the early 1900s, Tipping developed these gardens over a period of 40 years. We will be joined by Helena Gerrish who is a leading authority on Tipping and has written two books and many papers about his work.



We begin with a talk and a garden tour at Helena's own garden, **High Glanau Manor**. Helena has restored the garden at High Glanau to the original 1923 design and we are invited to have coffee in the house and see Tipping's own study.

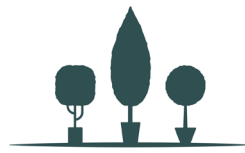


Image credits: Sisley Garden Tours; High Glanau Manor and Mounton House courtesy of Helena Gerrish.

We then head to **Wyndcliffe Court** for lunch (included). Designed in 1922 by Tipping in the 'Italianate' Arts & Crafts style, this garden is impressively unaltered. The gardens feature ancient, sculpted topiary, a sunken garden, walled gardens, roses, ponds, and woodland.

Our final exclusive visit of the day is to **Mounton House** - a masterpiece restored. This extensive Edwardian house and garden, designed by Tipping from 1911, has been recently re-imagined by the current owners with the help of award-winning garden designer, Arne Maynard. We are privileged to access this garden with Helena, who has recently written a book about its restoration.

We return to Abergavenny where your evening is at leisure to enjoy one of the many fine restaurants or pubs in the town.

Thursday 27th June

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', impressive arboretum and extensive herbaceous borders and lawns. We will enjoy a guided tour with the very knowledgeable owner.

We pause, nearby, for a light lunch (included) in a restored chapel.

In the afternoon, we head south to a most picturesque farmhouse that is the home of the renowned garden designer Arne Maynard. We have a guided tour of his gardens at **Allt y Bela**. These magical gardens incorporate formal topiary, dramatic earth sculpture and gentle native planting, which allows the garden to melt into the landscape with no boundaries at all.

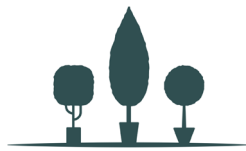
We return to the hotel for dinner (included).

Friday 28th June

After checking out of the hotel, we visit **The Laskett**. This is the personal, 4-acre garden of Sir Roy Strong CH and his late wife Julia Trevelyan Oman CBE, reflecting their careers in the arts with design influences both from history and from contemporary gardeners. The garden has been bequeathed to, and is now managed by Perennial, a charity dedicated to helping people in horticulture.

We will be welcomed by the garden manager and enjoy a tour of the gardens, followed by a private lunch in Sir Roy Strong's former home. After lunch, we return to The Angel Hotel, Abergavenny to say our goodbyes

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



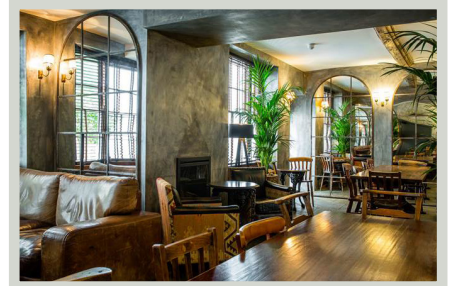
OUR HOTEL

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

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 with an excellent reputation 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.

The Welsh market town of Abergavenny sits at the edge of the Bannau Brycheiniog (Brecon Beacons) National Park and was voted Condé Nast Travellers' top 10 places to visit in the UK. There are eclectic, independent shops, an excellent daily market and the impressive St Mary's Abbey and medieval tithe barn. Don't miss the delicious Angel bakery opposite the hotel.



TOUR PRICE:

All tours are priced in £GBP

£2,850 price per person (sharing twin or double room)
£225 single supplement (solo occupancy of a double room)

Prices include:

- 3 nights' accommodation at the 4-star Angel Hotel with en-suite facilities.
- Breakfast daily, 3 lunches and 2 dinners.
- All garden visits including tours with garden owners and head gardeners.
- All tour gratuities (driver, tour director and hotels).
- Deluxe midi-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 if applicable.
- Travel to and from Abergavenny at the start and end of the tour.
- 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 by Monday 26th February 2024.

BOOK YOUR TOUR

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

As soon as we receive your booking form, we will confirm availability on the tour 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 Sisley Garden Tours:

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

With our travel partner in North America:

You can book your tour in USD\$ or CAD\$ by credit/ debit card, cheque 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 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/