

A Tale of Two Countries - Border Gardens of England & Wales 14th - 20th July 2019 (6 nights)



This delightful, high season tour travels the length of the border between Wales and England and incorporates some superb scenery. We visit the RHS Tatton Flower Show, Bodnant Gardens, Powis Castle and many private gardens. We meet modern day plant hunters and explore gardens designed by the very best new talent in Britain.

Sunday 14th July

After our morning pick-up at Heathrow Airport, we make our way north towards Cheshire, making a stop en-route at **Trentham Gardens**. These stunning new gardens sit in the grounds of a large historic estate and have been described as 'the garden makeover of the decade'. Notable designers such as Tom Stuart-Smith, Piet Oudolf and Nigel Dunnett have worked their magic here. There will be time to explore the gardens and have lunch (independent).



We arrive, late afternoon, at our hotel – the centrally situated **4-star Abode Chester Hotel**. This smart, contemporary hotel overlooks Chester racecourse and is ideally located for strolling into the historic city of **Chester** with its quaint shopping streets and impressive Cathedral. Join your tour director and the rest of the group for dinner (included).

Monday 15th July

We begin today with a visit to one of the finest 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 guided gardens tour.



After lunch we visit the nearby **Hodnett Hall Gardens**. These extensive woodland gardens were laid out in the 1920's and feature picturesque lakes, waterfalls and well stocked herbaceous borders.

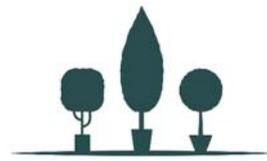
We return to Chester where your evening is at leisure.

Tuesday 16th July

Today we head west into North Wales. Our first visit of the day is to **Crûg Farm Plants**, a fascinating nursery whose owners, Sue and Bleddyn Wynn-Jones are avid plant hunters and favoured suppliers to many notable garden designers. We will enjoy a walk through the nursery to see the outstanding and unrivalled collection of plants, and hear about their plant hunting expeditions.



The scenery of north Wales and **Snowdonia National Park** can be enjoyed as we head to our next venue, **Bodysgallen Hall**. Here we have lunch (included) and a guided gardens tour of the beautifully restored gardens featuring a stunning parterre, rose garden, walled garden and lily ponds.



In the afternoon we continue onto the nearby **Bodnant Gardens** – often described as one of the most spectacular gardens in Britain with their formal terraces giving far reaching views to Snowdonia. There will be free time to explore the gardens independently.

Your evening is at leisure in Chester.

Wednesday 17th July

Today we spend the day at **RHS Tatton Flower Show** on its members-only opening day. Set against the stunning backdrop of Tatton Park mansion, the show offers inspiring show gardens, floral pavilion, talks and demonstrations plus an array of tempting garden-related shopping.

We return to Chester for dinner at the hotel (included).

Thursday 18th July

After checking out of our hotel, we follow the Welsh/English border southwards to make a visit to **Powis Castle**. We enjoy a pre-opening guided gardens tour and free time for lunch (independent). From here we continue to a very personal and quirky garden, **The Laskett** – home of Sir Roy Strong. Enjoy his personally narrated audio tour as you explore this romantic and inspirational garden.

Later we check into the **4-star Brooks Country House Hotel**. We have dinner in the hotel (included)

Friday 19th July

Today we see two fine private gardens. Our first visit is to **Allt y Bela**, home of the renowned garden designer Arne Maynard. This superb garden surrounds a medieval farmhouse and is set in glorious countryside.

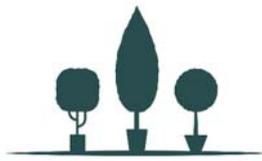
Next we visit a true Arts & Crafts gem – **High Glanau Manor**. This beautiful house was the home of Avery Tipping, editor of Country Life Magazine in the 1920's. The current owners have restored the gardens to their 1920's glory and we are invited to have lunch (included) with them in the house before strolling through the gardens. We return to our hotel for dinner (included).

Saturday 20th July

After checking out of our hotel, we make a stop at **Miserden Gardens**, a delightful Cotswolds garden designed in part by Edwin Lutyens, surrounding the beautiful Miserden House. There will be time for lunch (independent) in the garden cafe.

In the late afternoon we will make two coach drop-offs: one at London Heathrow airport and one in central London.

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



OUR HOTELS

Our hotels are 4-star and are selected for their high standards of comfort and service. All rooms are en-suite and offer free wi-fi access.

Abode Hotel, Chester

This modern hotel is located close to the heart of the historic, walled city of Chester. It has beautiful views over Chester Racecourse – the oldest working racecourse in England. The individually styled bedrooms are complimented by contemporary bathrooms and comfortable lounge areas. It is a short stroll into the historic core of Chester with its excellent restaurants, shops and beautiful Cathedral.



Brooks Country House Hotel, Ross-on-Wye

Brooks Country House Hotel is a delightful property which has recently undergone extensive refurbishment. The manor house sits on 13 acres in the Wye Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and overlooks an expanse of former parkland. The views are terrific, service attentive and food locally sourced. The hotel even has its own vineyard and orchard.



TOUR PRICES:

Prices are per person, based on twin/double room share, with single supplement (solo occupancy of a double room) shown separately. Prices are payable in £GBP. For clients travelling from USA, our tours can be booked in your local currency through our travel partner shown below, or you can book through your own travel agent or consultant. Just ask them to contact us.

A Tale of Two Countries - Border Gardens of England & Wales (6 nights)	Price per person (sharing a twin or double room) £GBP	Single Supplement £GBP
	£2,650	£340

PRICES INCLUDE:

Accommodation at 4-star hotels with en-suite facilities based on twin/double room share; buffet breakfast daily; 3 lunches and 4 dinners; one years membership of the RHS; admissions to gardens and RHS Tatton Flower Show; deluxe coach travel with professional driver; guided tours as described in an information pack provided at the start of the tour; services of your Sisley tour director throughout; arrival transfers are included only if you are joining the tour at Heathrow Airport on the first morning of the tour.

PRICES EXCLUDE:

Airfares; passport and/or visa fees; beverages; laundry; telephone calls; lunches and dinners (except where included in the itinerary); gratuities; souvenirs and items of a personal nature. Please see our FAQs for further information.

CONTACT US AND BOOK YOUR TOUR:

We would be delighted to answer any queries about our tours and can be contacted at:

Sisley Garden Tours, Duncanne House, Roecliffe Lane, Boroughbridge, YO51 9LN, England.

Email: tours@sisley.co.uk, Tel: +44 (0)1423 396506.

Our booking forms and terms & conditions can be found on our website at www.sisley.co.uk

Please contact us directly to book your tour or ask your Travel Agent to contact us. For clients travelling from the USA, you can book our tours through Worldwide Traveler and pay in \$USD.

USA

Worldwide Traveler:

Tel: (815) 385 6900

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All countries

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