

Chelsea Flower Show & the Gardens of Kent 17th - 23rd May 2020 (6 nights)



Join us to visit the world-famous Chelsea Flower Show on 'members-only' day and explore some of England's most iconic gardens. Garden highlights include: Christopher Lloyd's masterpiece at Great Dixter; Vita Sackville-West's legacy at Sissinghurst, the private gardens at Long Barn and tours at RHS Wisley and the Royal Botanic Garden at Kew.

Sunday 17th May

Our tour departs Heathrow Airport mid-morning and we make our way to **RHS Wisley**, the home of the Royal Horticultural Society. We enjoy a guided tour so you'll be sure to see the very best of these impressive and extensive gardens which inspire in any season. There is time for lunch (independent) here.



Then we check into the lovely Georgian **4-star Richmond Hill Hotel**, our base for the next two nights. The hotel is located at the entrance to Richmond Park, close to the River Thames and the charming town of Richmond. This evening join your tour director for dinner in the hotel (included).

Monday 18th May

Today we visit the **Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew**. There will be a tour of the gardens then time for exploration and lunch (independent). Kew covers more than 320 acres of landscape and gardens, is home to 50,000 living plants and is a World Heritage Site. In the afternoon we return to the hotel by boat along the River Thames. Dinner in the hotel (included).



Tuesday 19th May

Today we enjoy the first exclusive members-only day at the **RHS Chelsea Flower Show**, a highlight every time this world class show is on our itinerary.

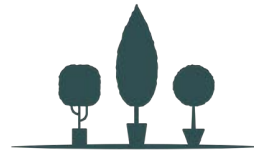
You will see magnificent floral displays, extraordinary show gardens, garden tools and products, a host of garden structures and artefacts by world famous names at this classic event close to London's fashionable shopping.



In the afternoon we make our way to Kent and check into the **4-star Spa Hotel, Royal Tunbridge Wells** for four nights. Dinner in the hotel (included).

Wednesday 20th May

Our first visit today is a private, pre-opening guided tour of **Great Dixter House and Garden**, a cottage garden on a grand scale. The well-known gardening writer and lecturer Christopher Lloyd who developed the garden until his death in 2006, liked to tease the followers of garden fashion with bold experimentation. The gardens are now superbly curated by internationally renowned gardener, Fergus Garrett.



We continue onto the picturesque town of **Rye** – a near perfect medieval gem – where you will have time to explore the town and have some lunch (independent).

In the afternoon we make a visit to **Pashley Manor**, an immaculate garden with emphasis on colour and form around a Tudor house with 18th century additions. We enjoy an introductory talk and time to explore the gardens. We have dinner at a traditional pub (included) before returning to the hotel.

Thursday 21st May

We start the day with an exclusive visit to the private gardens at **Long Barn**, the first home of Vita Sackville-West and Harold Nicolson – where they ‘served their gardening apprenticeship’ before Sissinghurst. 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. We enjoy lunch in Godinton House (included).

In the afternoon we go to **Sissinghurst Castle**, a romantic garden created around a slender brick-built castle tower – this visit is a highlight for many clients. We return to Royal Tunbridge Wells where your evening is at leisure.

Friday 22nd May

Today we travel south to **Charleston**, the home and country meeting place of the Bloomsbury Group. We will have a tour of the fascinating house and free time to look around the gardens. We continue to the nearby town of **Lewes** with its medieval alleyways, old churches and ruins of the Norman Castle. There is time for lunch (independent) and shopping in the many independent boutiques and galleries.

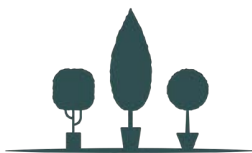
In the afternoon we return to **Royal Tunbridge Wells**. There will be a short walking tour along the Pantiles of this delightful spa town, or you can simply return to the hotel to relax. Dinner in the hotel (included).

Saturday 23rd May

Our last day begins with a private visit to **Great Comp**, an enormous achievement by two people who retired in 1957 from a busy London life. This is an informal garden set against a background of deciduous woodland. The gardens are now cared for by curator, William Dyson, the UK’s leading Salvia expert.

We then make two coach drop-offs; the first in central London and the second at Heathrow Airport. We can advise on departure planning.

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



OUR HOTELS

Richmond Hill Hotel, Richmond

Richmond Hill Hotel is a beautiful Georgian building situated in the charming town of Richmond with stunning views of Petersham Meadows and the River Thames. The hotel is recently refurbished to the highest standard, featuring quality furnishings and designer touches. There is a swimming pool, sauna, gym and leisure facilities.



The Spa Hotel, Royal Tunbridge Wells

Situated in 14 acres of picturesque grounds on the edge of Royal Tunbridge Wells, The Spa is a family run hotel offering 70 well appointed and individually styled bedrooms. The hotel is surrounded by glorious gardens and parkland and includes an indoor swimming pool, steam room, sauna, gym and floodlit tennis court plus a 2 AA rosette restaurant.



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.

Chelsea Flower Show & the Gardens of Kent (6 nights)	Price per person (sharing twin or double room) £GBP	Single Supplement £GBP
	£3,550	£350

PRICES INCLUDE:

Accommodation at 4-star hotels with en-suite facilities based on twin/double room share; buffet breakfast daily; 1 lunch and 5 dinners; admissions to gardens and the prestigious first member's only day at Chelsea Flower Show; one year's membership of the RHS; 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.

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

darrellynn@worldwidetraveler.net

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All countries

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