

Recommended Gardens

Selected by the RHS for 2010
www.rhs.org.uk



**A GUIDE TO FREE ACCESS
FOR RHS MEMBERS**

The RHS, the UK's leading gardening charity

- 3 Frequently Asked Questions
- 3 RHS Gardens
- 4 Recommended Gardens for 2010
- 6 **Scotland**
- 12 **North West**
- 15 **North East**
- 20 **East Anglia**
- 23 **South East**
- 31 **South West**
- 39 **Central**
- 46 **Wales**
- 50 **Northern Ireland**
- 51 **Channel Islands**
- 52 Overseas

Key to garden symbols

<p>1 Gardens open free to Individual members throughout their open period (with map reference)</p> <p>3 Gardens open free to Individual members during selected periods (with map reference) See entry for details</p>	<p> Disabled access/facilities</p> <p> Guide dogs only</p> <p> Group bookings welcome</p> <p> Parking</p> <p> Refreshments</p>	<p> Events programme</p> <p> Plant sales</p> <p> Restaurant</p> <p> Shop</p> <p> RHS Gardens</p>
--	--	--

All details including opening times are correct at time of going to press. Please check before travelling.

For an alternative format of this leaflet please call **0845 062 1111**, text phone **18001 020 7834 4333** or email membership@rhs.org.uk

Credits

Design: Carolyn Maille
 Printed by: Mi-Lays Printers, Cardiff, UK
 Cover image: Tatton Park Japanese Garden
 © George Littler

© Royal Horticultural Society 2010
 80 Vincent Square, London SW1P 2PE
 RHS Registered Charity No: 222879/SC038262
www.rhs.org.uk

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, issued, adapted or transmitted in part or in whole in any form or by any means without the prior written permission of the publisher and the relevant subsidiary copyright holders. Breaches of copyright may lead to prosecution and claims for damages.

Frequently Asked Questions

As well as the four RHS – owned gardens (Wisley, Hyde Hall, Harlow Carr and Rosemoor), the RHS has teamed up with 147 gardens around the UK and 23 overseas independently owned gardens which are generously offering free access to RHS Members (**one member per policy**), either throughout their opening season or at selected periods.

For a full list tick ‘free access for RHS Members’ on www.rhs.org.uk/rhsgardenfinder/gardenfinder.asp



Who can gain free entry?

- ✓ RHS members with an asterisk (*) on the front of your membership card – see above.
- ✓ **All Individual Members**
- ✓ **IMPORTANT:** for membership types with two adults (for example, **Joint**), free entry applies to **one cardholder per policy** (“Member 1”) as indicated by an asterisk (*) on the front of your membership card.

✗ **Guests:** free entry to Recommended Gardens is not applicable to guests.
 ✗ **Group entry:** So that smaller gardens can be part of the scheme, free entry does not apply to members travelling as part of an organised group.

Please contact the garden in advance to discuss group visits.
 For more information please refer to the back of your membership card.



Arley Hall, Cheshire

How are the gardens chosen?

Whether formal landscape, late season borders or woodland, all Recommended Gardens offer inspiration to keen gardeners through high standards of design and/or planting. Many are well known, some less so resulting in a mix of styles from the formal and grand, to the informal and domestic.

When can I gain free entry?

The free entry periods vary between gardens; please check before travelling.
 You will need your membership card (or yellow ‘temporary membership’ form) to gain entry.

What facilities are available at each garden?

A key to the symbols alongside each garden entry can be found on p2.

Special Event Day:

Some gardens do not offer free access on special event days (such as NGS). Please call ahead.
 For a selection of RHS Recommended Events in your area call: **0845 062 1111** or log on to: www.rhs.org.uk/rhseventfinder or refer to the bimonthly *Events* booklet in the middle of *The Garden*.

Thinking of becoming a member?

Free access to the RHS Recommended Gardens is one of many benefits of supporting the charitable work of the RHS. Refer to the back cover and inside back cover for more details.



* **RHS Garden Harlow Carr**
 Crag Lane, Harrogate, North Yorkshire
 HG3 1QB Tel: 01423 565418



Completely in tune with its Yorkshire setting, Harlow Carr embodies the rugged honesty of its host region whilst championing environmental awareness and sustainability. Dominated by water, stone and woodland, its innovative design and creative planting provide a beautiful and tranquil place for meeting friends, gathering fresh ideas or bringing the family for a leisurely stroll.

Open: All year, except Christmas Day, 9.30am-6pm (4pm in winter), last entry 1 hr before closing.

* **RHS Garden Rosemoor**
 Great Torrington, Devon EX38 8PH
 Tel: 01805 624067



RHS Garden Rosemoor is an enchanting 65 acre garden of year-round interest. With Formal and Informal Gardens, including two Rose Gardens, a Fruit and Vegetable Garden and a Winter Garden as well as Woodlands and a beautiful Lake, Rosemoor has something for everyone. Over 80 events are also held throughout the year for all the family. All this and much more besides ensures that Rosemoor is a place that people return to time and again for ideas, inspiration or to enjoy a marvellous day out.

Open: All year, except Christmas Day, Apr–Sept, 10am–6pm, Oct–Mar, 10am–5pm, last entry 1 hour before closing.

* **RHS Garden Hyde Hall**
 Buckhatch Lane, Rettendon, Chelmsford,
 Essex CM3 8AT Tel: 01245 400256



RHS Garden Hyde Hall provides an oasis of peace and tranquillity with sweeping panoramas, big open skies and far reaching views. The 360-acre estate integrates fluidly into the surrounding farmland, meadows and woodland, providing a gateway to the countryside where you can watch the changing seasons and get closer to nature. Hyde Hall is a garden to be enjoyed by people of all ages and from all walks of life, providing a fabulous day out.

Open: All year, except Christmas Day, 10am. Closing times vary between 6pm mid-summer to 4pm mid-winter – contact the garden for details. Last entry 1 hour before closing.

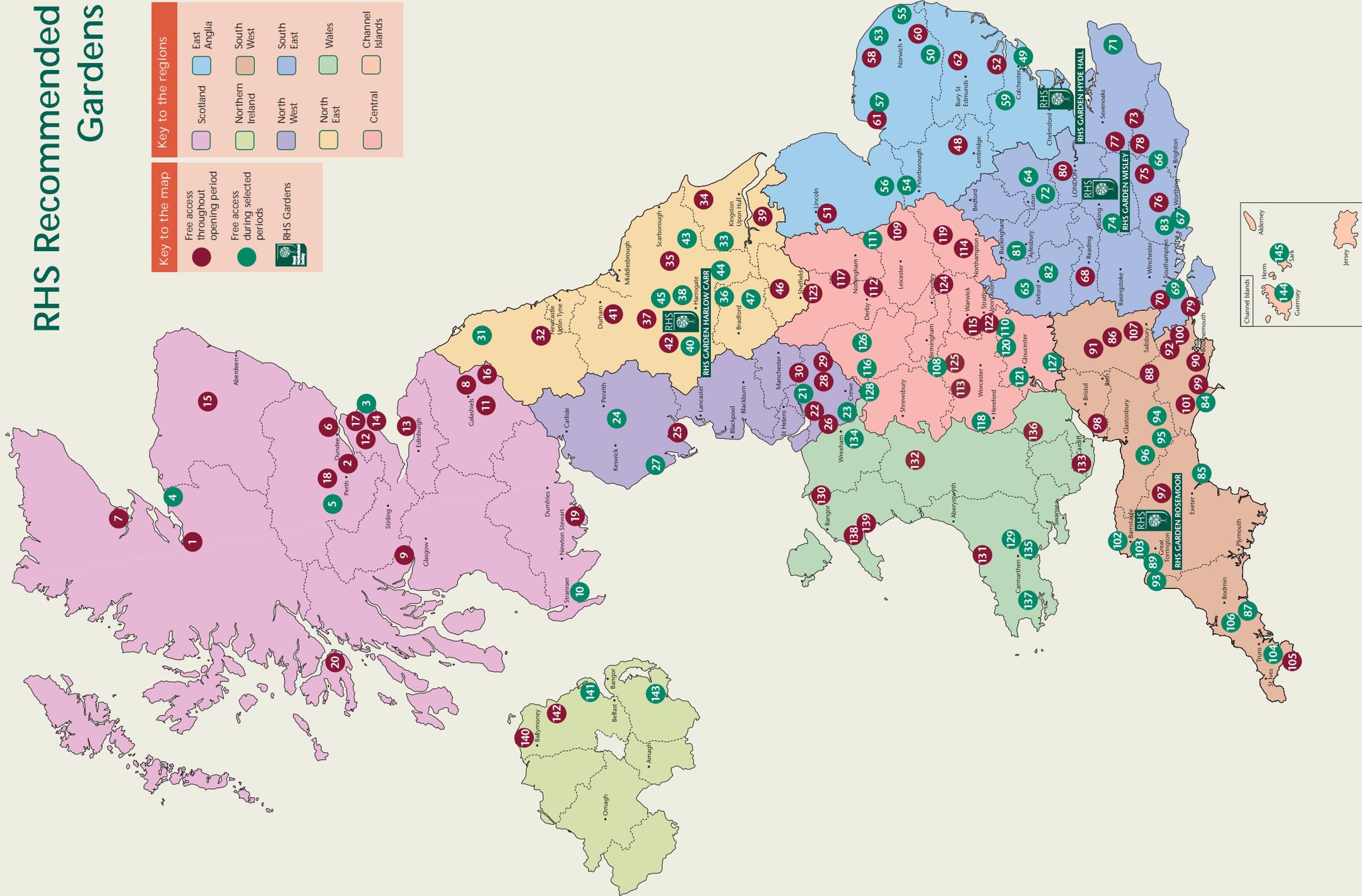
* **RHS Garden Wisley**
 Woking, Surrey GU23 6QB
 Tel: 0845 260 9000



Whatever the season, with over 200 acres to explore, Wisley is a wonderful day out. For more than 100 years the garden has been a centre of gardening excellence, with RHS expertise demonstrated at every corner. Whether it is the stunning displays in the Glasshouse, the glories of the Mixed Borders, the colour of early spring bulbs or the variety in the Fruit and Trials Fields, there is always something to inspire whenever you visit.

Open: All year, except Christmas Day, Mon–Fri, 10am–6pm, Sat–Sun, 9am–6pm (4.30pm 31 Oct–Feb), last entry 1 hour before closing.

RHS Recommended Gardens

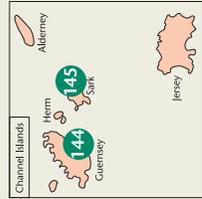


Key to the map

- Free access throughout opening period (Red circle)
- Free access during selected periods (Green circle)
- RHS Gardens (RHS logo)

Key to the regions

- Scotland (Purple)
- East Anglia (Light Blue)
- Northern Ireland (Light Green)
- South West (Light Orange)
- North West (Light Purple)
- South East (Light Blue)
- North East (Light Yellow)
- Wales (Light Green)
- Central (Light Orange)
- Channel Islands (Light Orange)



Recommended Gardens

These gardens offer free access to RHS Members (one member per policy) either throughout their open period or during selected times of the year. Please check all details carefully before travelling.

SCOTLAND

© Abriachan Gardens



Abriachan Gardens, by Inverness

1 * Abriachan Gardens

Loch Ness Side, by Inverness IV3 8LA
Tel: 01463 861232 Fax: 01463 861232
Web: www.lochnessgarden.com



These unique gardens on the shores of Loch Ness wind their way through the native hazel and oak woodland offering spectacular views down the Great Glen. Many choice plants are grown here, with specialities being hardy perennials and shrubs. There are extensive garden walks among dry stone dykes and raised beds. With its sheltered position above the Loch, many tender plants from New Zealand, South America and South Africa grow and flourish. There is also a large collection of *Primula auricula*.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period.
Open: Feb–Nov, daily, 9am–5pm.

2 Branklyn Garden (National Trust for Scotland)

116 Dundee Road, Perth PH2 7BB
Tel: 0844 493 2193
Email: information@nts.org.uk
Web: www.nts.org.uk



This attractive garden is a haven of peace within easy walking distance of the centre of Perth. It has an outstanding plant collection including rhododendrons, alpines, herbaceous and ericaceous plants. One of the most striking and unusual plants here is the Himalayan poppy, *Meconopsis*.

Branklyn also holds National Plant Collections of *Cassiope* and *Lilium* (Mylnfield lilies).

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period.
Open: For 2010 prices and times please see the website.



Branklyn Gardens, Perth

3 * Cambo Gardens

Kingsbarns, St Andrews, Fife KY16 8QD
Tel: 01333 450313 Fax: 01333 450987
Email: cambo@camboestate.com
Web: www.camboestate.com



Renowned for snowdrops, this traditional walled garden with some of Scotland's best herbaceous displays is constantly evolving. Head Gardener, Elliott Forsyth, has created irresistible planting combinations with drifts of bold perennials and grasses in the style originally devised by Piet Oudolf and an outrageous annual potager garden. Outside the main garden, a winter garden and North American prairie are developing. 2010 events include a Tulip Festival in May and a celebration of Cambo's collection of historic roses in late June.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies every Wednesday throughout the year.
Open: All year, daily, 10am–5pm.



Cambo Estate Gardens, Fife

© Derek Hobie



Cawdor Castle Gardens, Highland

4 Cawdor Castle Gardens

Cawdor Castle, Nairn, Highland IV12 5RD
Tel: 01667 404401 Fax: 01667 404674
Web: www.cawdorcastle.com



Cawdor Castle, the most romantic castle in the Highlands, is the 14th-century home of the Thanes of Cawdor. It has three gardens to be enjoyed: the earliest dating from the 16th century with the symbolic gardens and maze; an 18th-century Flower Garden with large herbaceous borders and roses; and a 19th-century Wild Garden with a good collection of rhododendrons and spring bulbs as well as splendid trees. Two further gardens, the Tibetan Garden and Traditional Scottish Vegetable Garden, can be found at Auchindoune House – see website for details.

Free Access (Member 1 only): (gardens only) applies May–Jun & Sept–Oct.
Open: 1 May–10 Oct, daily, 10am–5.30pm.

© Drummond Gardens



Drummond Gardens, Perth and Kinross

5 Drummond Gardens

Muthill, Crieff, Perth and Kinross PH7 4HZ
Tel: 01764 681433 Fax: 01764 681642
thegardens@drummondcastle.sol.co.uk
www.drummondcastlegardens.co.uk



Drummond Gardens are considered to be one of the finest formal gardens in Europe. First laid out in the early 17th century by the 2nd Earl of Perth,

it is an eclectic garden, rooted firmly in the Italian style with its fountains, terracing, urns and statuary, and dominant box hedge parterre resembling the St Andrew's Cross with a sundial at its centre. A strong north-south axis leads down the impressive flight of steps to the sundial, kitchen garden, woodland and surrounding hillside.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies May, Sept & Oct.
Open: Easter weekend and May–Oct, daily, 1–6pm (last admission 5pm).

© Downfield Studio



Dundee University Botanic Garden, Dundee

6 Dundee University Botanic Garden

University of Dundee,
Riverside Drive, Dundee DD2 1QH
Tel: 01382 381190 Fax: 01382 640574
Web: www.dundeebotanicgardens.co.uk



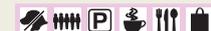
Located in 9.5ha (23 acres) of south-facing, gently sloping land near the banks of the River Tay, the Botanic Garden is home to fine collections of conifers and broad-leaved trees and shrubs, tropical and temperate glasshouses, a water garden and a herb garden.

Native plant communities represent montane and coastal habitats, and there are plant groupings that demonstrate specialised pollination and adaptation for survival in conditions such as drought.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period (excluding special event days).
Open: Mar–Oct, daily, 10am–4.30pm;
Nov–Feb, daily, 10am–3.30pm.

7 Dunrobin Castle Gardens

Golspie, Sutherland KW10 6SF
Tel: 01408 633177 Fax: 01408 634081
Email: info@dunrobincastle.net
Web: www.dunrobincastle.co.uk



Laid out in 1850 by Sir Charles Barry, designer of the Houses of Parliament, the Italianate gardens complement

continues overleaf ▶

Dunrobin Castle Gardens *continued*



Dunrobin Castle Gardens, Sutherland

the French-style chateau above them. Three parterres surround fountains and pools; their beds are planted with formal arrangements of shrubs and hardy perennials. A more recent garden features twenty 3.7m (12 foot) wooden pyramids supporting roses and climbers. Imposing herbaceous borders, topiary and huge clumps of *Gunnera manicata* all add to the effect.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period.
 Open: 1 Apr–15 Oct. Prices for 2010 on www.dunrobincastle.co.uk
NB Wheelchair access to gardens by arrangement.

8 Floors Castle Gardens

Kelso, Roxburghshire TD5 7SF
 Tel: 01573 223333 Fax: 01573 226056
 Web: www.floorscastle.com



The Walled Garden at Floors Castle is one of the finest kitchen gardens in Scotland. Anna Pavord of *The Independent* described the summer herbaceous borders as “wonderous” with a “rampageous, outrageous crash of colours”. The spring borders, peach and vine houses, and soft fruit cages, all add to the year round interest.

Also well worth exploring are the Millennium Parterre in the traditional French style, the Star Plantation and riverside walks with winding pathways through a woodland of wild flowers and rare flora species. There is a garden centre, adventure playground and Terrace Café.

Free Access (Member 1 only): (gardens only) applies throughout open period.
 Open: Easter; May–Oct, daily, 11am–5pm.



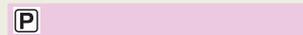
Floors Castle Gardens, Roxburghshire



Geilston Garden, Dumbarton

9 Geilston Garden (National Trust for Scotland)

Main Road, Cardross, Dumbarton G82 5EZ Tel: 0844493 2219
 Web: www.nts.org.uk



Representative of the small estates along the banks of the Clyde as a result of fortunes made in the City of Glasgow from tobacco and industrial development, the house (not open to the public) is thought to date from the late 17th century. The garden retains a sense of private space into which the visitor is invited. Attractive features include a fruit and vegetable garden, a walled garden with traditional glasshouses, shrub borders, lawns and a herbaceous border, and a burn that winds through a glen.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period.
 Open: 30 Mar–31 Oct, daily, 9.30am–5pm. Please check opening times before travelling.



Glenwhan Garden, Wigtownshire

10 Glenwhan Garden

Dunragit, by Stranraer, Wigtownshire DG9 8PH
 Tel: 01581 400222 Fax: 01581 400397
 Email: tess@glenwhan.freereserve.co.uk
 Web: www.glenwhangardens.co.uk



This splendid 5ha (12 acre) garden perched on an outcrop of the western seaboard began life as a barren south-facing hill. Three decades later, with a micro-climate and the benefits of the Gulf Stream, Glenwhan is filled with plants from all over the world. The focus is around several lakes, with a

back drop by the sea, where the plants luxuriate in a variety of habitats. Red squirrels, peacocks and guinea fowl live in the garden.
 A 7ha (17 acre) Wildflower Walk with 120 species of flowers and grasses is now open to the public.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies 1 Aug–30 Sept and 1–31 Oct, by appointment.
 Open: 1 Apr–30 Sept, daily, 10am–5pm.



Harmony Garden, Borders

11 Harmony Garden (National Trust for Scotland)

St Mary's Road, Melrose, Borders TD6 9LJ
 Tel: 0844 493 2251
 Email: information@nts.org.uk
 Web: www.nts.org.uk



Harmony is a delightfully tranquil walled garden comprising lawns, herbaceous and mixed borders, vegetable and fruit areas, and a rich display of spring bulbs. The garden is set around an early 19th-century house (available for holiday lets), built by Melrose joiner James Waugh, who named it Harmony after the Jamaican pimento plantation where he had made his fortune. Harmony Garden has excellent views of Melrose Abbey and the Eildon Hills, and is near Priorwood Garden.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period.
 Open: For 2010 prices and times please see the website.

12 Hill of Tarvit Mansionhouse and Garden

(National Trust for Scotland)
 Cupar, Fife KY15 5PB Tel: 0844 493 2185
 Email: information@nts.org.uk
 Web: www.nts.org.uk



The formal gardens were designed by Sir Robert Lorimer to form an appropriate setting for the house. Restoration and replanting has recently begun of the borders on the top terrace in an Edwardian style. The grounds as a whole also contain many unusual mature ornamental trees and shrubs and a fragrant rose garden.

Visitors can follow a path to a hilltop panoramic indicator.

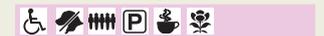
Free Access (Member 1 only): (garden only) applies throughout open period.
 Open: For 2010 prices and times please see the website.



Hill of Tarvit Mansionhouse and Garden, Fife

13 Inwood Garden

Carberry, near Musselburgh, East Lothian EH21 8PZ
 Tel: 0131 665 4550
 Web: www.inwoodgarden.com



Created from scratch since 1983 from a field and a forest, Inwood Garden has been described as a place of surprise and delight. With some adventurous planting for so northerly an aspect, the 0.4ha (1 acre) site is packed with a diverse collection of plants appealing to both the plantsman and amateur alike.

The backdrop of mature woodland provides shelter to the generously proportioned island beds teeming with carefully considered combinations of plants and colours that can be easily translated into smaller gardens.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period.
 Open: 1 Apr–30 Sept, Tue, Thur and Sat, 2–5pm.



Inwood Garden, East Lothian

14 Kellie Castle and Garden (National Trust for Scotland)

Pittenweem, Fife KY10 2RF
 Tel: 0844 493 2184
 Email: information@nts.org.uk
 Web: www.nts.org.uk



Kellie Castle is a magnificent example of the domestic architecture of Lowland Scotland. The oldest part is believed to date from 1360, but the

continues overleaf ▶

Kellie Castle and Garden *continued*



Kellie Castle and Garden, Fife

building in its present form was completed about 1606. The organic walled garden is 17th century with late-Victorian additions, and contains a collection of old-fashioned roses, fruit trees and herbaceous plants. Much of the existing planting stands as a modern interpretation of the original designs of Sir Robert Lorimer, the former owner.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period.
Open: For 2010 prices and times please see the website.

15 Leith Hall Garden
(National Trust for Scotland)

Huntly, Aberdeenshire AB54 4NQ
 Tel: 01330 833225
 Email: information@nts.org.uk
 Web: www.nts.org.uk



The historic garden features colourful herbaceous borders, and alpinas and primulas in the rock garden – restored and replanted by the Scottish Rock Garden Club. Woodland walks take in two ponds and offer views down the garden. Other highlights include a bird hide, stables and an icehouse.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period (excluding special event days).
Open: For 2010 prices and times please see the website.



Leith Hall Garden and Estate, Aberdeenshire



Monteviot House, Jedburgh

16 Monteviot House

Jedburgh, Scotland TD8 6UQ
 Tel: 01835 830380 Fax: 01835 830635
 Web: www.monteviot.com



The gardens at Monteviot lie along a dramatic slope of the Teviot Valley. From the terraced rose garden through a laburnum arch to the water garden, the garden as a whole is heightened by the contrast between formal and the informal and by the way the planting leads seamlessly through the different parts. The Dene Garden renovation saw the recreation of four ponds, wooden and stone bridges, a dam walkway and viewing platform giving views down the River Teviot beyond.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies (garden only) throughout open period.
Open: 1 Apr–31 Oct. Please check website for opening times



St Andrews Botanic Garden, St Andrews

17 St Andrews Botanic Garden

Canongate, St Andrews KY16 8RT
 Tel: 01334 476452 Fax: 01334 476452
 Web: www.st-andrews-botanic.org



This botanic garden covers 7.3ha (18 acres) and offers much to see whatever the season. About 8,000 species of ferns, herbaceous plants, shrubs and trees are grown here. Some are native to Scotland but most grow wild in other regions of the world.

Features include alkaline, herbaceous and bulb borders, scree, rock, woodland and water gardens, acid heath and peat gardens, and plant family beds. The glasshouses contain cacti and succulents arranged

geographically, as well as alpinas, orchids and a temperate house containing *Rhododendron maddenii*.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period.

Open: All year, daily, (10am–7pm, Apr–Sept, and 10am–4pm, Oct–Mar).



Scone Palace, Perthshire

18 Scone Palace

Perth, Perthshire PH2 6BD
 Tel: 01738 552300 Fax: 01738 552588
 Web: www.scone-palace.co.uk



The extensive grounds include the mature pinetum, planted in 1848 with exotic conifers including the first Scottish Douglas Fir, raised from the original seed sent from America and a pavilion dedicated to Douglas and other Scottish Plant hunters. The woodland garden has some attractive walks among colourful rhododendrons and azaleas. The butterfly garden and numerous herbaceous plantings provide further seasonal interest. Scone Palace is also home to Perthshire's only maze, consisting of more than 2,000 beech plants in the shape of the Murray Star. There is an annual Orchid Festival in August.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period.
Open: 1 Apr–31 Oct, daily, 9.30am–5.45pm.



Threave Garden and Estate, Dumfries and Galloway

19 Threave Garden and Estate
(National Trust for Scotland)

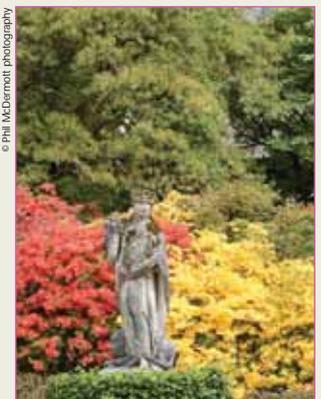
Castle Douglas, Dumfries and Galloway DG7 1RX
 Tel: 0844 493 2245
 Email: information@nts.org.uk
 Web: www.nts.org.uk



Threave Garden covers 26ha (64 acres), and is best known for its

daffodils (nearly 200 cultivars). As the home of the School of Horticulture, the planting schemes offer plenty of inspiration to garden owners. Roses and herbaceous beds are colourful in summer, and the trees and heather garden are striking in autumn. Walks include a 2.5km (1.5 mile) trail taking in plants, wading birds and wildfowl. A new Victorian-style conservatory has recently been built in the walled garden.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies Apr–May and Sept–Oct.
Open: For 2010 prices and times please see the website.



Torosay Castle and Gardens, Isle of Mull

20 Torosay Castle and Gardens

Torosay Castle, Craignure, Isle of Mull PA65 6AY
 Tel: 01680 812421 Fax: 01680 812470
 Email: torosay@aol.com
 Web: www.torosay.com



While trees such as *Thuja plicata* and *Abies alba* planted in the 19th century lend maturity, Torosay Gardens date principally from about 1900, when the Statue Walk of Italian statues and the three formal terraces and gazebos were built. These form a splendid setting for a large, varied and unexpected plant collection.

Rhododendrons flower from January to August, and Chilean plants from February (*Latua pubiflora*) to September (*Eucryphia*, spp.) Other surprising treasures include *Embothrium coccineum*, a very large *Cornus capitata* as well as many frost tender subjects.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period.
Open: All year, daily, 9am–sunset (latest 7pm).

NORTH WEST



Arley Hall and Gardens, Cheshire

21 * **Arley Hall and Gardens**
Arley, Northwich, Cheshire CW9 6NA
Tel: 01565 777353 Fax: 01565 777465
Email: enquiries@arleyhallandgardens.com
Web: www.arleyhallandgardens.com



Described by Ursula Buchan in *The Independent* as one of the top 50 gardens in Europe, Arley offers a fascinating variety of style and design, overlooking a beautiful park. Features include the double herbaceous border laid out in 1846, the pleached lime avenue, topiary yew hedges, the avenue of columnar *Quercus ilex*, the walled kitchen garden, and a fine collection of shrub roses, rhododendrons and azaleas. The Grove is an informal woodland garden, providing a delightful contrast to the more formal main garden.

Free Access (Member 1 only): (gardens only) applies Apr–May & Sept–Oct (excluding special event days).
Open: Please see website for normal opening times.



Bluebell Cottage Gardens, Cheshire

22 * **Bluebell Cottage Gardens**
Lodge Lane, Dutton, nr Northwich, Cheshire WA4 4HP
Tel: 01928 713718 Fax: 01928 713718
Web: www.lodgelane.co.uk



The garden is set on a quiet rural lane in the heart of Cheshire. The 0.6ha (1.5 acre) gardens are packed with thousands of rare and familiar plants in a bright, south-facing setting and offer plenty for both keen gardeners

and non-gardeners to enjoy. In spring the adjacent woods are carpeted with native English bluebells, and the wildflower meadow is a wonderful sight from May to July. The adjacent Lodge Lane Nursery is an RHS Recommended Event Partner specialising in hardy herbaceous perennials.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period (excluding NGS open days).
Open: 24 Mar–3 Oct, Wed–Sun and Bank Holidays, 10am–5pm.



Cholmondeley Castle, Cheshire

23 **Cholmondeley Castle**
Malpas, Cheshire SY14 8AH
Tel: 01829 720383 Fax: 01829 720877



A romantic Gothic Revival castle built in 1801 dominates these exquisite gardens. Sweeping lawns and magnificent trees; enormous cedars of Lebanon and great spreading oaks among sweet chestnut, lime, beech and plane surround the castle. Restoration of the Duckery is now complete providing vistas through the garden and revealing the established and mature trees. Other features include the Memorial Mosaic designed by Maggy Howarth, the Temple Water Garden, Rose Garden and many acid-loving plants including magnolias, camellias, azaleas, rhododendrons and acers.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies May only.
Open: Apr–Sept, Wed, Thur, Sun & Bank Holidays, 11am–5pm.

24 **Dalemain Mansion and Gardens**
Dalemain, Penrith, Cumbria CA11 0HB
Tel: 017684 86450 Fax: 017684 86223
Web: www.dalemain.com



'This is a garden to be visited in all seasons.' (Rosemary Verey). Dalemain, a medieval, Tudor and Georgian house, is set in delightful gardens developed and enhanced since 1679 by successive generations of the Hasell

family who still live at Dalemain today. There are richly planted herbaceous borders, a formal knot garden and Apple and Rose Walk (with more than 200 cultivars of old-fashioned roses). Recent additions are the wild flower spiral garden and giantess earth sculpture.

Free Access (Member 1 only): (gardens only) applies 1–30 Apr, 1–30 Sept and 1–28 Oct (excluding special event days).
Please see website for normal opening times.



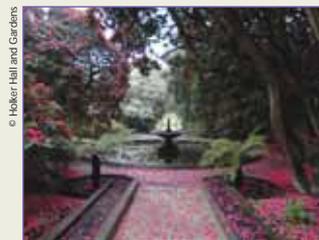
Dalemain Mansion and Gardens, Cumbria

25 **Holker Hall and Gardens**
Cark-in-Cartmel, nr Grange-over-Sands, Cumbria LA11 7PL
Tel: 015395 58328 Fax: 015395 58378
Email: info@holker.co.uk
Web: www.holkerhall.co.uk



Relax and enjoy 10ha (25 acres) of romantic formal gardens, complete with peaceful arboretum, inspirational pleasure gardens, flowering meadow and Labyrinth. In Spring you will see 1000s of bulbs and flowers. Summer brings voluptuous mixed borders and bedding with old-fashioned roses, topiary and box hedging. Discover unusually large rhododendrons, magnolias and azaleas plus the National Plant Collection of *Styracaceae*.

Free Access (Member 1 only): (garden only) applies throughout open period (excluding special event days).
Gardens open: 14 Mar–31 Oct, Sun–Fri, (closed Saturdays), 10.30am–5.30pm.
NB Ticket upgrades to Hall available – please call in advance for times and prices.



Holker Hall and Gardens, Cumbria



Mount Pleasant, Cheshire

26 * **Mount Pleasant**
Yeld Lane, Kelsall, Cheshire CW6 0TB
Tel: 01829 751592
Web: www.mountpleasantgardens.co.uk



Mount Pleasant Gardens are 4ha (10 acres) of beautiful landscaped gardens set in the Cheshire countryside with spectacular views across to the Welsh hills. Over the past 13 years the gardens have become mature and lush, helped by the south-westerly aspect of the hillside and natural springs that feed the numerous water features. There is an ever increasing diversity of planting that gives year round interest and colour. From the formal gardens to the wildflower meadow, it is a delight to explore.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period.
Open: 1 Apr–end of Sept; Sat, Sun & Wed, 12 noon–5pm.



Muncaster Castle Garden, Cumbria

27 * **Muncaster Castle Garden**
Ravenglass, Cumbria CA18 1RQ
Tel: 01229 717614 Fax: 01229 717010
Web: www.muncaster.co.uk



Muncaster Castle Garden is set within the glorious Lakeland Fells and was described by John Ruskin as 'the gateway to paradise'.

There are more than 28ha (70 acres) of gardens containing plants from all over the world. The rhododendron collection includes original planting schemes dating from the 1800s as well as a Sino-Himalayan garden walk replicating the natural appearance of this region. Other highlights include the Bluebell Wood,

continues overleaf ▶

Muncaster Castle Garden *continued*

Georgian Terrace and specialist plant centre.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies 1 Jul–31 Dec.

Open: Last Sunday in March–First Sunday in Nov, daily, 10.30am–5pm. For Winter openings and prices please see website www.muncaster.co.uk or call 01229 717614.



The Quinta Arboretum and Nature Reserve, Cheshire

28 The Quinta Arboretum and Nature Reserve

Swettenham Village, nr Congleton, Cheshire CW12 2LD Tel: 01477 537698 Web: www.tattongardensociety.co.uk



The Quinta Arboretum is owned by Tatton Garden Society and extends for 11ha (28 acres) planted with more than 5,000 trees of some 1,500 species and includes a small lake. There are remarkable views across the Dane Valley, itself a Site of Special Scientific Interest. There are two National Plant Collections (*fraxinus* and *pinus*) and a collection of *Quercus*. It is also a participating site in the International Conifer Conservation Project.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period (excluding 2 NGS days).

Open: All year, 9am–sunset, except Christmas Day.

Note: Access through garden of Swettenham Arms pub.



Rode Hall Gardens, Cheshire

29 Rode Hall Gardens

Church Lane, Scholar Green, Cheshire ST7 3QP
Tel: 01270 882961/873237
Fax: 01270 882962
Email: richard.wilbra@btconnect.com
Web: www.rodehall.co.uk



Rode Hall Gardens are set in a landscape designed by Humphry

Repton in 1790. The season starts in February with the Snowdrop Walks, and from early April the Woodland Garden, with terraced rock garden and grotto, is ablaze with a large variety of rhododendrons and a ground covering of bluebells and lily-of-the-valley. The herbaceous border, formal rose gardens and Georgian walled kitchen garden are at their best from the middle of June. There is also an Italian Garden under development.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period. Please see website for normal opening times.



Tatton Park Gardens, Cheshire

30 Tatton Park Gardens

Tatton Park, Knutsford, Cheshire WA16 6QN
Tel: 01625 374400 Fax: 01625 534403
Web: www.tattonpark.org.uk



Set in over 400ha (1,000 acres) of rolling parkland, Tatton's 20ha (50 acre) formal gardens are full of delightful surprises and are considered to be among the most important in England. Attractions include the famous Japanese Garden originally built by Japanese gardeners in 1910, the Italian Garden and the Walled Kitchen Garden. Tatton Park is managed by Cheshire East Council on behalf of the National Trust.

Free Access (Member 1 only): (gardens only) applies throughout open period.

Please see website for normal opening times and admission prices (including park admission).

¹ Park entry charge applies

NORTH EAST



RHS Garden Harlow Carr
see page 3



The Alnwick Garden, Northumberland

31 The Alnwick Garden

Denwick Lane, Alnwick, Northumberland, NE66 1YU
Tel: 01665 511350 Fax: 01665 511351
Email: info@alnwickgarden.com
Web: www.alnwickgarden.com



The Alnwick Garden is one of the most exciting contemporary gardens to be developed in the last century. The inspiration of the Duchess of Northumberland, The Garden has transformed from a derelict plot into an exciting scene designed by Wirtz International. The Ornamental Garden and Rose Garden provide stunning horticultural displays throughout the summer months. The Bamboo Labyrinth, the Grand Cascade, the fascinating Poison Garden and one of the world's largest wooden tree-houses all ensure the garden is an exciting day out all year round.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies Jan–Jun and Sept–Dec.

Gardens open: All year, daily (except Christmas day). Oct–Mar, 10am–4pm; Apr–Sep, 10am–6pm.



Bide-a-Wee Cottage Gardens, Northumberland

32 Bide-a-Wee Cottage Gardens

Stanton, Netherwitton, Morpeth, Northumberland NE65 8PR
Tel/Fax: 01670 772238
Web: www.bide-a-wee.co.uk



Bide-a-Wee is a delightful quarry

garden featuring natural rock, stonework and water. The variations of aspect, topography, soil type and moisture allow a wide range of plants to be grown. A plantsman's garden that includes many unusual species arranged with an artistic eye, Bide-a-Wee is also home to a National Plant Collection of *Centaurea*. Many plants within the garden are available in the adjacent nursery. A wildflower meadow walk with beehives lies on the edge of the garden.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period (excluding special event days).

Open: 17 Apr–28 Aug, Wed & Sat, 1.30–5pm.



Burnby Hall Gardens and Museum, York

33 Burnby Hall Gardens and Museum

The Balk, Pocklington, York YO42 2QF
Tel: 01759 307125 Fax: 01377 288359
Email: brian@brianpetrie.plus.com
Web: www.burnbyhallgardens.com



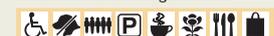
The garden is a haven of beauty and tranquillity, and includes lakes containing a National Plant Collection of waterlilies (80 cultivars) and a vast collection of fish. The surroundings include extensive rockeries, shrubberies, Secret and Victorian Gardens, and heather beds. The Stewart Museum has undergone a complete refurbishment, showing off the artefacts collected by Major Stewart on his eight world tours to full advantage. Wheelchairs available.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies Apr–Jun.

Open: 27 Mar–11 Oct, daily, 10am–6pm.

34 Burton Agnes Gardens

Burton Agnes Hall, Burton Agnes, Driffield, East Yorkshire YO25 4NB
Tel: 01262 490324 Fax: 01262 490513
Web: www.burtonagnes.com



The Old Walled Garden was redeveloped from 1989–1990 and now contains a large collection of plants. There is a potager, herbaceous borders, a maze, fruit

continues overleaf ▶

Burton Agnes Gardens *continued*



Burton Agnes Gardens, East Yorkshire

beds, a jungle garden, grasses and bamboos, a campanula garden containing a National Plant Collection, and a giant knot garden with colour themes divided by trellis, each containing a paved area forming a giant game board. Lawns with topiary yew, ponds with fountains and a pebble mosaic surround the Elizabethan Hall. Winner of HHA/Christie's Garden of the Year Award 2005.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period (excluding special event days).
Open: 1 Apr–31 Oct, daily, 11am–5pm.
 Open for snowdrops 6 Feb–28 Feb.



Duncombe Park, North Yorkshire

35 Duncombe Park

Helmsley, York, North Yorkshire YO62 5EB
 Tel: 01439 772625 Fax: 01439 771114
 Web: www.duncombepark.com



A girls' school for 60 years, this baroque mansion built in 1713 is now the DDuncombe's family home. Visit the restored principal rooms, typical of a late 19th-century 'grand interior', and the landscaped green garden with its temples and terraces, set in parkland that has been described as 'the supreme masterpiece of the art of the landscape gardener'. Visitors will discover woodland walks and a scented 'secret garden'.

The National Nature Reserve contains 162ha (400 acres) of parkland, with many ancient trees and wildlife.

Free Access (Member 1 only): (house and garden) applies throughout open period (excluding special event days).
Open: 4 Apr–24 Oct, Sun–Thur.
 Please telephone before you visit.



Harewood House, West Yorkshire

36 Harewood House

Harewood, Leeds, West Yorkshire LS17 9LG
 Tel: 0113 218 1010 Fax: 0113 218 1002
 Web: www.harewood.org



Harewood House's 57ha (140 acres) of gardens are set within 405ha (1,000 acres) of 18th-century Lancelot 'Capability' Brown parkland. This example of the English landscape has arrangements of native trees and sweeping hillsides that surround a serpentine lake. Lakeside walks lead to the Himalayan Garden – a plantsman's paradise, full of Himalayan plants. Other highlights include a walled garden walk, a restored Victorian parterre, flower borders and panoramic views over beautiful parkland. Winners of Yorkshire in Bloom, Country Houses, Estates and Gardens.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies 13 Feb–20 Jun and 6 Sept–12 Dec (except special event days and Bank holidays).
Open: Apr–1 Nov and weekends and school holidays in Feb–Mar and Nov–12 Dec.
 See website for details.



Millgate House, North Yorkshire

37 Millgate House

Millgate House, Richmond, North Yorkshire DL10 4JN
 Tel: 01748 823571 Fax: 01748 850701
 Web: www.millgatehouse.com



With specialist collections of roses, hostas, ferns and clematis, this outstanding town garden is packed with horticultural interest.

A former winner of the RHS/Daily Mail National Garden Competition, the garden provides the visitor with exciting ideas for planting and design on a small scale. Its situation overlooking the River Swale with the waterfalls in the background make it an enchanting place.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period (excluding charity days).

Open: 1 Apr–mid Oct, daily, 10am–5pm; winter by appointment only.



Normanby Hall Country Park, North Lincolnshire



Newby Hall and Gardens, North Yorkshire

38 Newby Hall and Gardens

Ripon, North Yorkshire HG4 5AE
 Tel: 0845 4504068 Fax: 01423 324452
 Web: www.newbyhall.com



Newby Hall is one of England's finest Adam houses, an exceptional example of an 18th-century interior. About 10ha (25 acres) of award-winning gardens consist of superb herbaceous borders flanked by smaller 'compartmented' gardens, such as Sylvia's Garden, and rose and autumn gardens. The gardens have also been used as a filming location for Mansfield Park. A National Plant Collection of *Cornus* (dogwoods) is held here. Many of the rare and beautiful plants growing in the garden are available for sale at the Newby Hall Plant Centre.

Free Access (Member 1 only): (gardens only) applies Apr, May and Sept (excluding special event days).

Open: 1 Apr–26 Sept, Tue–Sun & Bank Holiday Mon, 11am–5.30pm (daily in Jul–Aug).

39 Normanby Hall

Country Park
 Normanby, Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire DN15 9HU
 Tel: 01724 720588 Fax: 01724 721248
 Web: www.northlincs.gov.uk/normanby



Set in 121ha (300 acres) of beautiful parkland, the walled kitchen garden was built in 1817 to provide fruit, flowers and vegetables for the

Sheffield family. Restored in 1997, the vegetable beds, glasshouses, flower borders and fruit area are planted with cultivars dating from the Victorian period. There is also a sunken garden, secret garden, Christmas garden, bog garden and a Victorian woodland garden in under development.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period.

Open: All year, daily¹, 10.30am–5pm (4.30pm in winter).

¹ Except Christmas Day, Boxing Day & New Year's Day.

40 Parcevall Hall Gardens

Skyreholme, Skipton, North Yorkshire BD23 6DE
 Tel/Fax: 01756 720311
 Web: www.parcevallhallgardens.co.uk



Parcevall Hall Gardens lie on a steep hillside within the Yorkshire Dales National Park and are English Heritage registered. The 10ha (24 acres) of formal and woodland gardens rise up the hillside and command impressive views of Simon's Seat and Wharfedale. The gardens comprise streamside woodland trails, lake and dam, formal ponds and terraces, and a natural limestone garden. Many of the rare plants, trees and shrubs growing at Parcevall Hall are not usually found at this elevation, as the garden is 244m (800ft) above sea level.

Note: steep walk from main car park.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies April, May and October.

Open: 1 Apr–31 Oct, 10am–6pm (last entry 5pm). Tearoom open Tue–Sun.



Parcevall Hall Gardens, North Yorkshire



Raby Castle, Co. Durham

41 Raby Castle
 Staindrop, Darlington,
 Co. Durham DL2 3AH
 Tel: 01833 660202 Fax: 01833 660169
 Email: admin@rabycastle.com
 Web: www.rabycastle.com



These 18th-century walled gardens are set within a 81ha (200 acre) deer park. The gardens have been considerably altered during the 20th century, particularly since 1980, but many of the original features remain. In particular, there are two fine old yew hedges and an ornamental pond, originally constructed to provide water for the kitchen garden. Highlights include herbaceous and shrub borders, a conservatory, formal rose gardens and informal heather and conifer gardens. Raby's Orchid Show takes place from 1-3 May and Plant Fair on 6th June.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period (except special event days).
Open: Easter, Sat-Mon; May, June & Sept, Sun-Wed; July & Aug, daily (except Sat); Park & Gardens 11am-5.30pm; Castle 1-5pm.



Ripley Castle, North Yorkshire

42 Ripley Castle Gardens
 Ripley, nr Harrogate,
 North Yorkshire HG3 3AY
 Tel: 01423 770152 Fax: 01423 771745
 Web: www.ripleycastle.co.uk



The walled gardens of Ripley Castle are home to long herbaceous borders that provide a riot of colour alongside the fountains and lawns. In April and May, visitors can enjoy the wonderful fragrance of the National Plant hyacinth Collection as it comes into

flower. The kitchen gardens grow rare cultivars of fruit and vegetables, herbs and spices, and there are woodland walks with fine vistas over lakes and the deer park. The pleasure grounds contain specimen trees from all over the world.

Individual Members' free access applies throughout open period (excluding special event days).
Open: All year, daily, 9am-5pm (4.30pm during winter).



Scampston Hall Walled Garden, North Yorkshire

43 Scampston Hall Walled Garden
 Malton, North Yorkshire YO17 8NG
 Tel: 01944 759111
 Email: info@scampston.co.uk
 Web: www.scampston.co.uk



A contemporary 1.6ha (4 acre) garden designed by Piet Oudolf. Among the contrasting rooms that make up this plantsman's paradise, is a striking perennial meadow, which provides a home for many unusual species. The long border walk contains hundreds of spring- and autumn-flowering shrubs and bulbs. Described by Stephen Anderton as 'a gem' and by Caroline Foley in *Topari* as 'bold and beautiful - a must if you are heading to Yorkshire'.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies Apr, Sept-Oct.
Open: 2 Apr-31 Oct, Tues-Sun and Bank Holiday Mon, 10am-5pm.

44 Stillingfleet Lodge Garden and Nurseries
 Stewart Lane, Stillingfleet, York,
 North Yorkshire YO19 6HP
 Tel: 01904 728506 Fax: 01904 728506
 Web: www.stillingfleetlodgenurseries.co.uk



Stillingfleet Lodge is a series of small gardens surrounding a late 18th-century farmhouse. Emphasis is on cottage-garden planting, and foliage is used for added interest and texture. A wildflower walk leads to a pond planted for natural effect and the more formal long herbaceous borders lead back to the house. Exciting



Stillingfleet Lodge Garden, North Yorkshire

modern rill garden. Many of the plants in the garden are available to buy in the nurseries.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies Wednesdays throughout open period.
Open: 3 Apr-30 Sept, Wed & Fri, and the 1st and 3rd Saturdays and Sundays each month, 1-5pm.

45 Thorp Perrow Arboretum and Woodland Garden

Bedale, North Yorkshire DL8 2PR
 Tel/Fax: 01677 425323
 Web: www.thorpperrow.com



The arboretum has 34ha (85 acres) of woodland walks and is one of the largest collections of trees and shrubs in the North of England. Thousands of naturalised daffodils bloom in spring, followed by blossom, carpets of bluebells and bold drifts of wildflowers. Autumn foliage provides dramatic effects and colours. National Plant Collections of ash, lime, laburnum, walnut and cotinus are held here. A Snowdrop Walk is new for 2010.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies Jan, Feb, Jul, Sept & Dec (except on special event days).
Open: All year.



Thorp Perrow Arboretum and Woodland Garden, North Yorkshire

46 Wentworth Castle Gardens

Low Lane, Stainborough, Barnsley,
 South Yorkshire S75 3ET
 Tel: 01226 776040
 Web: www.wentworthcastle.org



A magnificent parkland estate and 17ha (40 acre) pleasure garden,

established in the 18th century. The gardens are famous for hardy hybrid rhododendrons, and care for National Plant Collections of species magnolias, rhododendrons and camellias. Now fully open to the public after extensive restoration, highlights include a gothic folly with a viewing platform 183m (600ft) above sea level, formal wilderness and Victorian flower garden, visitor centre, café in a restored 18th-century barn and children's adventure playground.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period.
Open: daily (call for current opening times).



Wentworth Castle Gardens, South Yorkshire

47 York Gate Garden

Back Church Lane, Adel, Leeds,
 West Yorkshire LS16 8DW
 Tel: 0113 2678240
 Website: www.perennial.org.uk



This 0.4ha (1 acre) garden was created by the Spencer family during the second half of the 20th century and is widely recognised as one of Britain's finest small gardens. Laid out in a series of 14 smaller gardens with different themes and in contrasting styles, these include the famous herb garden with its topiary and summerhouse. Striking architectural features play a key role throughout the garden, which is also noted for its exquisite vistas.

The garden is now owned by the charity Perennial.
Free Access (Member 1 only): applies Apr, May and Sept, except 4-5 Apr and 2-3 & 30-31 May.
Open: 1 Apr-30 Sept, Thur, Sun and Bank Holiday Mors, 2-5pm.
 Also selected evenings (see website).



York Gate Garden, West Yorkshire

EAST ANGLIA



RHS Garden Hyde Hall
see page 3



Anglesey Abbey Gardens, Cambridgeshire

48 * **Anglesey Abbey Gardens**
Quy Road, Lode, Cambridge,
Cambridgeshire CB25 9EJ
Tel: 01223 810080 Fax: 01223 810088
Email: angleseyabbey@nationaltrust.org.uk
Web:
www.nationaltrust.org.uk/angleseyabbey



With 114 acres full of vibrant colour, delicious scent, and the simple pleasures of nature, there's a lot to see and do. Rare varieties of snowdrops create a popular display in January and February. Thousands of hyacinths are a highlight in the spring, while summer is celebrated by the colourful herbaceous borders and dahlia gardens. Autumn foliage is followed by the spectacular Winter Garden, making Anglesey a garden for all seasons.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies (garden only) throughout open period (excluding special event days).
Please see website for opening times.



The Beth Chatto Gardens, Essex

49 * **The Beth Chatto Gardens**
Elmstead Market, Colchester,
Essex CO7 7DB
Tel: 01206 822007 Fax: 01206 825933
Web: www.bethchatto.co.uk



50 years ago the site for the garden consisted largely of sun-baked gravel,

a boggy hollow and dry shade beneath ancient oaks. Inspired by her late husband Andrew Chatto's lifelong study of the natural homes of garden plants, Beth Chatto has turned these problems into advantages. Water gardens have been made in the hollow, shade gardens beneath oak trees, and a gravel garden on the sunny, well-drained soil. In each situation plants are selected that have adapted to adverse conditions. Large plant nursery and tearoom.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies Jan-Mar.
Please see website for normal opening times.



The Bressingham Gardens, Norfolk

50 * **The Bressingham Gardens**
Bressingham, nr Diss, Norfolk IP22 2AB
Tel: 01379 686900 Fax: 01379 686907
Email: info@bressingham.co.uk
Web: www.bressinghamgardens.com



These ever changing gardens are described by many visitors 'as the best they have seen'. They include the late Alan Bloom's Dell Garden, with more than 50 immaculate Island Beds of perennials, and Adrian Bloom's Foggy Bottom garden with views and vistas of year round colour. Both are now linked with new gardens, in total covering 6.5ha (16 acres). Follow the trail from the Summer Garden with its National Plant Collection of *Miscanthus*, through the Dell Garden and the Fragrant Garden to Adrian's Wood, planted with species of North America, and on to Foggy Bottom.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies May and Sept (gardens only).
Open: daily, Easter-31 Oct.

© Val Corbett



Doddington Hall, Lincolnshire

51 * **Doddington Hall**
Lincoln LN6 4RU
Tel: 01522 694308 Fax: 01522 682584
Email: info@doddingtonhall.com
Web: www.doddingtonhall.com



Doddington Hall is surrounded by 2ha (5 acres) of romantic walled and wild gardens, with formal topiary, box-edged knot garden, fountains and sumptuous borders. Highlights include spring-flowering bulbs in the wild garden, rhododendrons, naturalised crown imperial lilies, Victorian daffodil cultivars, a show of native spring wildflowers and at the spectacular stunning display of bearded irises in the Walled West Garden. There are magnificent old trees, a Temple of the Winds, water gardens and working walled kitchen garden.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period.
Please see website for normal opening times.
NB Doddington farm shop and café open to visitors.

© Sara Eley



East Bergholt Place Garden and Nursery, Suffolk

52 * **East Bergholt Place Garden - The Place for plants**
East Bergholt, Suffolk CO7 6UP
Tel: 01206 299224
Web: www.theplaceforplants.co.uk



This tranquil 6ha (20 acre) woodland garden and arboretum, laid out

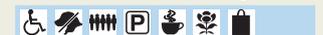
between 1900 and 1914 by Charles Eley, is well known for its fine collection of magnolias, camellias and rhododendrons and looks particularly spectacular in spring. A specialist plant centre called The Place For Plants has been set up in the Victorian Walled Garden adjacent to the arboretum, stocking a large range of herbaceous plants as well as trees, shrubs and climbers for the specialist and the weekend gardener.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period (except Sundays).
Please see website for normal opening times.



East Ruston Old Vicarage, Norfolk

53 * **East Ruston Old Vicarage**
East Ruston, Norwich, Norfolk NR12 9HN
Tel: 01692 650456 Fax: 01692 651246
Web: www.eastrustonoldvicarage.co.uk



This fine modern garden lies close to the sea, with a microclimate that allows the owners to grow many plants that are normally far too tender to thrive in East Anglia. The 13ha (32 acres) contain herbaceous borders, gravel gardens, sub-tropical gardens, a box parterre, a sunken garden, a Mediterranean garden, Desert wash and much enlarged Woodland garden. There are various trials in conjunction with the RHS and East Ruston Old Vicarage is very proud to be the first garden to do this in over 100 years.

Note: situated on the B1159 adjoining East Ruston church, off the A149 near Stalham; 15m northeast of Norwich.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies Apr & Oct.
Open: 28 Mar-30 Oct, Wed, Fri, Sat, Sun and Bank Holidays, 2-5.30pm.



Elton Hall, Cambridgeshire

54 Elton Hall

Peterborough, Cambridgeshire PE8 6SH
Tel: 01832 280468
Web: www.eltonhall.com



There has been a house where Elton Hall stands for nearly 550 years. The gardens have expanded from moated grounds to formal gardens, picturesque views and finally a grand design completed just before the First World War. By 1980 it had fallen into disrepair. Since then the garden has been enthusiastically restored. New hedges have formed intimate spaces which include a beautiful gothic orangery and new flower garden. Billowing borders surround the lily pond, topiary parterres and immaculately kept lawns and paths give structure to many unusual plants.

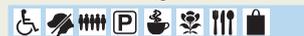
Free Access (Member 1 only): applies May-Jul (Gardens only). Reduced rate group bookings May-Jul for RHS Members.
Please see website for normal opening times.



Fairhaven Woodland and Water Garden, Norfolk

55 Fairhaven Woodland and Water Garden

School Road, South Walsham, nr Norwich, Norfolk NR13 6DZ
Reg. charity no. 265686
Tel/Fax: 01603 270449
Web: www.fairhavengarden.co.uk



Fairhaven Woodland and Water Garden is a beautiful ancient woodland planted with shade- and moisture-loving plants. There are 5km (3m) of scenic pathways, rustic

bridges over the waterways and wonderful reflections. Carpets of wild primroses, white wood anemones, daffodils, bluebells and *Lysichitum americanum* can be seen in March and April, followed by rhododendrons, azaleas and candelabra primulas in May and June.

Note: to find Fairhaven, follow the tourist signs on the A47 at the B1140 junction.

Individual Members' free access applies Jan-Apr, Oct and Nov.
Open: All year, daily, 10am-5pm (9pm, Wed & Thur, May-Aug).
Closed Christmas Day.



Grimsthorpe Castle, Lincolnshire

56 Grimsthorpe Castle

Bourne, Lincolnshire PE10 0LY
Tel: 01778 591205 Fax: 01778 591259
Web: www.grimsthorpe.co.uk



Immaculately clipped yew hedges and topiary squares with fountain pools sit comfortably alongside classic herbaceous borders. An unusual ornamental kitchen garden, designed in the 1960s, complements rose and lavender parterres with clipped box edges. A mini-arboretum and wild, woodland spring garden await discovery. Cleverly positioned vistas extend across the lake to the 17th-century tree-lined avenues beyond. This is a place to relax and enjoy the tranquility of an historic English estate.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies Apr, May and Sept.
Open: Apr-May, Sun, Thur and Bank Holiday Mon; Jun-Sept, Sun-Thur, 11am-6pm.

57 Houghton Hall

Estate Office, Houghton Hall, King's Lynn, Norfolk PE31 6UE
Tel: 01485 528569 Fax: 01485 528167
E-mail: info@houghtonhall.com
Web: www.houghtonhall.com



This award-winning 2ha (5 acre) walled garden is divided by clipped



Houghton Hall, Norfolk

yew hedges, interspersed with statues, into themed garden rooms. The centerpiece is a double herbaceous border stretching 120m (394 ft) designed by Julian and Isobel Bannerman. More than 120 cultivars form the formal rose-parterre, including perpetual flowering roses and older roses. There is also a large kitchen garden, with a massive octagonal fruit cage, wisteria pergola and cherry walk. Statues and fountains include the newly installed 'Waterflame' designed by Danish artist Jeppe Hein.

Free Access (Member 1 only): (garden only) applies June only.
Open: 4 Apr-30 Sept, Wed-Thur, Sun & Bank Holiday Mons, 11.30am-5.30pm.



Mannington Gardens, Norfolk

58 Mannington Gardens

Mannington Hall, Saxthorpe, Norwich, Norfolk NR11 7BB
Tel: 01263 584175 Fax: 01263 761214
Email: laurelwalpole@manningtongardens.co.uk
Web: www.manningtongardens.co.uk



The gardens around this medieval moated house feature a wide variety of plants, trees and shrubs. The Heritage and Twentieth Century Rose Gardens have roses planted in designs reflecting their date of origin. There is a knot garden with scented plants and on the South Lawn are plants selected for touch, sound and taste. Wildflowers are encouraged around the landscaped lakes and in the

Chapel Garden, where Victorian follies surround the ruins.

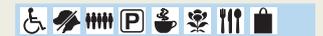
Free Access (Member 1 only): (gardens only) applies throughout open period (except special event days).
Open: May-Sept, Sun, 12noon-5pm; Jun-Aug, Wed-Fri, 11am-5pm.



Marks Hall Garden & Arboretum, Essex

59 Marks Hall Garden and Arboretum

Coggeshall, Essex CO6 1TG
Tel: 01376 563796 Fax: 01376 563132
Email: enquiries@markshall.org.uk
Web: www.markshall.org.uk



A tree collection from all the temperate areas of the world set in over 200 acres of historic landscape provides interest and enjoyment throughout the year at Marks Hall. Highlights include: the Millennium Walk, designed for structure, colour and scent on the shortest days of the year; the largest planting in Europe of Wollemi Pine and the inspired combination of traditional and contemporary planting in the 17th century Walled Garden.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies during May, June and July 2010 (excluding special event days).
Please see website for normal opening times.

60 Raveningham Gardens

Raveningham, Norwich, Norfolk NR14 6NS
Tel: 01508 548152 Fax: 01508 548958
Email: office@raveningham.com
Web: www.raveningham.com



Raveningham Gardens are a creation of the last hundred years; predominantly developed as a plantsman's garden by Priscilla Bacon in the 1950s to 2000. There is a working walled garden with a Victorian greenhouse conservatory; an Edwardian rose garden; herbaceous borders; a recently

continues overleaf ▶

Raveningham Gardens *continued*



Raveningham Gardens, Norfolk

created herb garden and arboretum; a lake to celebrate the millennium and a new 'Time' garden based on Francis Bacon's *Essay of Gardens*. Highlights include: a wide range of alkaline-loving plants; snowdrops in February; viburnum in May and agapanthus in August.

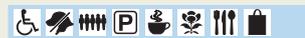
Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period.

Open: Easter to end of August, Mon–Fri, 11am–4pm, Bank Holiday Sundays and Mondays, 2–5pm.

N.B. Teas available on Bank Holiday Sundays and Mondays only.

61 Sandringham

The Estate Office, Sandringham, Norfolk PE35 6EN Tel: 01553 612908 Web: www.sandringhamestate.co.uk



Sandringham House, HM The Queen's Norfolk retreat, is surrounded by 24ha (60 acres) of glorious informal gardens. Woodland walks, lakes and streams are planted to provide year-round colour and interest: drifts of spring-flowering bulbs, avenues of rhododendrons and azaleas, beds of lavender and roses, dazzling autumn colour – there is always something to see. Other highlights include the formal North Garden, Queen Alexandra's summerhouse beside its own cascading stream and many unusual and commemorative trees.

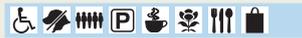
Free Access (Member 1 only): (gardens only) applies throughout open period. Open: 3 Apr–mid July & early Aug–31 Oct, daily, 10.30am–5pm (4pm in Oct).



Sandringham, Norfolk

62 Wyken Hall

Stanton, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP31 2DW Tel: 01359 250262 Web: www.wykenvineyards.co.uk



The garden at Wyken has a series of old-style gardens which connect the old manor house to the surrounding countryside. These include a Knot Garden, a Herb Garden, and a traditional English Kitchen Garden. An old-fashioned Rose Garden and pergola lead to wild gardens with a pond and shrubs. Visitors will also find a maze, nuttery, wildflower meadows and a gazebo covered in wisteria. Wines can be tasted from the nearby vineyard.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period.

Open: 1 Apr–30 Sept, Sun–Fri (closed Sat), 2–6pm.



Wyken Hall, Suffolk

SOUTH EAST



RHS Garden Wisley *see page 3*

© Forestry Commission England



Bedgebury, Kent

63 Bedgebury

Bedgebury National Pinetum, Goudhurst, Kent TN17 2SL Tel: 01580 879820 Fax: 01580 212423 Web: www.forestry.gov.uk/bedgebury



The National Pinetum at Bedgebury is the finest collection of conifers on one site in the world, with over 10,000 trees and shrubs from five continents growing across 130ha (320 acres). Many are rare, endangered and historically important specimens. In winter a dusting of snow or a sharp frost transforms the Pinetum into a winter wonderland. Spring brings a kaleidoscope of azaleas, daffodils, rhododendrons and bluebells. In summer the giant specimens cast deep shadows creating a cool oasis. The fiery leaves and brilliant berries of autumn contrast to the background of rich green conifers.

Free Access (Member 1 only) and free parking applies Mon–Fri throughout open period (excl weekends and Bank Holidays).

Open: All year, daily, 8am–dusk (8pm in summer).

64 Benington Lordship

Stevenage, Hertfordshire SG2 7BS Tel: 01438 869668 Fax: 01438 869622 Web: www.beningtonlordship.co.uk



This charming 3ha (7 acre) garden extends down a steep hill to lakes and parkland. It is famed for its display of snowdrops surrounding a ruined Norman castle and Pulham folly, complemented by hellebores and other winter-flowering plants. Spring follows with an amazing display of scillas, fritillaries and daffodils, before the full summer glory

of the roses and herbaceous borders. Autumn colour and shrubs with berries for the birds in winter finish the season.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies 6 Feb–12 Feb, 12noon–4pm & May Bank Holidays (Suns, 2–5pm & Mons, 12noon–5pm).

Please see website for normal opening times.



Benington Lordship, Hertfordshire

65 Blenheim Palace, Park and Gardens

Woodstock, Oxfordshire OX20 1PX Tel: 01993 811091 Fax: 01993 810570 Web: www.blenheimpalace.com



Blenheim Palace is set in 850ha (2100 acres) of glorious 'Capability' Brown landscaped parkland. Hailed as one of his greatest achievements, Brown 'naturalised' the landscape and created sublime lakes, cunningly planned vistas, the Arboretum and Grand Cascade. The Park remains largely as he planned with the additions of the Water Terraces and Italian Garden in early 20th century and the recently renovated Secret Garden. Other attractions include hosts of daffodils and bluebells in spring, a Lavender Garden and the Marlborough Maze.

Free Access (Member 1 only): (park & gardens only) applies 13 Feb–28 May (excluding Easter) & 20 Sept–12 Dec. Please see website for normal opening times and admission prices.



Blenheim Palace Park and Gardens, Oxfordshire



Borde Hill Garden, West Sussex

66 Borde Hill Garden

Balcombe Road, Haywards Heath, West Sussex, RH16 1XP
 Tel: 01444 450326 Fax: 01444 440427
 Email: info@bordehill.co.uk
 Web: www.bordehill.co.uk



Borde Hill, created from 1893 is a Grade II* Sussex garden renowned for its natural beauty, amazing views and extensive plant collection. Its distinctive garden 'rooms' including the Round Dell, Rose and Italian Gardens offer a great day out. Early spring-flowering magnolias, camellias, rhododendrons and azaleas, give way to exuberant rose and herbaceous plants. These plantings extend into 81ha (200 acres) of AONB traditional parkland and woodland which contain the largest collection of 'champion' trees on private land in Britain. Café Elvira & Jeremy's Restaurant.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies Jun & Jul.
Open: 22 Mar–12 Sept and 23–31 Oct, daily, 10am–6pm.



Denmans Garden, West Sussex

67 Denmans Garden

Denmans Lane, Fontwell, West Sussex BN18 0SU
 Tel: 01243 542808 Fax: 01243 544064
 Email: denmans@denmans-garden.co.uk
 Web: www.denmans-garden.co.uk



A unique 20th century garden, jointly owned by renowned garden designer

and author John Brookes, MBE and Michael Neve, beautifully planted for all year interest with an emphasis on shape, colour and texture. This 1.6ha (4 acre) garden is full of planting and design ideas that can be adapted to suit any size of garden. There is also a beautiful plant centre and a fully licensed award-winning Garden Café.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies Jan–Feb & Nov–Dec.
Open: All year, daily.
 Please check website for current prices and winter opening times.



Englefield House, Berkshire

68 Englefield House

Reading, Berkshire, RG7 5EN,
 Tel: 01189 302221
 Fax: 01189 303226
 Email: benyon@englefield.co.uk
 Web: www.englefieldestate.co.uk



The 3.6ha (9 acre) garden at Englefield descends dramatically from the hill above the house through open woodland where mature native trees mix with Victorian conifers. Underplanting was begun in 1936 and has continued ever since. Drifts of daffodils and other spring and summer bulbs are followed by striking autumn colour. Stone balustrades and staircases enclose the lower terrace, with wide lawns, roses, mixed borders, topiary and small enclosed areas. A children's garden with hidden jets of water provides fun for younger visitors.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period.
Open: Every Monday through the year and 1 Apr–1 Nov, Mon–Thur, 10am–6pm.



Exbury Gardens, Hampshire

69 Exbury Gardens

Exbury, Southampton SO45 1AZ
 Tel: 023 8089 1203 Fax: 023 8089 9940
 Web: www.exbury.co.uk



With 81ha (200 acres) of woodland gardens on the east bank of the River Beaulieu, Exbury is the outstanding creation of Lionel de Rothschild in the 1920s. The gardens are particularly famous for their spring displays of rhododendrons, azaleas, camellias and magnolias, and dramatic autumn colour. There is also a meadow, rock garden, exotic garden, ponds, cascades, and many rare trees and plants. A narrow-gauge steam railway runs through part of the garden.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies Mar & Sept only.
Open: 6 Mar–7 Nov, daily, 10am–5pm or dusk if earlier.
 Please call for winter opening dates.



Furzey Gardens, Hampshire

70 Furzey Gardens

School Lane, Minstead, nr Lyndhurst, Hampshire SO43 7GL
 Tel: 023 8081 2464 Fax: 023 8081 2297
 Email: office@furzey-gardens.org
 Web: www.furzey-gardens.org



The 4ha (10 acres) of delightful informal gardens at Furzey, are renowned for their year-round beauty. There is ample seating throughout the gardens from which to enjoy the lake, heather garden and views across

the forest to the Isle of Wight. Extensive collections of azaleas and rhododendrons with summer- and winter-flowering shrubs and trees provide botanical interest all year. Furzey Gardens is part of the Minstead Training Project charitable organisation that provides residential care and horticultural training to young people with learning difficulties.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period.
Open: Daily, Mar–Nov, 10am–5pm.



Goodnestone Park Gardens, Kent

71 Goodnestone Park Gardens

Goodnestone Park, nr Wingham, Canterbury, Kent CT3 1PL
 Tel/Fax: 01304 840107

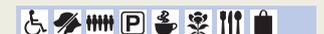


Goodnestone Park Gardens, once frequently visited by Jane Austen, are divided into three main areas. The formal area around the house includes a small parterre, magnificent trees and a lime avenue. An arboretum leads to the woodland area, where a pocket of greensand has been planted with many acid-loving plants and shrubs. A three-roomed walled garden is extensively planted with roses, clematis and herbaceous plants. There is also a well-stocked nursery.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies Apr–Jun & Sept (excluding special events on 14 Feb, 7 Mar and 12 Sept).
 Please see website for normal opening times.

72 Hatfield House

Hatfield, Hertfordshire AL9 5NQ
 Tel: 01707 287010 Fax: 01707 287033
 Web: www.hatfield-house.co.uk



The garden at Hatfield House has evolved into a gardeners' paradise. Visitors can enjoy the peace of the West Garden with its scented garden and fountains and view the famous knot garden in front of the Old Palace of Hatfield, where Elizabeth I spent

continues overleaf ▶

Hatfield House *continued*



Hatfield House, Hertfordshire

much of her childhood. Formal and wilderness gardens, delightful with bluebells and daffodils, are open throughout the season. The East Garden, which borders the Jacobean house, home of the Cecil family for 400 years, is formally planted with a parterre, topiary, herbaceous borders and vegetable garden. The Park has extensive walks and a picnic area.

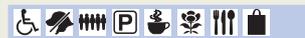
Free Access (Member 1 only): applies Easter Sat–end Sept, Weds–Sun & Bank Holidays (excluding major event days and East Garden).

Please see website for normal opening days, times and prices.

73 **Hever Castle & Gardens**

Hever, Edenbridge Kent TN8 7NG
Tel: 01732 865224

Web: www.hevercastle.co.uk



Discover 700 years of history at the 13th century castle, once the childhood home of Anne Boleyn and set in 30 acres of natural and formal gardens. The spectacular gardens are the masterpiece of William Waldorf Astor who between 1904 and 1908 created a garden paradise. Visitors can enjoy the amazing topiary, Tudor herb garden, pergolas of roses, climbing shrubs and perennial planting in the magnificent Italian gardens. There are over 3000 roses in the walled rose garden and the herbaceous border is 110m (360ft) long.

Free Access (Member 1 only) applies throughout open period.

Gardens Open: 3–31 Mar, Wed–Sun, 10.30am–5pm (last admission 4pm), 1 Apr–31 Oct, daily, 10.30am–6pm (last admission 5pm), 1 Nov–19 Dec, Thur–Sun, see website for opening times. Closed 20 Dec–2 Mar.



Hever Castle, Kent



Loseley Park, Surrey

74 **Loseley Park**

Guildford, Surrey GU3 1HS
Tel: 01483 304440 Fax: 01483 302036
Web: www.loseleypark.co.uk



Loseley's Walled Garden is based on a Gertrude Jekyll design. The award-winning Rose Garden is home to more than 1,000 old-fashioned roses and a magnificent vine walk. The Herb Garden is divided into culinary, medicinal, ornamental, dye and cosmetic sections, with a native wild flower area to attract wildlife. The Flower Garden's fiery colours contrast with the serene white, cream and silver of the White Garden. The extensive organic vegetable garden attracts interest from visitors and the Wild Flower Meadow is a delightful spectacle in the summer.

Free Access (Member 1 only): (garden only) applies May & Sept except NGS day, 9 May.

Please see website for normal opening times.



Nymans, West Sussex

75 **Nymans**
(The National Trust)

Handcross, West Sussex RH17 6EB
Tel: 01444 405250
Web: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/nymans



Set in the High Weald the garden is a series of experimental designs with spectacular planting and beauty all year. A horticulturalist's dream, it's easy to lose yourself in its intimate and

surprising corners. The house, transformed into a gothic mansion in the twenties, burnt down shortly after, leaving romantic ruins filled with flowers from the garden as Anne Messel, Countess of Rosse had them. Ancient woods dip into the valley, with walks among avenues, wild flowers, lake and cascades.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period.

Open: All year, Wed–Sun, 10am–5pm.

76 **Parham Park**

Storrington, nr Pulborough, West Sussex RH20 4HS
Tel: 01903 742021 Fax: 01903 746557
Email: enquiries@parhaminsussex.co.uk
Web: www.parhaminsussex.co.uk



Set in the heart of a medieval deer park at the foot of the South Downs this spectacular 1.6ha (4 acre) walled garden contains herbaceous and mixed borders of Edwardian opulence. Vibrant with colour, it is run on organic principles and designed for a long season, peaking in summer and late autumn. With its herbs, vegetables, lavender, roses and fruit trees the garden produces a tapestry-like effect in the English romantic tradition. The pleasure grounds, laid out in the 18th century, encompass specimen trees leading to a lake.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period.

Not applicable to group visits. Please see website or call 01903 742021 for normal opening times and admission prices.



Parham Park, West Sussex

77 **Penshurst Place and Gardens**

Penshurst, nr Tonbridge, Kent TN11 8DG
Tel: 01892 870307 Fax: 01892 870866
Web: www.penshurstplace.com



The garden at Penshurst Place is one of the oldest in private ownership with formal terraces by Sir Henry

Sidney having remained remarkably true to his design. The 4.5ha (11 acre) walled Tudor garden is divided into a series of 'rooms' by yew hedging. Seasonal highlights include spring-flowering bulbs, apple blossom, an eye-catching 90m (100 yd) peony border, herbaceous border (under development), fragrant roses and lavender, and autumnal fruits, venture playground and woodland trail.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period (not applicable to group bookings).

Please see website for normal opening times.



Penshurst Place and Gardens, Kent

78 **Sheffield Park Garden**
(The National Trust)

Sheffield Park, East Sussex TN22 3QX
Tel: 01825 790231 Fax: 01825 791264
Email: sheffieldpark@nationaltrust.org.uk
Web:

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/sheffieldpark



Sheffield Park (managed by the National Trust) is a beautiful 48 ha (120 acre) garden with four lakes linked by cascades and waterfalls, laid out in the 18th century by 'Capability' Brown. The garden is open all year. Daffodils and bluebells abound in spring, and rhododendrons and azaleas are spectacular in early summer. In autumn, the garden is ablaze with colour, and a collection of rare trees and shrubs makes it a fascinating visit at any time of year.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period (except special event days).

Please see website or call 01825 790231 for normal opening times and admission prices.

N.B. Tearoom not National Trust.



Sheffield Park Garden, East Sussex



Spinners Garden, Hampshire

79 Spinners Garden

Boldre, Lymington, Hampshire SO41 5QE
Tel: 01590 675488



This Hampshire garden is known for its peaceful woodland garden. The 1ha (2.5 acres) of rare trees and shrubs are combined with unusual shade bulbs and moisture-loving plants in the bog garden. Hydrangeas and ferns provide interest in the later season and a recently opened arboretum of magnolias and cornus adjoins the nursery where many plants can be purchased. The new owners are planning to develop the lower garden to open up new areas to the public.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period.
Open: Apr–Sept, Mon–Sat, 10am–5pm.



Syon Park, Middlesex

80 Syon Park

Brentford, Middlesex TW8 8JF
Tel: 020 8560 0882
Web: www.syonpark.co.uk



An exceptional rural landscape across the Thames from Kew, the 80ha (200 acre) parkland of Syon Park, designed by 'Capability' Brown, is home to 16ha (40 acres) of gardens including an ornamental lake, an extensive collection of 200 species of rare trees, and a Wilderness Garden. The impressive Great Conservatory was built in 1826. A Grade I-listed landscape in the English Heritage Register of Parks and Gardens of Historic Importance in England, Syon

Park also has numerous organically grown herbaceous borders.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period (except special event days).

Open: Apr–Oct (except Christmas & Boxing Day), 10.30am–4pm; Nov–Mar, 10.30am–3pm.



Waddesdon Manor, Buckinghamshire

81 Waddesdon Manor (The National Trust)

Nr Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire HP18 0JH
Tel: 01296 653226 Fax: 01296 653212
24-hr recorded info: 01296 653211
Web: www.waddesdon.org.uk



Waddesdon Manor Garden, designed for Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild, is one of the finest in Britain, featuring a parterre, informal parkland and rococo-style aviary stocked with exotic birds. There are seasonal bedding displays, walks and views, fountains and statuary to enjoy in any season. Guided walks take place from April to September.

Free Access (Member 1 only): (gardens only) applies Mar, Sept & Oct.
Please see website for normal opening times and non-member charges.



Waterperry Gardens, Oxfordshire

82 Waterperry Gardens

Near Wheatley, Oxfordshire OX33 1JZ
Tel: 01844 339254 (office)
01844 339226 (shop)
Email: office@waterperrygardens.co.uk
Web: www.waterperrygardens.co.uk



Visitors will delight in one of the best purely herbaceous borders in the country, flowering from May to the first frosts. This 3.2ha (8 acre)

Oxfordshire gem also offers a rose and formal knot garden, water lily canal, trained fruit and nursery beds, a riverside walk and the National Plant Collection of *Kabschia Saxifraga*. Formerly the Waterperry School of Horticulture for Ladies, the estate includes nurseries, plant centre, orchards, art gallery, teashop and offers gardening, arts and craft courses.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies Mar & Oct only.
Open: Mar–Oct, daily, 10am–5.30pm;
Nov–Feb, daily, 10am–5pm.

83 West Dean Gardens

West Dean, nr Chichester,
West Sussex PO18 0QZ
Tel: 01243 818210 Fax: 01243 811342
Email: gardens@westdean.org.uk
Web: www.westdean.org.uk



Set within the rolling South Downs, West Dean is a garden on an expansive scale and with something for each season. At its heart is the 1ha (2.5 acre), highly acclaimed, restored Victorian walled kitchen garden with its splendid 19th-century glasshouse range. In addition there are ornamental grounds, a landscape park and the 20ha (49 acres) St Roches arboretum, all linked by a 4km (2.5 mile) parkland walk. The Visitor Centre houses a high quality licensed restaurant and imaginative shop.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies Jan–Mar and Nov–Dec (except special event days).
Please see website or call 01243 818210 for normal opening times and prices.



West Dean Gardens, West Sussex

SOUTH WEST



RHS Garden Rosemoor
see page 3



Abbotsbury Subtropical Gardens, Dorset

84 Abbotsbury Subtropical Gardens

Abbotsbury, Weymouth DT3 4LA
Tel: 01305 871387 Fax: 01305 871092
Web: www.abbotsburygardens.co.uk



The First Countess of Ilchester established Abbotsbury in 1765 as a kitchen garden to her nearby castle. It has developed into a 12ha (30 acre) sub-tropical paradise. Early-flowering camellias and palms enjoy the sheltered valley setting of this exotic garden, which holds a National Plant Collection of *Hoheria*. Voted 'Our Favourite Garden' by Readers of *The Daily Telegraph*, Alan Titchmarsh described Abbotsbury as 'One of the finest gardens I have ever visited' in September 2008.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies Jan–Feb and Oct–Dec.
Open: All year, daily, 10am–6pm (dusk in winter). Closed Christmas and New Year.



Bicton Park Botanical Gardens, Devon

85 Bicton Park Botanical Gardens

East Budleigh, Budleigh Salterton,
Devon EX9 7BJ
Tel: 01395 568465 Fax: 01395 568374
E-mail: info@bictongardens.co.uk



Plant lovers can find all-year interest in this superbly landscaped 25ha (63 acre)

continues overleaf ▶

Bicton Park Botanical Gardens *continued*

park. The collection of more than 1,000 trees contains 300 species and 25 champion specimens. Flowering plants include camellias, mimosas, a tulip tree and probably the oldest wisteria in Britain. There is an 18th-century Italian Garden, an historic Palm House, Victorian fernery, old and modern roses, and waterside planting.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies Jan–Feb and Nov only (excluding train rides).

Open: All year, daily, 10am–6pm (5pm in winter). Closed Christmas Day and Boxing Day.



Broadleas Gardens, Wiltshire

86 Broadleas Gardens

Broadleas, Devizes, Wiltshire SN10 5JQ
Tel: 01380 722035
Email: broadleasgardens@btinternet.com



This garden was bought just after World War II by the late Lady Anne Cowdry in acombe below Devizes. A garden of serious plantsmanship and dendrology, Broadleas is full of fine things that one would think too tender for these parts – large specimens of *Davidia involucreta*, *Cornus* 'Norman Hadden', *Catalpa x erubescens* 'Purpurea', all manner of magnolias, azaleas, hydrangeas, hostas, lilies, rhododendrons, camellias and rare trilliums. It is at its most magnificent in spring with sheets of bulbs below flowering trees. There is also a perennial garden, a sunken rose garden, a grey border and woodland walk.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period (excluding NGS days).

Open: Apr–Oct, Sun, Wed and Thurs, 2–6pm.



Caerhays Castle Gardens, Cornwall

87 Caerhays Castle Gardens

Gorran, St Austell, Cornwall PL26 6LY
Tel: 01872 501310 Fax: 01872 501870
Email: estateoffice@caerhays.co.uk
Web: www.caerhays.co.uk



An informal woodland garden created by J C Williams, who sponsored plant-hunting expeditions to China at the turn of the 19th century. Historic Caerhays is one of the oldest estates in the country and is one of Cornwall's great gardens – a springtime paradise of glorious camellias, rhododendrons and magnolias, of which Caerhays holds a National Plant Collection. Visitors can choose between the four woodland walks through one of the finest displays of spring flowers in Britain. At least a half-day visit is recommended.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies 15 Feb–14 Mar (inclusive).
Open: 15 Feb–31 May 2010, daily, 10am–5pm (gardens only). Last entry 4pm.



Chiffchaffs, Dorset

88 Chiffchaffs

Chaffeymoor, Bourton, Gillingham, Dorset SP8 5BY Tel: 01747 840841



Chiffchaffs is a cottage garden planted for a long season of interest, including spring bulbs, flowering cherries, rhododendrons, shrub roses, clematis and herbaceous borders, with winding paths leading to long-distance views over the surrounding Dorset countryside. There is also a woodland garden containing

numerous acers, magnolias, cornus, camellias, bog primulas, astilbes, *Meconosopsis* and *Liquidambar* (sweet gum).

A nursery selling a wide range of shrubs and herbaceous plants, mostly propagated from plants in the garden, is open from Weds–Sat.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period.

Open: Mar–Oct, Wed & Thur, 2–5pm. Also open some Sundays. Call the garden for details.



Clovelly Court, Devon

89 Clovelly Court

Clovelly, nr Bideford, Devon EX39 5SZ
Tel: 01237 431200 Fax: 01237 431205



Clovelly Court Garden is a classic example of the Victorian kitchen garden tradition. Magnificent lean-to greenhouses with original manual levers house apricots, melons, peaches, a vine, citrus and a fig tree. Espalier fan and cordon trees line the walls enclosing the garden, which also shelter the vegetables grown organically and in rotation. Colourful flower borders form the lower half of the 0.6ha (1.5 acre) walled garden. Fine views across Bideford Bay are revealed from the reconolised balustraded terraces.

Individual Members' free access applies Mar & Oct.

Open: Mar–Oct, daily, 10am–4pm.



Compton Acres, Dorset

90 Compton Acres

164 Canford Cliffs Road, Poole, Dorset BH13 7ES
Tel: 01202 700778 Fax: 01202 707537
Web: www.comptonacres.co.uk



Compton Acres invites garden

enthusiasts to wander at leisure within 4ha (10 acres) of beautiful themed gardens of the world. Originally created in the early 1920s, each garden is a delight and reflects the beauty, style and themes of the then Arts and Crafts movement. The rock and water garden is one of the largest in the country, and the Japanese garden complete with imperial pagoda and formal Italian garden are among the finest to be found in England. Good disabled access, catering facilities within the gardens and plenty of free parking.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period.

Open: All year, daily, summer 9am–6pm; winter 10am–dusk.



Corsham Court Gardens, Wiltshire

91 Corsham Court Gardens

Corsham Court, Corsham, Wiltshire SN13 0BZ
Web: www.corsham-court.co.uk
Tel: 01249 701610



The grounds of Corsham Court were designed by Brown and Repton. The gardens feature one of the largest oriental planes in Europe and magnificent examples of ginkgo and black walnut. Hidden in the gardens is Brown's Bath House, surrounded by mature yew trees. The formal areas of the garden were laid out in the 19th century, with a collection of magnolias added in the 20th century.

Note: House entry discount available for RHS members.

Free Access (Member 1 only): (garden only) applies throughout open period except NGS days on 21 Mar and 6 Jun 2010.

Please see website for normal opening times.

92 Cranborne Manor Garden

Cranborne, Wimborne, Dorset BH21 5PP
Tel: 01725 517248 Fax: 01725 517862
Web: www.cranborne.co.uk



This historic garden was laid out in the 17th century by John Tradescant and much embellished in the 20th century. Hidden among ancient trees

continues overleaf ▶

Cranborne Manor Gardens *continued*



Cranborne Manor Garden, Dorset

close to the village of Cranborne, it contains yew hedges and lawns, a wild garden with spring bulbs, a Jacobean mount garden, a walled kitchen garden, a white garden and new in 2009 a cottage garden. Old-fashioned and species roses mingle with clematis and herbaceous perennials to give the garden a sense of timeless serenity.

Note: South Court occasionally closed.
Free Access (Member 1 only): applies (Wed only) throughout open period.
 Open: Mar–Sept, Wed only, 9am–5pm (last entry 4pm).

93 Docton Mill Gardens

Lymebridge, Hartland, North Devon EX39 6EA
 Tel: 01237 441369 Fax: 01237 441369
 Web: www.doctonmill.co.uk



Docton Mill is situated in a magnificent valley location 1km from the coast and the famous waterfall at Spekes Mill Mouth. The gardens surround the original mill pond and the microclimate created within the wooded valley enables tender species to flourish. Recent plantings of herbaceous and stream gardens, along with a redesigned summer garden, give variety throughout the seasons. A nursery selling a wide range of herbaceous perennials is open throughout the year.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies any Sat, 1 Mar–31 Oct inclusive.
 Open: Mar–Oct, daily, 10am–6pm.



Docton Mill Gardens, North Devon



East Lambrook Manor, Somerset

94 East Lambrook Manor

South Petherton, Somerset TA13 5HH
 Tel: 01460 240328 Fax: 01460 242344
 Email: info@eastlambrook.com
 Web: www.eastlambrook.com



Created by the late Margery Fish, celebrated plantswoman and gardening writer, between 1938 and 1969. Her talent for combining old-fashioned and contemporary plants in a relaxed and informal manner has created an extraordinary garden of great charm. Now Grade-I listed, it is renowned as the premier example of the English cottage gardening style and remains a true plantsman's garden, noted for its collections of rare snowdrops, hellebores, geraniums and the Margery Fish Plant Nursery. RHS horticultural courses also run here.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies 1 Feb–31 Mar and 1 Sept–30 Oct.
 Please see website for normal opening times.



Forde Abbey Gardens, Somerset

95 Forde Abbey Gardens

Chard, Somerset TA20 4LU
 Tel: 01460 221290
 Web: www.fordeabbey.co.uk



The gardens of Forde Abbey surround the 12th-century former Cistercian monastery, a private home since 1650. The vivid herbaceous borders, mature trees and wide sloping lawns

are viewed against a range of impressive architectural features. The garden features statuary, ancient mellowed stone walls, the Ionic temple overlooking the last of a cascade of lakes and the Centenary Fountain, the highest powered fountain in England.

Free Access (Member 1 only): (gardens only) applies Jan–Feb and Oct–Dec.
 Gardens open: daily, 10am–4.30pm.
 Abbey open: Apr–Oct, Tue–Fri, Sun & Bank Holidays, 12noon–4pm.
 Please see website for admission prices.



Hestercombe Gardens, Somerset

96 Hestercombe Gardens

Cheddon Fitzpaine, Taunton, Somerset TA2 8LG
 Tel: 01823 413923 Fax: 01823 413747
 Email: info@hestercombe.com
 Web: www.hestercombe.com



A fascinating combination of three period gardens covering more than 20ha (50 acres), Hestercombe is widely acknowledged as one of the ten most important historic gardens in Britain. It includes the world-famous Edwardian formal garden designed by Edwin Lutyens and planted by Gertrude Jekyll, undoubtedly the finest product of their collaboration, together with Victorian terraces and shrubbery, and a wonderful 18th-century arcadian landscape with temples, lakes and cascades set in an exquisite and secret valley. Mill and barn restoration now completed.

Free Access (Member 1 only): (gardens only) applies Jan–Mar and Oct–Dec.
 Open: All year (except Christmas Day), 10am–6pm (last admission 5pm).

97 Holbrook Garden

Sampford Shrubs, Sampford Peverell, Tiverton, Devon EX16 7EN
 Tel: 01884 821164
 Web: www.holbrookgarden.com



'This staggeringly diverse garden, still gathering the best plants the temperate world has to offer' (Anna Pavord, *The Garden*, Sept 2007). The

garden builds from early-spring pulmonarias, hellebores and established meadow plantings of snakeshead fritillaries, through to summer roses, irises, primulas and astrantias, to a late-summer and autumn crescendo of big grasses and late perennials. Texture, scent, colour, form and structure create the naturalistic garden ambience. Sensitive management of the garden ensures prolific wildlife.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period.
 Open: 1 Apr–31 Oct, Tue–Sat.



Holbrook Garden, Devon

98 Jasmine Cottage

26 Channel Road, Clevedon, Somerset BS21 7BY
 Tel: 01275 871 850
 Email: margaret@bologrew.demon.co.uk
 Web: www.bologrew.pwp.blueyonder.co.uk



Jasmine Cottage garden is the stylish and imaginative creation of the present owners on 0.1ha overlooking the Bristol Channel. The garden has tall-hedged rooms to shelter island beds, unusual climbers, old-fashioned scented roses and many shrubs and herbaceous perennials. A decorative mini-potager uses salmon traps for peas, beans and sweet peas. Around fifty different cultivars of the genus *Salvia* are grown.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period.
 Open: Thur 27 May, Thur in Jun–Jul and Thur 5 and 12 Aug, 11am–4pm.



Jasmine Cottage, Somerset



Kingston Maurward Gardens, Dorset

99 **Kingston Maurward Gardens**
Dorchester, Dorset DT2 8PY
Tel: 01305 215003 Fax: 01305 215001
Web: www.kmc.ac.uk/gardens



Kingston Maurward Gardens are set deep in Hardy's Dorset and are listed on the English Heritage Register of Gardens. The 14ha (35 acres) of classical 18th-century parkland and lawns sweep majestically down to the lake from the Georgian House. The Edwardian Gardens include a croquet lawn, herbaceous borders and a large display of tender perennials, including National Plant Collections of *Penstemon* and *Salvia*. Stone terraces, balustrading and yew hedges have been used to create intimate gardens and carefully planned vistas.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period (except special event days).
Open: 5 Jan–22 Dec, daily, 10am–5.30pm (or dusk if earlier).



Knoll Gardens, Dorset

100 **Knoll Gardens**
Knoll Gardens, Hampreston, nr Wimborne, Dorset BH21 7ND
Tel: 01202 873931 Fax: 01202 870842
Web: www.knollgardens.co.uk



With an informal framework of mature trees and shrubs creating a relaxed and intimate atmosphere, these 1.6ha (4 acre) gardens are becoming known for their 'naturalistic' approach to the use of grasses and perennials. Specific areas providing planting ideas include the Dragon Garden, Gravel Garden

and the Decennium Border with informal planting giving interest for most of the year. The nursery, a leading national specialist in grasses and perennials, is well known for its gold medal winning displays at Chelsea and other national flower shows.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period.
Please see website for normal opening times.



Mapperton Gardens, Dorset

101 **Mapperton Gardens**
Nr Beaminster, Dorset DT8 3NR
Tel: 01308 862645 Fax: 01308 861082
Web: www.mapperton.com



Mapperton's terraced valley gardens surround a honey-coloured Jacobean manor house, stable blocks, dovecote and church. On the upper levels lies a walled croquet lawn that leads down to the Orangery and Italianate formal garden with fountains, fine examples of sculptured topiary, grottoes, statuary, ponds and herbaceous borders.

The lower garden contains a mature arboretum with specimen shrubs, rare trees and a spring garden. There are magnificent views of the surrounding countryside, and walks to be enjoyed.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period (except special event days).
Open: Mar–Oct, daily (except Sat), 11am–5pm.

102 **Marwood Hill Garden**
Barnstaple, North Devon EX31 4EB
Tel: 01271 342528
Email: info@marwoodhillgarden.co.uk
Web: www.marwoodhillgarden.co.uk



Created by Dr Jimmy Smart VMH, Marwood Hill Garden is a privately owned 8ha (20 acre) garden set in a sheltered valley 4 miles north of Barnstaple; a haven for trees and

shrubs from around the world. Well known for the extensive collection of camellias and National Plant Collections of *Astilbe*, Japanese *Iris* and *Tulbaghia*, there are areas where visitors can rest and experience the tranquillity and many inspiring aspects of the gardens. There is also a walled garden plant centre and garden tea room.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies every Friday throughout open period (excluding Good Friday).
Open: 1 Mar–31 Oct, daily, 10am–5pm.



Marwood Hill Garden, North Devon

103 **Tapeley Park**
Instow, nr Bideford, North Devon EX39 4NT
Tel: 01271 342558/
01271 860 597 (March–Oct)
Fax: 01271 342371



Owned by the same family for almost 300 years, the 14ha (35 acre) site at Tapeley Park overlooks the River Torridge and offers spectacular views to Lundy and across the estuary to Saunton Sands and beyond. The renovated borders in the Italian Terraces are a delight to see. Work has centred on the walled kitchen garden, which now produces fruit and vegetables in abundance. There is also a new permaculture garden to see and enjoy. The lake, located at the bottom of a ravine, is surrounded by large *Thuja plicata* trees, the oldest in the country, and in season beautiful camellias, magnolias and rhododendrons.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies 8 Jun–31 Jul.
Open: 26 Mar–31 Oct, Sun–Fri, 10am–5pm.



Tapeley Park, North Devon



Trebah Garden, Cornwall

104 **Trebah Garden**
Mawnan Smith, nr Falmouth, Cornwall TR11 5JZ
Tel: 01326 252200 Fax: 01326 250781
Email: mail@trebah-garden.co.uk
Web: www.trebah-garden.co.uk



A uniquely beautiful, sub-tropical, 10.5ha (26 acre) Cornish ravine garden of great beauty falls from an 18th-century house to a private beach on the Helford River.

A stream cascading through ponds of koi carp and water plants winds through 0.8ha (2 acres) of hydrangeas and spills onto the beach. Glades of sub-tropical tree ferns and palms mingle with giant *Gunnera*, *Puya* and *Echium*, beneath a canopy of century-old rhododendrons. Trebah Garden is a paradise for the plantsman, artist, children and family.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies 1 Jan–31 Mar 2010 & 1 Nov–31 Mar 2011.
Open: All year, daily from 10am.
Winter opening times may vary.



Trevarno Estate Gardens, Cornwall

105 **Trevarno Estate Gardens and the National Museum of Gardening**
Trevarno Manor, Helston, Cornwall TR13 0RU
Tel: 01326 574274 Fax: 01326 574282



With a history stretching back to 1246, Trevarno has been privately

continues overleaf ▶

Trevarno Estate Gardens *continued*

owned by a succession of notable families. The magnificent gardens have been developed over the centuries and the Trevarno Estate offers visitors an unforgettable gardening experience. It combines beautiful Victorian gardens with the splendid Fountain, café, adventure play area, estate walk and reindeer and the fascinating National Museum of Gardening. 1500 varieties of daffodils can also be seen in flower from mid-December to mid-May.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period.
Open: All year, daily, 10.30am–5pm.
Closed Christmas Day & Boxing Day.

© Trewithen Gardens



Trewithen Gardens, Cornwall

106 Trewithen Gardens

Grampound Road, Truro, Cornwall TR2 4DD
Tel: 01726 883647 Fax: 01726 882301
Web: www.trewithengardens.co.uk



Created in the early years of the 20th century, these gardens are internationally famous. The 12ha (30 acre) site is renowned for the magnificent collection of camellias, rhododendrons, magnolias and many rare trees and shrubs that are seldom found elsewhere in Britain. A deep sunken garden contains acers, camellias and tree ferns. Viewing platforms and a camera obscura have been constructed. The extensive woodland gardens are surrounded by traditional landscaped parkland.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies Jul–Sept.
Open: Mar–Sept, daily, 10am–4.30pm.
Closed Sun, Jun–Sept.

107 Wilton House

Wilton, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP2 0BJ
Tel: 01722 746714 Fax: 01722 744447
Email: tourism@wiltonhouse.com
Web: www.wiltonhouse.com



The gardens at Wilton House have changed over the years, reflecting the

styles of the day and the individual tastes of each Earl and Countess of Pembroke. In an idyllic setting the grounds are bordered by the rivers Wylde and Nadder. They offer a mix of open parkland in the style of 'Capability' Brown, small formal gardens and splendid herbaceous borders, and a wealth of architectural features from the earlier Renaissance and 18th-century gardens. The latest addition of the Millennium Water Feature forms a pleasing contrast to the famous Palladian Bridge.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period (except regular access to adventure playground).
Please see website for normal opening times.

© Wilton House



Wilton House, Wiltshire

CENTRAL

© Arley Arboretum and Gardens



Arley Arboretum and Gardens, Worcestershire

108 Arley Arboretum and Gardens

Upper Arley, nr Bewdley, Worcestershire DY12 1XG
Tel: 01299 861368/868
Fax: 01299 861330
Email: info@arley-arboretum.org.uk
Web: www.arley-arboretum.org.uk



This jewel in Worcestershire's crown was, until five years ago, opened only occasionally to the public. It is a haven of peace overlooking the banks of the River Severn. Approached through rolling parkland, visitors enter through a Walled Garden containing an Italianate Garden, raised beds, orchard, herbaceous borders, ornamental fowl, picnic area and plant sales.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies every Thur throughout open period.
Open: mid-March–31 Oct, Wed–Sun and Bank Holiday Mon, 11am–5pm.

© Hamilton Photography



Barnsdale Gardens, Rutland

109 Barnsdale Gardens

The Avenue, Exton, Oakham, Rutland LE15 8AH
Tel: 01572 813200 Fax: 01572 813346
Email: office@barnsdalegardens.co.uk
Web: www.barnsdalegardens.co.uk



The famous BBC Gardeners' World Garden, created by Geoff Hamilton, has 38 smaller gardens and features

that all blend together in one 3.2ha (8 acre) garden set in the beautiful Rutland countryside. The range of plants in many different combinations, together with the wealth of practical ideas for any garden, means that all gardeners leave totally inspired. In the nursery, a range of choice and unusual plants is for sale.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period (except group visits).
Open: Mar–May & Sept–Oct, 9am–5pm; Jun–Aug, 9am–7pm; Nov–Feb, 10am–4pm.

© Batsford Arboretum



Batsford Arboretum, Gloucestershire

110 Batsford Arboretum

Batsford Park, Moreton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire GL56 9AB
Tel: 01386 701441 Fax: 01386 701829
Web: www.batsarb.co.uk



A rare and beautiful collection of trees, shrubs and wildflowers set in 22ha (55 acres) of spectacular Cotswold countryside. Wander along magical, meandering paths with Japanese flowering cherries and magnolias, and beside streams edged with candelabra primulas. In autumn a riot of colour explodes with the reds and golds of the Japanese maples. Batsford is one of the largest private collections of trees in Britain.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout Dec & Jan and Jun–Sept (except group visits).
Open: daily, 9am–5pm.

111 Belvoir Castle

Belvoir, Grantham, Leicestershire NG32 1PD
Tel: 01476 871002 Fax: 01476 870443
Email: info@belvoircastle.com
Web: www.belvoircastle.com



Home of the Duke and Duchess of Rutland, this remarkable English Heritage Grade II garden and castle is

continues overleaf ▶

Belvoir Castle *continued*



Belvoir Castle, Leicestershire

being sensitively restored. Highlights include statues by Caius Cibber (1680), spring bedding, a collection of Victorian daffodils planted with primroses and bluebells, against a background of rhododendrons and azaleas. There are also rare specimen trees, many the largest of their type in the British Isles.

Note: Sloping woodland; please wear suitable footwear.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies during normal opening hours in April and July.

Open: Please check the website or telephone before travelling.

112 * **Bluebell Arboretum and Nursery**

Annwell Lane, Smisby, Ashby-de-la Zouch, South Derbyshire LE65 2TA
Tel: 01530 413700 Fax: 01530 417600
Web: www.bluebellnursery.co.uk



Bluebell Arboretum is an example of what can be achieved in a beautiful woodland garden, created in a windswept field in only 18 years. Snake-bark maples, winter-flowering honeysuckle and witch hazels provide winter colour. Northern pin oaks and birches are among the autumn sights, with late-flowering magnolias and flowering dogwoods in spring and summer.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period (excluding NGS days).

Please see website for normal opening times.



Bluebell Arboretum and Nursery, South Derbyshire



Burford House Gardens, Worcestershire

113 **Burford House Gardens**

Burford Garden Company, Tenbury Wells, Worcestershire WR15 8HQ
Tel: 01584 810777 Fax: 01584 810673
Email: info@burford.co.uk
Web: www.burford.co.uk



The lawns and herbaceous borders of Burford House sweep along the banks of the picturesque River Teme. Originally designed by the late John Treasure in 1952, the gardens contain a National Plant Collection of *Clematis* with around 500 cultivars on display, flowering from spring through to early autumn.

There are some 2,000 other plants, including one of the garden's great wonders, the giant *Wisteria macrobotrys* 'Burford'. A Georgian turfed bridge spans the river and takes you to an area of wild flowers and meadow.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period.

Open: Jan-Dec, daily except Christmas Day and Boxing Day, 9am-6pm (gardens close at dusk if earlier).



Cottesbrooke Hall, Northamptonshire

114 **Cottesbrooke Hall**

Cottesbrooke, Northamptonshire NN6 8PF
Tel: 01604 505808
Email: enquiries@cottesbrooke.co.uk
Web: www.cottesbrookehall.co.uk



Huge 300-year-old cedars set off magnificent double herbaceous

borders, pools and lily-ponds. There are pergolas, rose borders, individually planted courtyards and captivating views over the park. The magical Wild Garden includes wonderful colours of acers and rhododendrons, with bamboos and gunneras. A number of distinguished landscape designers have been involved with the gardens at Cottesbrooke including Robert Weir Schultz, Sir Geoffrey Jellicoe and Dame Sylvia Crowe. Most recently, James Alexander-Sinclair has reworked the herbaceous border.

Free Access (Member 1 only): (gardens only) applies throughout open period (except special event days).
Please see website for normal opening times.



Coughton Court, Warwickshire

115 * **Coughton Court**

The Throckmorton Family Gardens, Alcester, Warwickshire B49 5JA
Tel: 01789 762542 Fax: 01789 764369
Web: www.coughtoncourt.co.uk



Coughton Court has been home to the Throckmorton family since 1409. These breathtaking gardens comprise 10ha (25 acres) of diverse gardens focused around the superb walled garden, which includes the Rose Labyrinth, the first British garden to be given an Award of Garden Excellence by the World Federation of Rose Societies. The magnificent borders and bog garden contain myriad colours and plants for all seasons, including the award-winning spring Throckmorton daffodils.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies (gardens only) applies throughout open period excluding special event days.
Open: For opening times and admission prices please see the website.



The Dorothy Clive Garden, Shropshire

116 * **The Dorothy Clive Garden**

Willoughbridge, Market Drayton, Shropshire TF9 4EU
Tel: 01630 647237 Fax: 01630 647902
Email: info@dorothyclivegarden.co.uk
Web: www.dorothyclivegarden.co.uk



The Dorothy Clive Garden is a 5ha (12 acre) garden with a 200-year-old quarry converted into a dramatic rhododendron and woodland garden. This informal garden is home to many choice and unusual plants. Vibrant mixed borders, a scree above a lily pond, a gravel garden and thousands of spring bulbs are all displayed amidst fine views of the surrounding countryside.

Directions: Sited on A51 (nr. Woore) midway between Nantwich and Stone. From the M6 take J15.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies Jul-Sept.

Open: 20 Mar-26 Sept 2010, daily, 10am-5.30pm.



Felley Priory, Nottinghamshire

117 **Felley Priory**

Underwood, Nottinghamshire NG16 5FJ
Tel: 07763 189771 Fax: 01773 580440



Felley Priory, with its ancient walls, yew hedges and topiary, is a garden for all seasons: snowdrops, hellebores, an orchard of daffodils, herbaceous

continues overleaf ▶

Felley Priory *continued*

borders and an old-fashioned rose garden. There are pergolas, borders filled with unusual trees, shrubs and bulbs, a medieval garden, knot garden and a small arboretum. A pond has its edges planted with *Iris ensata*, shrub roses, bamboos, *Eucomis*, *Lysichiton* and primulas. A Snowdrop weekend will take place on 2nd weekend in February, and NCCPG Plant Fairs on the first Sunday in June and October.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period (except special event days).

Open: All year, Tue, Wed and Fri, 9am–12.30pm; Mar–Sept, every 2nd and 4th Wed, 9am–4pm; every 3rd Sun, 11am–4pm.

118 * **Hergest Croft Gardens**

Kington, Herefordshire HR5 3EG
Tel: 01544 230160
Email: gardens@hergest.co.uk
Web: www.hergest.co.uk



In the heart of the Welsh Marches, the gardens have spectacular views to the Black Mountains. It has been created over 100 years by three generations of the Banks family. It holds one of the finest collections of trees and shrubs in Britain ranging from the earliest collections of Chinese plants by Ernest 'Chinese' Wilson to the new introductions from 1980 onwards. There are hidden valleys, woodland glades, open parkland, spring bulbs, flower borders and magnificent autumn colour, as well as an old-fashioned kitchen garden full of unusual vegetables.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies weekends in March, and daily 1 Apr–30 Apr and 1 Jul–30 Sept.

Open: Sat–Sun, Mar, 12noon–5.30pm; daily, 1 Apr–31 Oct, 12noon–5.30pm.



Hergest Croft Gardens, Herefordshire



Kelmarsh Hall, Northamptonshire

119 * **Kelmarsh Hall**

Kelmarsh, Northamptonshire NN6 9LY
Tel: 01604 686 543 Fax: 01604 686 437
Email: enquiries@kelmarsh.com
Web: www.kelmarsh.com



This charming early 20th-century garden complements a Palladian Hall, once home to society decorator Nancy Lancaster. Renovation work aims to revive her panache and evoke the tumultuous herbaceous borders of designer Norah Lindsay. A formal terrace by Geoffrey Jellicoe leads to romantic rose gardens, country vistas and grand but cottagey borders. Spring offers swathes of naturalised daffodils and fritillarias. After midsummer, exuberant cut-flower borders set off a recently restored glasshouse at the heart of a triangular walled garden.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period (except special event days).

Garden open: 6 Apr–16 Sept, Tue–Thur and Sun (plus Bank Holiday Mon), 11am–5pm.

120 * **Mill Dene Garden**

Blockley, Moreton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire GL56 9HU
Tel: 01386 700457 Fax: 01386 700526
Web: www.milldenegarden.co.uk



Mill Dene Garden has much to offer new and established gardeners, as well as family visitors. An intrinsically difficult but beautiful site, the 1ha (2.5 acre) garden rises up from a grotto and mill pond in steep terraces to a cricket lawn and views over the hills. The fruit garden with nets shaped like medieval tents and a Cook's garden (full of herbs in the Caedfel manner) excites the senses, whilst the Cotswold brash soil of the north-facing garden is sensitively managed



Mill Dene Garden, Gloucestershire

to encourage wildlife (including grass snakes!). A tranquil garden with seats, scent and romantic planting.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies Apr and Sept.

Open: 1 Apr–30 Sept, Tues–Fri, 10.30am–6pm (last entry 5pm) and 2–5 Apr, 2–3 May, 30–31 May, 1–2 Aug and 29–30 Aug, 11am–5.30pm (last entry 4.30pm).

121 * **Painswick Rococo Garden**

Painswick, Gloucestershire GL6 6TH
Tel: 01452 813204 Fax: 01452 814888
Email: info@rococogarden.org.uk
Web: www.rococogarden.org.uk



Painswick Rococo Garden is a unique insight into early 18th-century garden design, combining formal vistas with woodland walks. Both flamboyant and frivolous, gardens became theatrical sets, a place to be enjoyed by the owner and his guests. A beautiful example, hidden away in a charming Cotswold valley, Painswick Rococo Garden is being restored to how it was shown in a 1748 painting. The garden is known for the extensive display of naturalised snowdrops, its unusual Anniversary Maze and the Heritage Kitchen Garden.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period, except Feb.

Open: All year, daily, 11am–5pm.



Painswick Rococo Garden, Gloucestershire

122 * **Ragley Hall**

Alcester, Warwickshire B49 5NJ
Tel: 01789 762090 Fax: 01789 764791
Email: rossbarbour@ragleyhall.com
Web: www.ragleyhall.com



The bare bones of Robert Marnock's late 19th-century garden carved from Lancelot Brown's sculptured parkland is still evident today, but unlike Marnock's original vision intended to show off discoveries from the New World, the ethos now focuses as much on indigenous flora and fauna. Marnock's garden has matured into a rich palette for nature, with mature trees predominating throughout, creating a magnificent foil for new developments, including the creation of traditional horticultural features fashioned with a naturalistic approach.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period.

Open: 13 Feb–31 Oct, Sat–Sun, 10am–6pm and weekdays during school holidays.



Ragley Hall, Warwickshire

123 * **Renishaw Hall**

Nr Sheffield, Derbyshire S21 3WB
Tel: 01246 432310
Email: info2@renishaw-hall.co.uk
Web: www.renishaw-hall.co.uk



Resplendent in acres of beautiful gardens and woodlands sits Renishaw Hall. Restoration has enhanced the geometric design, retaining yew hedges, pyramids and antique statues, while adding ebullient mixed borders, rose and clematis gardens and exotic plants. Highlights include: formal gardens, naturalistic plantings with specimen trees, unusual shrubs and rambling roses, a 3ha (8 acre)

continues overleaf ▶

Renishaw Hall *continued*



Renishaw Hall, Derbyshire

Italianate Garden, 120ha (300 acre) woodland, parkland and lakeside walks, Children's Garden, Bluebell Wood and the National Plant Collection of yuccas.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies (gardens only) throughout open period (except special event days and Bank Holidays).

Open: 1 Apr–26 Sept, Thur–Sun and Bank Holidays, 10.30am–4.30pm.

124 Garden Organic Ryton

Ryton-on-Dunsmore, Coventry CV8 3LG
Tel: 024 7630 3517 Fax: 024 7663 9229
Web: www.gardenorganic.org.uk



Garden Organic Ryton, home to the UK's leading organic growing charity showcases 4ha (10 acres) of organic domestic horticulture including herbs, roses, lawns, shrubberies, herbaceous planting and vegetable and fruit growing. With information on composting and pest/disease control, the grounds also boast a large conservation area with native trees and wild flowers, a bee garden, living willow structures and the world's first public biodynamic garden. The Vegetable Kingdom, an interactive visitor centre, houses the Heritage Seed Library. There is also an award-winning restaurant, café and organic shop.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period (except special event days).

Open: All year, daily, 9am–5pm. Restricted hours at Christmas.



Garden Organic Ryton, Warwickshire



Stone House Cottage Gardens, Worcestershire

125 Stone House Cottage Gardens

Stone House Cottage, Stone, nr Kidderminster, Worcestershire DY10 4BG
Tel: 01562 69902 Web: www.shcn.co.uk



Unusual brick follies adorn this romantic walled garden. It has been skillfully divided to create different compartments and diverse habitats in which to grow the vast selection of rare and unusual plants that thrive here. Climbers, a speciality, adorn the walls.

The garden acts as a shop window for the adjoining nursery, where visitors can buy many of the plants that grow in the garden, including many rarely for sale in this country.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period.

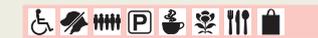
Open: mid-Mar to mid-Sept, Wed–Sat 10am–5pm.



The Trentham Estate, Stoke-on-Trent

126 * The Trentham Estate

Stone Road, Trentham, Stoke-on-Trent ST4 8AX
Tel: 01782 646646 Fax: 01782 644536
Email: enquiry@trentham.co.uk
Web: www.trentham.co.uk



At the head of 'Capability' Brown's mile-long lake awaits a fusion of Italianate formality and naturalised

planting. Brought back to life as part of a £100M makeover, the 300ha (750 acre) estate (one of Europe's largest contemporary perennial schemes) includes gardens by pre-eminent designers Tom Stuart-Smith and Piet Oudolf. Features new for 2009 include the £1M Tearoom, improvements to the western pleasure garden and a 2 mile circular lake walk.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies Jan–Mar and Oct–Dec (except special event days).

Open: Daily, 1 Apr–31 Oct, 10am–6pm and 1 Nov–31 Mar '10, 10am–4pm.



Westonbirt, Gloucestershire

127 Westonbirt

The National Arboretum, Westonbirt, Tetbury, Gloucestershire GL8 8QS
Tel: 01666 880220 Fax: 01666 880559
Web: www.forestry.gov.uk/westonbirt



Westonbirt Arboretum is one of the world's finest collections of trees and shrubs. This magnificent display of more than 16,000 specimens of woody plants, spread over 243ha (600 acres) on the southern edge of the Cotswolds, provides all year interest. Wander at your leisure along the 27km (17 miles) of pathways that lead you through this charming landscape created by Robert Holford in 1829.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period (except 23–30 Aug and 1–31 Oct and Fri–Sun 26 Nov–19 Dec).

Open: All year, daily, 9am–5pm. Please contact the garden for details of current prices.

128 Wollerton Old Hall Garden

Wollerton, Market Drayton, Shropshire TF9 3NA
Tel: 01630 685760 Fax: 01630 685583
Web: www.wollertonoldhallgarden.com



Commenced in 1984, this outstanding garden creation seeks to combine horticultural excellence with unrestrained planting of perennials, careful colour choice with strong contrasts, and intimacy with strong design structure. The dominant theme is of linear formality, so creating many individualistic gardens linked by recurring themes of oak, beech and yew. Collections of clematis, roses and salvias result in many inspiring planting combinations.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies Good Friday–End of Apr and Sept.

Open: From Good Friday–Sept, Fri, Sun & Bank Holidays, 12noon–5pm.



Wollerton Old Hall Garden, Shropshire

WALES

© Aberglasney Gardens



Aberglasney Gardens, Carmarthenshire

129 * **Aberglasney Gardens**
Llangathen, Carmarthenshire SA32 8QH
Tel: 01558 668998 Fax: 01558 668998
Email: info@aberglasney.org
Web: www.aberglasney.org



Aberglasney is set in the beautiful countryside of the Towy Valley. One of the country's most exciting garden restoration projects, the 4ha (10 acres) of garden contain an amazing variety and diversity of rare and unusual plants for year-round interest. At the heart is a unique, fully-restored Elizabethan/Jacobean cloister and parapet walk, which is the only example that survives in the UK. A recent addition is a large glazed tropical garden planted within the old ruins of part of the mansion. The shop and café are open throughout the year.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies Jan-Mar and Dec (except for 5 & 6 Dec).
Open: Apr-Sep, daily, 10am-6pm (last entry 5pm); Oct-Mar, daily, 10.30am-4pm.

130 **Bodnant Garden**
(The National Trust)
Tal-y-Cafn, nr Colwyn Bay, Conwy LL28 5RE
Tel: 01492 650460 Fax: 01492 650448
Web: www.bodnantgarden.co.uk



Bodnant Garden, managed by the Hon Michael McLaren, QC, has superb collections of magnolias, rhododendrons and camellias, in an idyllic setting above the River Conwy with views over Snowdonia. The garden has many interesting features, notably: the Laburnum Arch, glorious from mid-May to early June; the Lily

© Bodnant Gardens



Bodnant Garden, Conwy

Terrace: the curved, stepped pergola, covered with its riot of climbing plants in summer; and the Dell Garden, a tranquil place of natural beauty. A garden for all seasons.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period.
Open: 20 Feb-31 Oct, daily, 10am-5pm; 1-21 Nov, daily, 10am-4pm (last admission 30 mins prior to closing).

131 * **Cae Hir**
Gerddi Cae Hir Gardens, Cribyn, Lampeter, Ceredigion SA48 7NG
Tel: 01570 470839
Web: www.caehirgardens.com



A 200-year-old tradition of Dutch horticulture has put its stamp on this delightful garden.

The artistic eye and skilful hand of Wil Akkermans, the garden's creator, at blending the cultivated and the wild enables this garden to sit comfortably in the glorious Welsh countryside. Natural ponds and wildlife garden, sub-gardens, bonsai enclosure and cacti collection guarantee interest for many tastes, but thoughtful planting and repeated use of local materials ensure the feeling of unity throughout.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period.
Open: Apr-end Oct, 10am-5pm, daily.

© Bobby Taylor



Cae Hir, Ceredigion

© The Dingle Gardens & Nursery



The Dingle Gardens & Nursery, Powys

132 **The Dingle Gardens and Nursery**
Welshpool, Powys SY21 9JD
Tel: 01938 555145 Fax: 01938 555778
Web: www.dinglenurseries.co.uk



The Dingle is a thriving family garden and nursery set in rural mid-Wales. The garden, alongside an extensive plant-selling area, covers about 1.6ha (4 acres) and slopes away from the house to a lake. With its glorious background of hills and woods, the garden is breathtaking in its beauty. Each border has its own theme, every corner its surprises and each season its particular joys. There is a huge variety of rare and unusual plants with year-round interest.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period (excluding special event days).
Open: All year, daily, 9am-5pm (except Christmas).

© Dyffryn Gardens



Dyffryn Gardens & Arboretum, Glamorgan

133 **Dyffryn Gardens and Arboretum**
St. Nicholas, Vale of Glamorgan CF5 6SU
Tel: 029 2059 3328 Fax: 029 2059 1966
Web: www.dyffryngardens.com



Dyffryn Gardens is a Grade I-registered Edwardian garden set in the heart of the Vale of Glamorgan. The 22ha (55 acre) gardens are the result of a unique collaboration between the eminent landscape

architect, Thomas Mawson, and the passionate plant collector, Reginald Cory. The gardens include lawns, individually themed garden rooms enclosed by yew hedging, and a well-established arboretum including 17 champion trees.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period (excluding special event days).
Open: Please call 029 2059 3328 to confirm 2010 opening times and prices before travelling or see website.

© The Garden House



The Garden House, near Wrexham

134 **The Garden House**
Erbistock, nr Wrexham, Wales LL13 0DL
Tel: 01978 781149 Fax: 01978 781144
Email: gardens@simonwingett.com
Web: www.simonwingett.com



The Garden House was developed from a 2ha (5 acre) farmland site by Simon, Joan and Susie Wingett. The main features include shrub and herbaceous plantings in monochromatic, analogous and complementary colour schemes; rose pergolas; a sculpture garden; a large lily pond with a Monet-style bridge; a Victorian dovecote; a colour circle inspired by Gertrude Jekyll; and a National Plant Collection of hydrangeas, with well over 200 species and cultivars. Many of the rare and interesting plants grown on site can be bought in the shop.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies Weds only throughout open period.
Open: Easter-end Sept, Wed-Fri, 11am-5pm; Sun, 2-5pm; and by appointment.

135 * **The National Botanic Garden of Wales**
Carmarthenshire SA32 8HG
Tel: 01558 668768 Fax: 01558 668933
Web: www.gardenofwales.org.uk



The National Botanic Garden of Wales is blossoming into one of the most

continues overleaf ▶

The National Botanic Garden of Wales *continued*



The National Botanic Garden of Wales, Carmarthenshire

beautiful and stimulating gardens in the UK. Its lovely themed gardens, rolling parkland and secluded woodland are an inspired blend of the past and the present. The award-winning Mediterranean-climate Great Glasshouse is now complemented by the superb new Tropical House - which is home to a host of orchids.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies Jan-Mar and Oct-Dec.

Open: Winter, daily, 10am-4.30pm; Summer, daily, 10am-6pm. Closed Christmas Day.

136 Penpergwym Lodge

Abergavenny, Gwent NP7 9AS
Tel/Fax: 01873 840208
Web: www.penplants.com



Penpergwym Lodge is an Edwardian house with a 1.2ha (3 acre) garden with mature trees, wide lawns, and mixed borders filled with colour-themed and unusual plants.

Highlights include the Vine Walk; a formal terraced potager with mixed flowers and vegetables, divided by a central canal with a new brick loggia at the top; magnolia and malus walks; a Jubilee tower; and a collection of interesting shrubs.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period.

Open: Apr-Sept, Fridays & Saturdays, 2-6pm.



Penpergwym Lodge, Gwent



Picton Castle and Woodland Gardens, Pembrokeshire

137 * Picton Castle and Woodland Gardens

Rhos, nr Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire SA62 4AS
Tel: 01437 751326 Fax: 01437 751326
Web: www.pictoncastle.co.uk



This 13th-century castle with 40 acres of woodland and walled garden is within the magnificent Pembrokeshire Coast National Park. Sensitive management has resulted in a joyful blend of native species thriving alongside exotics which include rhododendrons, azaleas, magnolias, camellias, myrtles, tree ferns, giant redwoods, mighty oaks, *Embothrium* and *Eucryphia*. The Walled Garden has a lily pond with restored fountain, roses, herbaceous borders, herb garden and fernery.

Free Access (Member 1 only) (gardens & gallery only) applies Apr-Sept, except event days and except on group tours.

Open: 29 Mar-31 Sept, daily, 10.30am-5pm. Check website for Feb and Oct half-term and occasional winter weekend openings.



Plas Brondanw Gardens, Gwynedd

138 Plas Brondanw Gardens

Llanfrothen, Penrhyndeudraeth, Gwynedd LL48 6SW
Tel: 01743 241181 Fax: 01743 242300
Mobile: 07788 425713



Plas Brondanw is the highly original garden laid out by Sir Clough Williams-Ellis 17 years before starting

Portmeirion. One of the best kept secrets in North Wales, Plas Brondanw gardens are punctuated with slate stonework and inspiring ideas such as the arbour of four red-twigged limes.

Surrounding the garden are mountain peaks, complemented by the intimate spaces created within several themed garden rooms. All proceeds and donations go directly towards maintaining the garden.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period.

Open: All year, daily, 9.30am-5pm (or dusk if earlier).



Portmeirion, Gwynedd

139 Portmeirion

Penrhyndeudraeth, Gwynedd LL48 6ER
Tel: 01766 770000 Fax: 01766 771331
Web: www.portmeirion_village.com



The romantic coastal village of Portmeirion was created by architect Sir Clough Williams-Ellis from 1926 to 1976 in order to show that 'the development of a naturally beautiful site need not lead to its defilement'. The Italianate village is carved into the surrounding Gwyllt woodlands, surrounded by sub-tropical gardens with rare and exotic plants and miles of sandy beaches.

Other highlights include the Rhododendron Arboretum in May, the exuberant summer bedding and the thousands of hydrangeas that can be seen in late summer and autumn.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period.

Open: All year, daily except Christmas Day, 9.30am-closing time (Summer: 7.30pm, Autumn/Winter: 5.30pm).

NORTHERN IRELAND



Benvardeen Garden, Antrim

140 Benvardeen Garden
 Benvardeen, Dervock,
 Ballymoney, Antrim BT53 6NN
 Tel: 028 2074 1331 Fax: 028 2074 1955
 Web: www.benvardeen.com



The main feature of the 0.8ha (2 acre) walled garden is a spectacular curved red brick wall, 3.7m (12ft) high, dating from approximately 1780. Around the walls are espalier-trained apples and pear trees. There is also a splendid rose garden, several herbaceous borders, a new box parterre and a fully working kitchen garden. In addition there are walks around a small lake planted with rhododendrons, azaleas, magnolias and fine trees. The gardens are at their best in June and early July.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period.
 Open: 1 Jun–31 Aug, Tue–Sun and Bank Holidays, 12noon–5pm, and other times by appointment.



Carnfunnock Country Park, County Antrim

141 Carnfunnock Country Park
 Coast Road, Larne, Co. Antrim BT40 2QG
 Tel: 028 2827 0541 Fax: 028 2827 0852
 Email: carnfunnock@larne.gov.uk
 Web: www.larne.gov.uk/carnfunnock



The walled garden is set within Carnfunnock Country Park, 191ha

(473 acres) of varied parkland located on the Antrim Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Originally the cottage garden of Cairncastle Lodge and Cairndhu House, it is now home to a collection of plants from all over the world. The gardens enjoy a microclimate that allows plants such as the Australian bottle brush and Paulownia tomentosa from America to flourish. Other features include a collection of sundials, wood sculptures, an amphitheatre and a hornbeam maze.

Free parking applies to RHS Members during Jul and Aug.
 Open: All year, daily, 9am–dusk.
 Closed Christmas Day.



Glenarm Castle, County Antrim

142 Glenarm Castle
 2 Castle Lane, Glenarm, Ballymena,
 County Antrim BT44 0BQ
 Tel: 028 2884 1203 Fax: 028 2884 1305
 Email: info@glenarmcastle.com
 Web: www.glenarmcastle.com



The Walled Garden at Glenarm Castle is one of Ireland's oldest walled gardens, dating from the 18th century. Since opening to the public in 2005, the Walled Garden continues to evolve as a centre of horticultural excellence. It also boasts a charming tearoom serving traditional homemade food which is open exclusively to garden visitors. The Walled Garden, in its incomparable setting by the sea, will delight all who visit, and its charm, as well as horticultural spectacle, will leave an enduring memory.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period.
 Open: May–Sept, Mon–Sat, 10am–5pm and Sundays, 12 noon–6pm.



Seaforde Gardens, County Down

143 Seaforde Gardens
 Downpatrick, County Down BT30 8PG
 Tel: 028 4481 1225 Fax: 028 4481 1370
 Email: plants@seafordegardens.com
 Web: www.seafordegardens.com



The 2 ha (5acre) walled gardens date back to the 18th century. Over the past 40 years they were lovingly restored by Patrick Forde. He was a great plantsman collecting mainly in the Far East. Many of the plants he collected flourish in the gardens due to the mild climate. There is a hornbeam maze, a Mogul Tower from which to view the gardens. In spring there are drifts of leucojums, camassias, bluebells, daffodils, large rhododendrons, azaleas and magnolias. The gardens hold the National Plant Collection of *Eucryphia* with more than 28 cultivars. There is a nursery garden and Tropical Butterfly House.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies (garden only) applies Apr–Jun.
 Open: Easter to the end of Sept, Mon–Sat, 10am–5pm and Sundays, 1–6pm. Gardens open by appointment only from Oct–Easter.
 Call or see website for current prices.

CHANNEL ISLANDS

144 Sausmarez Manor
Subtropical Woodland Garden
 St Martins, Guernsey GY4 6SG
 Tel: 01481 235571



The subtropical woodland garden and Art Park at Sausmarez Manor is worth a visit at any time of the year. A wide range of sculpture is displayed among a thick woodland jungle created by a multitude of exotic plants, including 50 different bamboos, 8 species of palm, tree ferns, 320 camellias, giant echiums, tree fuchsias, hydrangeas, bananas, hedychiums, gunneras and *Geranium maderense*. Indigenous wild flowers are also in abundance, and as no pesticides are used, wildlife flourishes. Mentioned in the book *1001 Gardens to See Before You Die*.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies during the first week of every month during open period. Open: All year, daily, 10am–5pm. Closed 24 Dec–6 Jan.



Sausmarez Manor Garden, Guernsey

145 La Seigneurie Gardens
 Sark, Channel Islands GY9 0SF
 Tel: 01481 832208
 Web: www.laseigneuriegardens.com



Set within the grounds of a 17th-century manor, the garden is considered one of the finest in the Channel Islands. The walls surrounding the flower garden give protection from the winds and with the bonus of a normally frost-free environment, many unusual half-hardy plants can be grown, ensuring a colourful display from spring through to autumn. Other attractions include a children's maze, a duck pond and the Seigneurial dove-cote.

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies during the first week of every month when the garden is open. Garden open: Easter–end of Oct, daily, 10am–5pm.



La Seigneurie Gardens, Sark

OVERSEAS

Free access gardens – BELGIUM



Arboretum Kalmthout, Antwerp

● **Arboretum Kalmthout**
Heuvel 2, Kalmthout, Antwerp,
Belgium 2920
Tel: 00 32 36 666741
Fax: 00 32 36 663396
Web: www.arboretumkalmthout.be
Free Access (Member 1 only): applies
throughout open period (excluding
Sundays during Hamamelis Festival).
Open: 15 Mar–15 Nov, 10am–5pm.
Hellebore Show 13–14 Feb.

Free access gardens – FRANCE



Château de Bosmelet, Normandy

● **Château de Bosmelet**
76720 Auffay, Normandy, France
Tel: 00 33 2 35 32 81 07
Web: www.chateau-de-bosmelet.fr
Free Access (Member 1 only): applies
Sept (excluding special events).
Open: Jun & Sept, Fri–Sun & Bank
Holidays, 1–7pm; Jul–Aug, daily, 1–7pm.

● **Serre de la Madone**
74, Rte de Gorbio, 06500 Menton, France
Tel: 00 33 4 93 57 73 90
Fax: 00 33 4 93 28 46 85
Web: www.serredelamadone.com
Email: josiane.tricotti@ville-menton.fr
Web: www.serredelamadone.com
For group tours, contact the Heritage
Department of Menton
Tel: 00 33 4 92 10 33 66
Free Access (Member 1 only): applies
throughout open period.
Open: All year except Nov, Tue–Sun,
10am–6pm (5pm Dec–Mar). Guided tours
in French, daily at 3pm. Call in advance to
book group tours.



The following gardens are all
members of the Parcs et Jardins of
Loire Valley organisation.

For a leaflet with a map of the
Parcs et Jardins of Loire Valley,
send a large, 1st class SAE to:

French Gardens Leaflet,
Regional Development,
RHS, 80 Vincent Square,
London SW1P 2PE.
Web: www.jardins-de-france.com or www.gardens-of-france.com

Les Jardins de l'APJRC sont
heureux d'accueillir gratuitement
les membres de la RHS, pendant la
période précisée dans le présent
'Members' Handbook' et sur
présentation de la carte
d'adhérent de la RHS.

The gardens of the Parcs et Jardins
Association are happy to receive
members of the RHS, free of
charge, during periods stipulated
in the current issue of the RHS
'Members' Handbook and on
presentation of an RHS
Membership card with an asterisk
symbol (*) on the front.

● **Ainay-le-Vieil**
Château d'Ainay-le-Vieil,
18200 Ainay-le-Vieil, Cher
Tel: 00 33 2 48 63 50 03
Fax: 00 33 2 48 63 36 14
Free Access (Member 1 only): applies
May–Jun. Open: 1 Apr–1 Nov.
Contact the garden for opening hours.

● **Apremont, Parc Floral**
18150 Apremont-sur-Allier
Tel: 00 33 2 48 77 55 06
Web: www.apremont-sur-allier.com
Free Access (Member 1 only): applies
May–Jun. Open: Apr–Sept,
10.30am–12.30pm & 2.30–6.30pm.

● **Arboretum National
des Barres**
Nogent-sur-Vernisson, Loiret 45290
Tel: 00 33 2 38 97 62 21
Fax: 00 33 2 38 97 65 15
Free Access (Member 1 only): applies
throughout open period.
Open: May–Aug, 10.30am–6.30pm and
Sept–Oct, 10am–6pm. Guided tours at
weekends (supp. €1.50).



Apremont, Parc Floral, Cher

● **Beaugerard**
Château de Beaugerard,
41120 Cellettes, Loir et Cher
Tel: 00 33 2 54 70 36 74
Fax: 00 33 2 54 70 36 74
Free Access (Member 1 only): applies
Jul only.
Open: 1 Oct–1 Dec, 20 Dec–4 Jan
& 8 Feb–31 Mar, daily except Wed,
9.30am–12pm & 2pm–5pm; Apr–Sept,
daily, 9.30am–12pm & 2–6.30pm;
Jul & Aug, daily, 9.30am–6.30pm.

● **Bois Richeux**
Medieval Gardens
Ferme Médiévale de Bois-Richeux,
28130 Pierres Maintenon, Eure et Loir
Tel: 00 33 6 11 88 20 20
Email: jardin@boisricheux.com
Web: www.boisricheux.com
Free Access (Member 1 only): applies
15 Jul–15 Aug.
Open: First weekend in June and 15
Jul–15 Aug and 15–25 Sept, daily,
8am–12noon and 2–4pm.

● **Bouges**
Château de Bouges, 36110
Bouges-le-Château, Indre
Tel: 00 33 2 54 35 88 26
Fax: 00 33 2 54 35 16 96
Free Access (Member 1 only): applies
throughout open period.
Open: Apr–Jun & Sept–Oct, Wed–Mon,
10am–12pm & 2–6pm; Jul–Aug, daily,
10am–12.30pm & 2–6.45pm; Mar &
Nov, weekends only, 10am–12pm &
2–5pm.

● **La Bourdaisière**
Château de la Bourdaisière, 37270
Montlouis-sur-Loire, Indre et Loire
Tel: 00 33 2 47 45 16 31
Fax: 00 33 2 47 45 09 11
Web: www.chateaulabourdaisiere.com
Free Access (Member 1 only): applies
Apr–15 Oct.
Open: 26 Mar–15 Oct, daily, 10am–7pm.

● **La Bussière**
45230 La Bussière, Loiret
Tel: 00 33 2 38 35 93 35
Fax: 00 33 2 38 35 94 13
Free Access (Member 1 only): applies
Jul & Sept–Oct.
Open: 1 Apr–1 Nov, daily except Tue,
10am–12pm & 2–6pm; Jul–Aug, daily,
10am–6pm.



La Chatonnière, Indre et Loire

● **La Chatonnière**
La Chatonnière, 37190
Azay le Rideau, Indre et Loire
Tel: 00 33 2 47 45 40 29
Email: chatonniere@gmail.com
Web: www.lachatonniere.com
Free Access (Member 1 only): applies
throughout open period (excluding
special event days).
Open: 1 Mar–15 Nov, daily, 10am–7pm.
Rose and Poppy Festival 12 & 13 June
2010. Guided tours on request.

● **Les Jardins Artistiques
de Drulon**
Château de Drulon 18170
Loye-sur-Arnon, Cher
Tel: 00 33 2 48 56 65 96
Email: drulon@wanadoo.fr
Web: www.drulon.com
Free Access (Member 1 only): applies
Jun & Sept.
Open: 1 May–1 Oct, daily, 10am–6pm.

● **Les Jardins du
Grand Courtoiseau**
Manoir du Grand Courtoiseau,
45220 Triguères, Loiret
Tel: 00 33 6 80 24 10 83
Fax: 00 33 2 38 94 10 64
Email: grand-courtoiseau-orange.fr
Web: www.grand-courtoiseau.fr
Free Access (Member 1 only): applies
Jun–Jul (except special event days).
Open: 15 Apr–15 Oct. Daily, except on
Tue & Wed, 2.30–6pm.
Also on Bank Holidays

● **Orchaise**
Jardin Botanique du Prieuré d'Orchaise,
Place de l'Eglise, 41190 Orchaise,
Loir et Cher
Tel: 00 33 2 54 70 01 02
Fax: 00 33 2 54 70 03 92
Web: <http://prieure.orchaise.free.fr>
Free Access (Member 1 only): applies
May and Jun only.
Open: Apr–Oct, Sat–Thurs (closed on
Fridays), 3–7pm.

● **Orsan**
Les Jardins du Prieuré Notre-Dame
d'Orsan, 18170 Maisonnais, Cher
Tel: 00 33 2 48 56 27 50
Fax: 00 33 2 48 56 39 64
Web: www.prieuredorsan.com
Free Access (Member 1 only): applies
Sept only.
Open: From Easter–All Saints day, daily,
10am–7pm (5pm in October).

● Le Rivau

Les Jardins du Château du Rivau,
37120 Lémeré, Indre et Loire
Tel: 00 33 2 47 95 77 47
Fax: 00 33 2 47 95 78 46
Web: www.chateaurivau.com

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies Sept only. Open: 3 April, May, 10am–12.30pm and 2–7pm. Jun, Jul–Aug, daily, 10am–7pm; Closed Tuesday in September. Oct–14 Nov, 10am–12.30pm and 2–7pm. Closed Tuesday.

● Jardin du Plessis Sasnières

Le Château, 41310 Sasnières, Loir et Cher
Tel: 00 33 2 54 82 92 34
Fax: 00 33 2 54 82 93 30

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies Jul–Aug. Open: Easter–1 Nov, Thur–Mon, 10am–6pm.

● Parc Floral de la Source

Parc Floral de la Source,
45072 Orléans Cedex 2
Tel: 00 33 2 38 49 30 00
Fax: 00 33 2 38 49 30 19
Email: info@parcflorallasource.com
Web: www.parcflorallasource.com

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies May only. Open: Apr–Oct, daily, 10am–7pm; Nov–end Mar, daily, 2–5pm. Closed Christmas Day & New Year's Day.



Valmer, Indre et Loire

● Valmer

Château de Valmer, Chançay,
37210 Vouvray, Indre et Loire
Tel: 00 33 2 47 52 93 12
Fax: 00 33 2 47 52 26 92
Email: jardins@chateauvalmer.com
Web: www.chateauvalmer.com

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period. Open: Gardens & Chapel: May, weekends and public holidays and 13, 14 and 24 May, 10am–12.30pm and 2–7pm; June, Tues–Sun, 10am–12.30pm and 2–7pm; Jul–Aug, Tues–Sun, 10am–7pm; Sept–10 Oct, Tues–Sun, 10am–12.30 and 2–6pm. Groups by appointment.

● Villandry

Les Jardins du Château de Villandry,
37510 Villandry, Indre et Loire
Tel: 00 33 2 47 50 02 09
Fax: 00 33 2 47 50 12 85
Email: villandry@wanadoo.fr
Web: www.chateauvillandry.com

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies Sept only. Open: 1 Jan–8 Feb & 17 Nov–31 Dec, 9am–5pm; 9–29 Feb & 26 Oct–16 Nov, 9am–5.30pm; 1–29 Mar, 9am–6pm; 30 Mar–30 Jun & 1–30 Sept, 9am–7pm; 1 Jul–31 Aug, 9am–7.30pm; 1–25 Oct, 9am–6.30pm.



Isola Bella and Isola Madre, Italy

Free access gardens – ITALY

● Isola Bella and Isola Madre

Stresa, Lake Maggiore,
Verbania 28838, Italy
Tel: 00 39 323 30556
Fax: 00 39 323 30046
Web: www.borromeoturismo.it

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period. Open: 27 Mar–17 Oct, 9am–5.30pm.

Free access gardens – AMERICA

● Fairchild

Tropical Botanic Garden
10901 Old Cutler Road, Coral Gables,
Miami, Florida, FL 33156, USA
Tel: 00 1 305 667 1651
Web: www.ftbg.org

Free Access (Member 1 only): applies throughout open period. Open: All year, daily, 9.30am–4.30pm. Closed Christmas Day. Note: admission may include narrated tram tours.

RHS AMERICA

There are around 6,000 RHS members in America. For further details, contact:

**Development Office,
Royal Horticultural Society,
80 Vincent Square, London SW1P 2PE**

Tel: 00 44 207 821 3122

The Society operates a 501(c)3 organisation through which it can process any generous donations.

RHS JAPAN

There are around 3,000 RHS members in Japan. Enquiries can be made to the following address:

**Rinno Hiroshi, Chairman of the Board
38th Floor, Sunshine 60,
3-1-1 Higashi-Ikebukuro,
Toshima-Ku, Tokyo, Japan**

Tel: 81 03 3984 9690

Fax: 81 03 3590 3783

Enjoy the benefits of RHS Membership

To support our work, become an RHS member today and enjoy a range of benefits including:

Free unlimited entry to our four RHS Gardens: Free entry with a family guest 364 days a year.

The Garden monthly magazine (worth £51 a year): Full of handy gardening tips and ideas so you'll have the latest gardening news to hand.

Access to more than 140 Recommended Gardens: Hand-picked for their diverse garden design and planting, either throughout their opening season or at selected periods (for cardholder 1 only).

Privileged entry and discounted tickets to RHS Flower Shows: RHS Chelsea Flower Show, Hampton Court Palace Flower Show, RHS Show Cardiff and the RHS Show Tatton Park.

RHS Gardening Advice: Personal advice on any gardening matter throughout the seasons.

Special events: Discounted tickets to a wealth of RHS recommended events, workshops and demonstrations across the UK.

For more information on the RHS membership types visit www.rhs.org.uk/join



GWR / Flickrmedia



Join the RHS today



Join by Direct Debit today and receive **£10 worth of RHS vouchers** to spend in an RHS Shop, RHS Plant Centre or through the RHS Mail Order catalogue.

RHS Members enjoy *The Garden* magazine, **free** garden visiting, **expert** gardening advice, **discounted** RHS show tickets and much more... see the inside back cover for full details.

HOW TO JOIN

Call us on 0845 130 4646

(Lines open 9am – 5pm, Monday to Friday)

or visit www.rhs.org.uk/join

or at an RHS Garden or RHS Show*

*Choose between the £10 vouchers or the current RHS Show/RHS Garden offer.

Please remember to quote code 3033

 Please pass this leaflet on or recycle it

For everyone with a love of gardening