



ENGLISH

Country Gardens



May 8 - 21, 2027 • 14 Days • 25 Meals
SMALL GROUP • LED BY PETER & JANET HOLMES
Book by Sep 30 and Save \$200 pp



KEW Royal Botanic Gardens

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

RHS CHELSEA FLOWER SHOW

Experience the world's most prestigious flower show, showcasing spectacular display gardens, innovative designs, inspiring floral exhibits, and Britain's finest horticultural talent.

ENGLAND'S FINEST GARDENS

Explore a remarkable collection of iconic estates, private gardens, Royal Horticultural Society gardens, and beautifully landscaped parks across southern England.

EXCLUSIVE FLORAL DESIGN WORKSHOP

Enjoy a hands-on flower arranging workshop inspired by the beauty and traditions of the English countryside, guided by expert local florists.

HISTORIC ESTATES & TIMELESS VILLAGES

Discover elegant palaces, Roman history, heritage railways, vineyards, and the timeless charm of the Cotswolds, Bath, Oxford, London, and picturesque English villages.

SMALL GROUP EXPERIENCE

Limited to 24 members

CT RATING: 2/5

MODERATELY EASY:

This is a coach tour with a relatively relaxed pace itinerary. The various garden visits throughout the program will include guided and self-guided touring. Walking tours can be several hours long and include some uneven terrain including cobblestone streets and unpaved trails. To fully enjoy this journey, members should be good walkers and not strictly rely on the use of walking aids. Hotels in the countryside are clean and comfortable. Most are low-rise (two stories) where elevators cannot be guaranteed.



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ITINERARY

MAY 8 | DEPART CANADA

We gather tonight for our overnight flight to the United Kingdom.

MAY 9 | ARRIVE LONDON / EAST SUSSEX

Upon arrival at London Heathrow, we will be met by our UK Tour Manager and private coach. Enjoy a scenic transfer into the heart of East Sussex to settle in. The afternoon is ours to relax and enjoy the stately surroundings of the Ashdown Park Hotel. In the evening, we gather together for a welcome dinner.

Ashdown Park Hotel & Country Club - 3 nights (D)

MAY 10 | ROMANTIC KENTISH GARDENS

Today, we travel into Kent, known as the "Garden of England," for a day of beauty and horticultural inspiration. Begin at the world-famous Sissinghurst Castle Garden, renowned for its intimate garden "rooms" and iconic White Garden, where form, fragrance and colour are masterfully composed. Continue to Long Barn Gardens for a short introductory talk on its history, followed by a guided tour of the garden, shaped by the creative vision of Vita Sackville-West and Harold Nicolson. Spend the afternoon exploring these historic and deeply personal gardens. (BD)

MAY 11 | HERITAGE RAIL & VINEYARDS

Step back in time this morning with a nostalgic one-way journey aboard the Bluebell Railway, travelling from Sheffield Park to East Grinstead through the rolling Sussex countryside. This afternoon, continue to Bolney Wine Estate for a refined experience and included lunch. Enjoy a guided tour of the vineyard and winery followed by a tasting of their award-winning English wines. (BLD)

MAY 12 | BORDE HILL / ARUNDEL CASTLE GARDENS

Begin the morning with a tour of the tranquil Borde Hill Garden, renowned for its rare shrubs, rich botanical heritage and royal connections. Its beautifully curated grounds showcase plants gathered from around the world. Continue to historic Arundel Castle for a guided tour of its magnificent gardens, set against the dramatic backdrop of the castle, followed by free time to explore the castle. In the afternoon, depart for the medieval city of Salisbury. Upon arrival, we check into our hotel and gather this evening for a group dinner.

Mercure Salisbury White Hart Hotel - 2 nights (BD)

MAY 13 | STOURHEAD & THE NEWT

Today is devoted to two of Somerset's most impressive estates. Begin at Stourhead, an 18th-century landscape masterpiece, where classical temples, sweeping vistas, and a serene central lake create one of England's most iconic garden scenes. Continue to The Newt in Somerset, a vibrant and modern working estate with innovative gardens and woodland. Return to Salisbury in the evening for dinner and a restful night. (BD)

MAY 14 | ROMAN HISTORY & THE COTSWOLDS

Bid farewell to Salisbury as we journey to the historic city of Bath, home to some of the best-preserved Roman Baths in the world. Explore these remarkable ancient baths with an included audio guide, bringing their fascinating history to life. Afterwards, enjoy free time to stroll the city centre and choose a local spot for lunch. In the afternoon, we continue into the picturesque Cotswolds.

Kings Head Hotel - 4 nights (BD)

MAY 15 | HIDCOTE & CREATIVE BLOOMS

Today offers a truly unique experience. We will divide into two groups to enjoy two distinct activities more intimately. One group will begin in the charming village of Chipping Campden, learning the art of flower arranging, while the other explores Hidcote Manor Garden

and its renowned Arts and Crafts garden. After the morning session, the groups will swap, so everyone can take part in both the creative workshop and the historic estate visit. Spend the evening at your leisure in the market town of Cirencester. (B)

MAY 16 | SECRET GARDEN & PUB LUNCH

Embrace the essence of English country life with a guided visit to Miserden's celebrated garden, an intimate space overlooking a deer park and the rolling Cotswolds hills. After strolling through its charming grounds, enjoy a traditional pub lunch in a cosy local setting. In the afternoon, visit a private garden for an exclusive glimpse into the passion and creativity of local horticulture. (BLD)

MAY 17 | OXFORD & BLENHEIM PALACE

Travel north to the "City of Dreaming Spires" for a guided walking tour of Oxford's historic centre. Afterwards, continue to the monumental Blenheim Palace, the birthplace of Sir Winston Churchill and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Explore its opulent state rooms, then enjoy a garden tour through the vast, carefully designed landscapes that blend natural beauty with classical grandeur. (BD)

MAY 18 | RHS WISLEY & LONDON

Leaving the quaint beauty of the Cotswolds, we travel toward London with a stop at RHS Garden Wisley. Take a guided tour of the Royal Horticultural Society's flagship garden, featuring remarkable plant collections and innovative garden designs. After a day of exploration, enjoy dinner at a local restaurant. Later, check into the Rembrandt Hotel, perfectly situated for our London stay.

The Rembrandt Hotel - 3 nights (BD)

MAY 19 | HAMPTON COURT & KEW GARDENS

We explore the grandeur of London's riverside heritage, beginning at Hampton Court Palace. Discover its rich Tudor history and wander through the famous hedge maze of King Henry VIII's former residence. In the afternoon, we are guided through the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, home to one of the world's largest and most diverse botanical collections. (BD)

MAY 20 | THE CHELSEA FLOWER SHOW

This morning, enjoy a scheduled coach transfer to the world-renowned RHS Chelsea Flower Show. Spend the day immersed in cutting-edge garden design, rare blooms, and elite floral displays. A scheduled return transfer is provided in the afternoon, though you are welcome to stay longer and return independently. The day concludes with a celebratory farewell dinner at a local restaurant within walking distance of the hotel. (BD)

MAY 21 | LONDON / CANADA

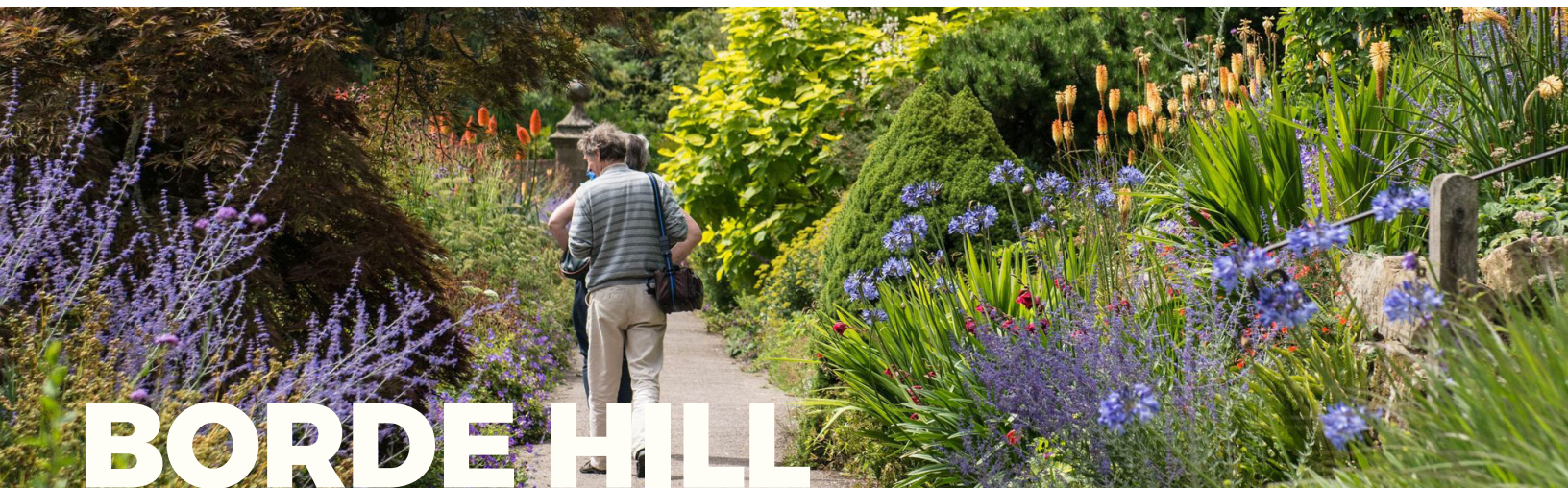
Enjoy a final English breakfast before checking out and catching our flight(s) back home. (B)



B: BREAKFAST (12) L: LUNCH (2) D: DINNER (11)

DID YOU KNOW?

England is home to more than 3,500 gardens that open to the public, ranging from grand royal estates to intimate cottage gardens. Many have been lovingly maintained for centuries and continue to inspire gardeners from around the world.



BORDE HILL

CRAIG TRAVEL INCLUSIONS

- International and domestic flights, plus airport transfers, with air-inclusive packages
- Carefully selected accommodation as listed, or similar
- All sightseeing and entrance fees as described
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary
- Dedicated journey leader, national guides, and local specialists where applicable
- All gratuities, surcharges, fees, and taxes
- International eSIM to keep you connected
- Visa support for Canadian citizens as required
- Free insurance quote (contact us for details)



YOUR JOURNEY LEADER

Peter and Janet Holmes' love of gardening began with visits to Victoria's Butchart Gardens and grew over 25 years living near Toronto's Muir Gardens. Today, their Grey County garden brings them great joy. Janet, a retired RN, is known for her empathetic spirit. Peter, recently retired from Toronto's Yorkminster Park Church, is admired for his warmth and engaging storytelling. They enjoy cycling, walking, kayaking, and, above all, gardening. After travelling throughout Europe, Israel, and the Middle East, they look forward to sharing their passion for gardens and travel with you.

Prices are in Canadian dollars per person. Land only members join at the hotel in East Sussex and leave at the hotel in London. Airfares from other gateways are available on request. Land only price includes all domestic flights. Tour price is based on sharing a twin-bedded room. Prices are based on a minimum of 20 members and on rates, taxes and fees effective July 2026 and are subject to change due to factors beyond our control. Group to be escorted with a minimum of 20 members. For full terms and conditions, visit our website: craigtravel.com/terms-conditions. Canadian passport holders may require an UK ETA travel authorization prior to departure. Comprehensive travel insurance is strongly recommended.

Contact us or visit our website to learn more and reserve your place.

TOUR & AIR COST

Land Only	\$12,945
Toronto	\$14,535
Montreal / Ottawa (Join Montreal)	\$14,735
Halifax	\$14,825
St. John's / Winnipeg	\$14,865
Saskatoon / Regina	\$14,925
Edmonton / Calgary / Vancouver	\$14,865
Victoria	\$14,925
<i>Single Supplement</i>	<i>\$2,395</i>

Deposit is \$900 per person
Final payment is due January 28, 2027



HAMPTON COURT

Visit craigtravel.com/48 to learn more!