



Photo Credit: Karl Garcens



NORTHWEST HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY PRESENTS

**HISTORIC & CONTEMPORARY
GARDENS OF CORNWALL,
DEVON & MORE**

SATURDAY JUNE 27 - WEDNESDAY JULY 8, 2026

TOUR AT A GLANCE

12 DAYS/ 11 NIGHTS

Double Occupancy per person \$5799

Solo Room \$7,089

Blended shared room (your own room in Exeter) \$6189

1 night Hilton Garden Inn Heathrow Terminal 2/3, London

4 nights Hotel Indigo, Exeter

3 nights The Alverton Hotel, Truro

3 nights Harbour Hotel, Guildford

Optional visit to **Tresco Abbey Gardens** via helicopter \$340

(limited seats available)

Explore historic and contemporary gardens in Southwest England, including an optional visit to Tresco Abbey Garden. The Gulf Stream along the SW coastline creates a milder climate than other parts of England, so gardens have a wide variety of plants, including exotic and tropical. We will visit public and private gardens, including the fascinating Lost Gardens of Heligan, which were unearthed, reclaimed, and restored in 1990. Other gardens on the itinerary will take us through the modern, naturalistic styles of Hauser & Wirth, The Garden House and Keith Wiley's Wildside, plus a visit to the private garden of James Hitchmough and so much more. The trip wraps up as we journey east with visits to Knepp Castle and its Tom Stuart-Smith garden wilding project, plus two of England's most beloved and iconic gardens: Sissinghurst and Great Dixter.

There are numerous educational experiences throughout the tour - at many of the gardens, we will have a tour, lecture or hands-on experience during our visit, either with the head gardener or a local expert. In the months prior to the tour, we will provide reading materials for self-study.

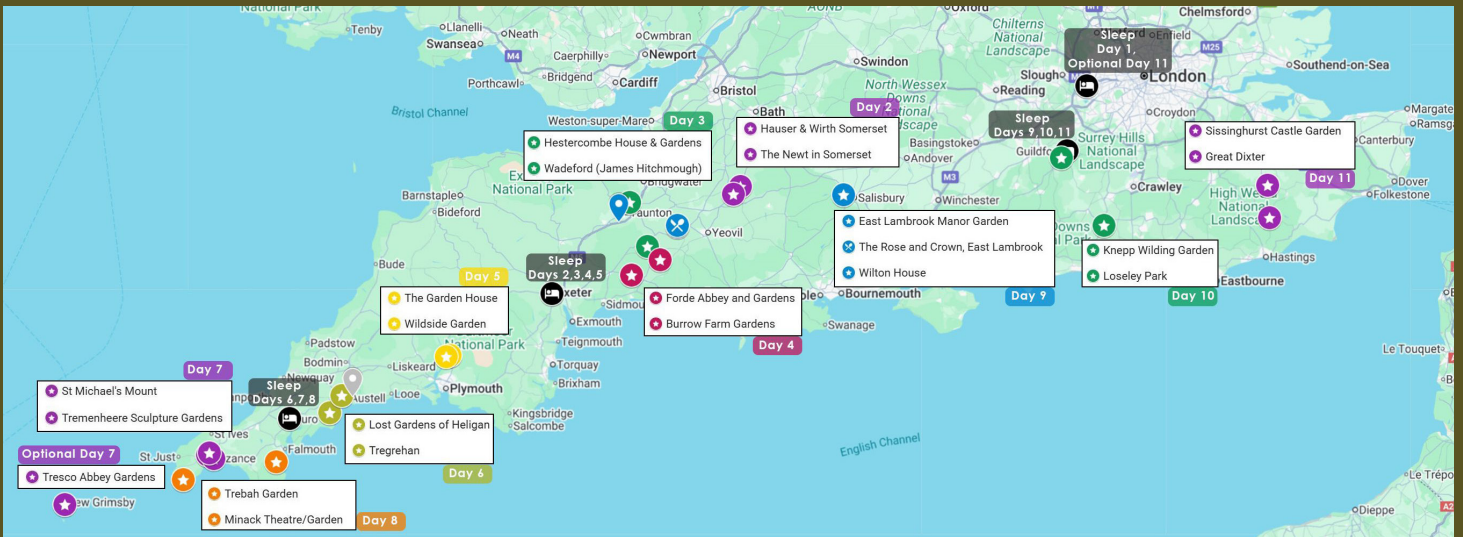
This tour is designed to optimize your time in the gardens. We stay multiple nights in the same hotels so that you don't spend time packing and unpacking. All of the hotels were vetted by our tour operator in 2025. The gardens have been carefully selected to ensure they are the best of the best.

You will delight in the company of fellow garden enthusiasts plus there are opportunities to explore independently.



Your host for the tour is horticulture expert and NHS Board Member **Sue Goetz**.

You will also be accompanied by **Lois Moss of Tour 2 Explore More** who has orchestrated scores of horticulture themed tours and will be on the tour as manager and guide.



ITINERARY AT A GLANCE — DAY BY DAY

June 27 (1 night - Hilton Garden Inn
Heathrow Terminal 2/3, London)
Day 1 - Saturday, June 27
Arrival

June 28 to July 1 (4 nights - Hotel Indigo,
Exeter)
Day 2 - Sunday, June 28
Hauser & Wirth Somerset
The Newt in Somerset

Day 3 - Monday, June 29
Hestercombe House & Gardens
Wadeford (James Hitchmough's Garden)

Day 4 - Tuesday, June 30
Forde Abbey and Gardens
Burrow Farm Gardens

Day 5 - Wednesday, July 1
The Garden House
Wildside Garden

July 2 to July 4 (3 nights - The Alverton
Hotel, Truro)
Day 6 - Thursday, July 2
Lost Gardens of Heligan
Tregrehan

Day 7 - Friday, July 3
St Michael's Mount
Tresco Abbey Gardens (Optional - *limited
seats available*)
Tremenheere Sculpture Gardens

Day 8 - Saturday, July 4
Trebah Garden
Minack Theatre / Garden

Day 9 - Sunday, July 5
East Lambrook Manor Garden
Wilton House

July 5 to July 7 (3 nights - Harbour Hotel,
Guildford)
Day 10 - Monday, July 6
Knepp Wilding Garden
Loseley Park

Day 11 - Tuesday, July 7
Sissinghurst Castle Garden
Great Dixter

Day 12 - Wednesday, July 8
Departure



Photo Credit: Jason Ingram

Hauser & Wirth Somerset

DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 1 - Saturday, June 27

ARRIVAL

Arrive at London Heathrow Airport. Our hotel is conveniently located at the airport, so you can walk from your flight to the hotel. If you arrive before the 3pm check-in, you can leave your luggage with the concierge. Alternatively, we have reserved a complimentary hotel room where tour participants can store luggage and freshen up. Getting to central London is easy using the Heathrow Express train or the Underground at the Piccadilly Line station next to the hotel. We encourage you to try to stay awake until at least 7pm to avoid jetlag.

Sleep: Hilton Garden Inn located in Heathrow Terminal 2/3

Included meals: none

Day 2 - Sunday, June 28

HAUSER & WIRTH SOMERSET

THE NEWT IN SOMERSET

We travel west in our chartered coach to Somerset and the Hauser & Wirth gallery, whose garden was designed by Piet Oudolf. Then on to The Newt, a garden with a fascinating 200-year history. Our hotel for the next four nights is in the pedestrianized center

of Exeter, overlooking the Cathedral. Tonight is our welcome reception, followed by dinner at the hotel.

Sleep: Hotel Indigo, Exeter

Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner



The Newt in Somerset

Day 3 - Monday, June 29

HESTERCOMBE HOUSE & GARDENS WADEFORD (JAMES HITCHMOUGH'S GARDEN)

We journey about an hour to Hestercombe Gardens to experience four centuries of garden design across fifty acres. Enjoy lunch in the cafe at your own pace. In the afternoon, we tour the new private garden of horticultural ecologist James Hitchmough, co-editor with Nigel Dunnett of the landmark book,

SOWING BEAUTY

Designing Flowering Meadows from Seed

James Hitchmough Garden

"The Dynamic Landscape Design, Ecology and Management of Naturalistic Urban Planting." He is an award-winning landscape designer whose work highlights naturalistic planting design. Independent dinner.

Sleep: Hotel Indigo, Exeter

Included meal: Breakfast



Photo Credit: Pawel-Borowski

Hestercombe Gardens

Day 4 - Tuesday, June 30

FORDE ABBEY AND GARDENS

BURROW FARM GARDENS

After an hour's drive through the countryside, we arrive at Forde Abbey Gardens, whose topiary and herbaceous borders have evolved over 900 years. Enjoy lunch in the cafe. Our next visit is Burrow Farm Gardens, named The Nation's Favourite Public Garden in 2021. Independent dinner.

Sleep: Hotel Indigo, Exeter

Included meal: Breakfast



Forde Abbey Gardens



Photo Credit: Karl Garcens

Burrow Farms Gardens

Day 5 - Wednesday, July 1

THE GARDEN HOUSE

WILDSIDE GARDEN

After an hour's drive to the west and passing around Dartmoor National Park, we arrive at The Garden House, where Keith Wiley spent 25 years as head gardener. We will have lunch in their Fortescue Room.



Wildside Garden

Next up: Keith Wiley's Wildside Garden, considered one of the most innovative and imaginative in Britain. Independent dinner.

Sleep: Hotel Indigo, Exeter

Included meals: Breakfast & Lunch



The Garden House

Day 6 - Thursday, July 2
**LOST GARDENS OF HELIGAN
TREGREHAN**



Lost Gardens of Heligan Photo Credit: Julian Stephens

We journey deeper into Cornwall over the next few days. First up: the Lost Gardens of Heligan. Created in the mid-1800s, the gardens were neglected after WW I, but revived and restored in the 1990s. After lunch at their cafe, we visit Tregrehan Gardens, a 17th century historic home and garden. Dinner as a group at our hotel, which is in a wooded park within walking distance or a short taxi ride to the lovely town of Truro.

Sleep: The Alverton Hotel, Truro

Included meals: Breakfast & Dinner



Tregrehan



St Michael's Mount



Tresco-Abbey-Garden

Photo Credit: Karl Garcens

Day 7 - Friday, July 3
ST MICHAEL'S MOUNT
TRESCO ABBEY GARDENS
(Optional - *limited seats available*)
TREMENHEERE SCULPTURE GARDENS

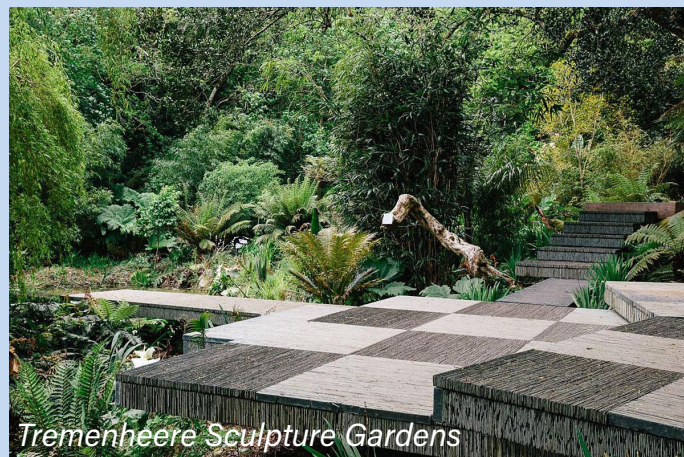
Our first stop, St. Michael's Mount, is a unique geographic site: it can be reached by foot during low tide, but during high tide you travel by small boat. Next is an optional garden at an additional cost, Tresco Abbey Garden, with lush sub-tropical gardens, amid a ruined abbey. Located on the Scilly Isles, 28 miles from Land's End, it is reached by helicopter. Flights are very limited, so early reservations are highly recommended. Timing permitted, we'll enjoy Tremenheere Sculpture Gardens before returning to Truro. Independent dinner.

Sleep: The Alverton Hotel, Truro

Included meal: Breakfast



Penzance Heliport



Tremenheere Sculpture Gardens

Day 8 - Saturday, July 4
TREBAH GARDEN

MINACK THEATRE / GARDEN

We travel to Trebah Garden, a subtropical paradise built above a private beach. Lunch in the cafe. In the afternoon, we visit Minack Theatre, a unique garden full of exotic plants, built into a cliff along the coastline.



Minack Theatre/Garden



Trebah Garden

We will then savor a Devon cream tea, a renowned regional specialty. Independent dinner.

Sleep: The Alverton Hotel, Truro
Included meal: Breakfast & Tea



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Day 9 - Sunday, July 5 EAST LAMBROOK MANOR GARDEN WILTON HOUSE

We say goodbye to Cornwall and Devon and motor to Margery Fish's East Lambrook Manor Gardens, the historic birthplace of English cottage gardening. It was recently purchased by



Photo Credit: Karl Garcens

East Lambrook Manor Garden

Andrew and Alison Johnson, a former president of Northwest Perennial Alliance. Next, we'll experience Wilton House and its gardens. The last stretch brings us to the charming town of Guildford, where we dine as a group at Harbour Hotel.

Sleep: Harbour Hotel, Guildford
Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner



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Wilton House

Day 10 - Monday, July 6 KNEPP WILDING GARDEN LOSELEY PARK

The day begins at Knepp Castle Garden, where Head Gardener Charlie Harpur has been collaborating with Tom Stuart-Smith and James Hitchmough on its vast rewilding project. We then visit a private estate, Loseley Park. After a tour of its extensive rose and herb gardens, we will have our farewell dinner in the Tithe Barn.

Sleep: Harbour Hotel, Guildford
Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner



Great Dixter

Fergus Garrett continues the legacy of Christopher Lloyd. Independent dinner. For those who prefer not having to rush to a morning flight tomorrow, you may choose to take the RailAir Express in the evening and sleep at the Heathrow Hilton (for a small additional cost.)

Sleep: Harbour Hotel, Guildford
Included meal: Breakfast



Photo Credit: Sue Goetz *Sissinghurst Castle Garden*

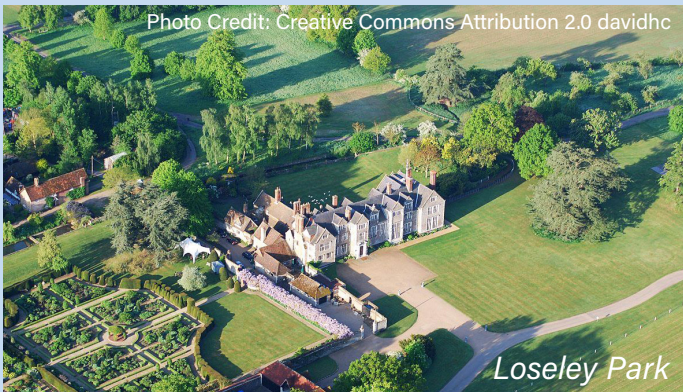
Day 12 - Wednesday, July 8
DEPARTURE

We will transport you and your luggage by taxi from the hotel to the Rail/Air Express coach stop outside Guildford Station. Rail/Air Express runs approximately every hour and takes about an hour to arrive at Heathrow Airport.



Knepp Wilding Garden

Photo Credit: Creative Commons Attribution 2.0 davidhc



Loseley Park

Day 11 - Tuesday, July 7
SISSINGHURST CASTLE GARDEN
GREAT DIXTER

England's most beloved and iconic gardens are our destination today. We begin at Sissinghurst Castle Garden, created by Vita Sackville-West. Our group benefits from an early entry, so we will enjoy the site before the general public arrives. After lunch, we make the short drive to Great Dixter, where Head Gardener

Pricing, deposits and optional add-ons

Tour prices below are if 24 to 26 people register

If 23 or fewer people register by March 1, 2026 the price will be increased, based on the number of people who have registered. The minimum for the tour to move forward is 18. The maximum will be 26.

- **Price, per person, in a shared room: \$5,799**
You will have the choice of a room with 2 beds or a room with 1 bed. If you are seeking a roommate, we will let you know if a second person is looking for a roommate.
- **Price, per person, in a blended room: \$6,189**
One of our hotels only has 4 Twin rooms. If more than 8 people request a Twin room, we have created a blended price category. You would have a shared room for most of the tour except in Exeter where you would each have your own room.
- **Price, in a solo room \$7,089**
No roommate and you have your own room.

Deposit and balance due

A deposit of \$1500 per person is due at registration. An installment will be due by February 12 and the remaining balance will be due by April 12, 2026.

Options and add-ons

- **Optional visit to Tresco Abbey Gardens**
This will be via helicopter. Flights are very limited and seats are on a first-come-first-served basis until gone. These aren't charter flights and seats could sell out to the general public.
As soon as someone registers for the Tresco Abbey Gardens tour, our travel company will purchase the helicopter seat for that person. Cost for this unforgettable experience is \$340 per person.
- **Extra night at Heathrow Hilton before the tour starts**
Includes taxes and breakfast. \$190 per person in a shared room / \$360 in a solo room.
- **Final night at Heathrow Hilton instead of Harbour Hotel**
\$30 per person in a shared room / \$60 for a solo room. Breakfast is not included; there are many options at the airport.

What's included

Donation to NHS

Pricing includes a \$350 donation to Northwest Horticultural Society. Thank you for your support. All participants are required to be a member of NHS at the time the tour begins.

11 nights accommodation

1 night at Hilton Heathrow, 4 nights at Hotel Indigo Exeter, 3 nights The Alverton Truro and 3 nights at Harbour Hotel Guildford (with the option to have your last night at Hilton Heathrow)

19 meals(11 Breakfasts, 3 Lunch, 1 Tea, 4 Dinners)

- **Lunches:** For days when lunch is not included, we have carefully selected a garden that has a cafe or restaurant. You will be able to enjoy a leisurely lunch or a quick snack, it will be your choice.
- **Dinners:** Our hotels are all within walking distance of numerous restaurants or grocery stores, so choosing your dinner will be easy. You can choose something fancy or simple. Our hotels also have a restaurant.

Touring glorious gardens

We expect to visit Hauser & Wirth, The Newt, Hestercombe, Wadeford, Forde Abbey, Burrow Farm, Garden House, Wildside, Lost Gardens of Heligan, Tregrenhan, Trebah, Minack, Knepp, Loseley Park, East Lambrook Gardens, and more. There's an optional visit to Tresco Abbey Gardens via helicopter. Our finale day will be visiting Sissinghurst before it opens to the general public and spending our afternoon at Great Dixter, one of the most beloved gardens in England. The itinerary is subject to change.

Independent time

Since we stay multiple nights in the same hotels, it is ideal for people who want to have more independent time or alternatives to gardens such as walking, antiquing or exploring.

Transportation

We will have a charter coach and local driver.

Porterage

Porterage for 1 suitcase per person is expected to be provided at our Exeter hotel and our Truro hotel, please pack accordingly. You must be able to handle your own luggage if porters are unavailable.

Airport - arrivals

The tour starts with a night at Hilton Garden Inn Heathrow, a hotel that is in the airport grounds. You can walk to the hotel, no shuttle or taxi necessary.

Airport - departures

At the end of the tour, you will have the option of staying in the city of Guildford or at Hilton Garden Inn Heathrow. There is an express bus from Guildford to Heathrow, so getting to the airport is easy.

Taxes, fees, and tips

Gratuities for the driver and guides are included in the tour price.

Convenient, secure payments

You can pay using your credit card or ACH electronic transfer on secure, encrypted booking software. Paying online is more secure than traditional paper checks sent through the mail.

2% cash back

For any payments made using ACH electronic transfer, you will receive 2% cash back. Your 2% cash back will be sent to you on April 15, 2026 and will be calculated on the payments you made using ACH electronic transfer.

What's not included

Airfare

If you would like help booking airfare, contact Lois Moss for guidance Tour2ExploreMore@gmail.com

Travel insurance

Travel insurance is highly recommended. Some policies require purchase soon after your first deposit. Unexpected events can disrupt your travel plans, either before you leave or during your trip. Consider purchasing travel insurance soon after making your first tour deposit. You can select the coverage best suited to your circumstances by comparing the options on websites such as Squaremouth.com or InsureMyTrip.com. If you travel more than twice a year, you may want to consider an annual policy instead of a per trip policy.

Meals not listed

Any meals not listed in the itinerary are your choice and not included in the tour

Alcoholic beverages

Alcoholic beverages are not included in any meals or events

Personal expenses

Cancellations & Refunds

A cancellation, regardless of the reason, is subject to the following fees:

- From now until January 16, 2026, the withdrawal fee is \$750 per person
- From January 17, 2026 until March 16, 2026, the withdrawal fee is \$1,500 per person
- After March 16, 2026 all payments are non-refundable
- Replacement guests: If a replacement is found for your place, the withdrawal fee becomes \$500 per person and you will be refunded the difference, if any

Physical requirements

Participants must be able to stand for extended periods of time during garden tours. Walking surfaces can sometimes include cobblestones or unpaved paths, uneven terrain or stairs without handrails. Elevators may not always be available. We hope to have porters, but you must be able to handle your own luggage in case porters are unavailable. A signed liability waiver will be required from each tour participant within 90 days of departure.



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Join fellow NHS members as we travel and learn from each other and from horticultural experts around the world. The NHS Travel Program supports our mission to provide inspiration and education to our members. Our tours expand knowledge and appreciation of horticulture while fostering camaraderie among participants.



Tour Operator: Tour 2 Explore More LLC

Email: Tour2ExploreMore@gmail.com
Instagram: [@lois.moss.gardens.tours](https://www.instagram.com/lois.moss.gardens.tours)

*Front and Back Cover Images
Tresco-Abbey-Garden*

Photo Credits: Karl Garcés

