

TRAFALGAR
see the world from the inside

JULY 8 – 16, 2016

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**EXPLORE ENGLISH
GARDENS AND
CASTLES
ON AN EXCLUSIVE
TOUR WITH
MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION
HORTICULTURISTS
MARY WILSON
AND
REBECCA FINNERAN**



ITINERARY

**MSU Extension Group
July 8 – 16, 2016**



MSU EXTENSION

EXCLUSIVE TOUR OF ENGLISH GARDENS & CASTLES

July 8 – July 16, 2016

July 7, 2016

Depart Detroit in the late afternoon for your overnight flight to London.

Day 1 – July 8, 2016 – LONDON-AROUND TOWN

Welcome to London! After meeting your Tour Director in baggage claim, a group transfer is provided to your hotel for flight arrivals that coincide with your hosts. Enjoy an orientation brunch with your MSU Extension Hosts, Rebecca Finneran and Mary Wilson and your professional Travel Director. The balance of this day is reserved for you to explore London or rest as needed. Your London options will be discussed with your hosts at brunch.

Meals: Brunch

Accommodations: Centrally located London Hotel



Day 2 – July 9, 2016 - [HAMPTON COURT PALACE GARDENS - LONDON](#)



Immerse yourself in the extraordinary 500 year history of Hampton Court's tapestry of architecture, twisted noble history and extravagant 20th century gardens! Our itinerary has been uniquely timed to take place during the world's largest flower show which features over 600 exhibitors and gardens. The **RHS (Royal Horticultural Society) Hampton Court Palace Flower Show** showcases stunning floral and garden displays where you can learn about growing your own fruit and



vegetables, get tips on gardening in a changing climate, and shop for garden products. You will enjoy period gardens including the rose marquee, a medieval tiltyard and maze while examining the innovative conceptual gardens showcasing the next big names in garden design! Lunch at court today!

Meals: Breakfast and Lunch voucher for the Flower Show.

Accommodations: Centrally located London Hotel

Day 3 – July 10, 2016 – [WISLEY GARDENS - SURREY](#)



Nestled in County of Surrey, Wisley Gardens is the historical home of the RHS and is undoubtedly one of the great gardens of the world. At over 200 acres in size and over a million visitors to the garden each year, Wisley is a center of education for gardeners of all ages, and offers the chance to view alpine plants at close quarters in the Alpine Display Houses, and glean planting, design and cultivation ideas for smaller gardens from the demonstration and model gardens. Known for cutting edge plant selections, garden design and layout, framed by the

rolling English county side, this place will find a place in your hearts for years to come. English perennial borders lead guests through an array of themed garden spaces where collections are housed, landscape design rooms showcase innovations and stately trees frame exquisite views. With sights to see including the stunning glasshouse (housing over 5,000 different varieties of tropical plants), Battleston Hill, outstanding Trial Gardens, the Fruit Orchard and dramatic Rock Garden, Wisley is the perfect place to develop growing skills. Wisley is also home to an outstanding garden gift shop and plant center!

Meals: Breakfast and Afternoon Tea at the Taste of Wisley

Accommodations: Centrally located London Hotel

Day 4 – July 11, 2016 – [SISSINGHURST CASTLE AND GARDENS](#) coupled with [HEVER CASTLE GARDENS](#) - KENT



Beautiful gardens at Sissinghurst were created in the 1930s by Vita Sackville-West, poet and gardening writer, and her husband Harold Nicolson, author and diplomat. Sissinghurst's garden is one of the best-loved in the whole of the United Kingdom and is steeped in a Saxon history that dates back to the Middle Ages. Found in the rambling countryside County of Kent, this expansive property was once surrounded by a moat. Today's garden is designed and maintained as a series of "rooms", each with a different character of color and or/theme, divided by high clipped hedges and pink brick walls.



On the same jaunt, we will discover magnificent **Hever Castle Gardens** which mirrors over 700 years of history and maintains a moat that surrounds the castle. The childhood home of Anne Boleyn, second wife of King Henry VIII, this magical place inspires all who visit. The magnificent, award-winning gardens set in 125 acres of glorious grounds at Hever Castle await you! Marvel at the Pompeiiian wall and classical statuary in the Italian Garden; admire the giant topiary chess set and inhale the fragrance of over 4,000 rose bushes in the quintessential English Rose Garden.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodations: Centrally located London Hotel



Day 5 – July 12, 2016 – OXFORD...City of Dreaming Spires

The [University of Oxford Botanic Garden](#) is a historic garden nestled within one of the most prestigious universities that dating back to the 12th century. It is the oldest botanic garden in Great Britain and one of the oldest scientific gardens in the world. Visit and be inspired by herbaceous borders, glass houses that take you around the World or simply relax. The Botanic Garden is the most compact, yet diverse collection of plants in the World right in the heart of the historic Oxford city center. Our visit includes accompaniment by one of the Botanic Garden experts.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Accommodations: Cotswolds Area Hotel

Day 6 – July 13, 2016 – [HIDCOTE](#) and [KIFTSGATE COURT GARDENS](#) - COTSWOLDS

Hidcote Manor Garden is situated in the beautiful Cotswolds countryside among hills, rolling valleys, and drystone walls. Created by the talented American horticulturist, Major Lawrence Johnston, its colorful and intricately designed outdoor rooms are full of hidden surprises. The garden is famous for rare shrubs and trees as well as its outstanding design features and magnificent vistas. Among thatch-roofed buildings that were once home to the Johnston gardeners, Hidcote sports water features, wild flower areas and pools with plenty of places to sit and take in the essence of the garden. See the long herbaceous borders which give a great splash of color from July on, and walk amongst the old scented roses along the walkway and small garden houses.



Kiftsgate Court Gardens - The story of Kiftsgate is the story of three generations of women gardeners: Heather Muir, Dianyn Binny and Anne Chambers. Each in her unique way has contributed throughout almost a century to making Kiftsgate the world renowned garden that visitors and gardeners alike have grown to know and love. A magnificently situated garden on the edge of the Cotswold escarpment with views towards the Malvern Hills, Kiftsgate has many unusual shrubs and plants including tree peonies, abutilons, species and old-fashioned roses. Top off your day and relax over tea or ice cream to gain a greater appreciation for this hidden jewel.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodations: Cotswolds Area Hotel

Day 7 - July 14, 2016 – [PAINSWICK ROCOCO GARDEN](#) and [ABBEY HOUSE GARDENS](#) - COTSWOLDS
 Escape the 21st Century and return to the sensual early 1700's while visiting **Painswick Rococo Garden**. A period when gardens were almost theatrical sets in which to entertain guests, this garden features charming structures and informal plantings, woodland walks and a large kitchen garden. This gem of a garden is set in a hidden Cotswold valley with magnificent views of the surrounding country side.



Nearby **Abbey House Gardens** is a country house garden in Malmesbury—where the Cotswolds meets the West Country in Wiltshire, England, covering 5 acres. A truly spectacular garden juxtaposed beside a 12th century Abbey Church has brought praise from around the world. Featured on TV and in magazines, the privately owned gardens feature formal knot gardens, a laburnum tunnel, colonnade walk and monastic fish ponds. It is one of the main tourist attractions in England's oldest town, Malmesbury.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Accommodations: Cotswolds Area Hotel

Day 8 – July 15, 2016– [BRISTOL BOTANIC GARDENS](#) and BATH

Welcome to a beautiful garden filled with a huge diversity of plants, including many exotic species set in inspirational displays against the backdrop of a striking Victorian house. The University of Bristol Botanic Garden is the first new University botanic garden to be created in the United Kingdom for nearly forty years. The 4 acre garden has been designed to tell stories about plant evolution and is home to four core plant collections. Today we'll be joined by Dr. Jane Memmott, Professor of Ecology, to learn about Great Britain's efforts to protect and encourage pollinators and what gardeners can do on both sides of the "pond".



Next, it's on to Bath, a lovely town set in the rolling countryside of southwest England known for its natural hot springs and 18th-century Georgian architecture. The group will enjoy an orientation tour of the city by motor coach.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Farewell Dinner

Accommodations: Bath Area Hotel

DAY 9 - July 16, 2016 – Farewell to England!! Transfer to London Heathrow Airport for an afternoon flight with an early evening arrival in Detroit.

LAND TOUR COST = \$3,460 per person based on double occupancy. Single room supplement fee: \$1.050 per person.

DEPOSIT - \$500 per person by **February 19, 2016**. (\$200 non-refundable)

FINAL Payment – Due by **March 18, 2016**.

Cancellation Insurance is strongly recommended and will be discussed with Travel Agent at time of booking.

FOR REGISTRATION PROCEDURE AND QUESTIONS, CONTACT:

Mary Steils at Conlin Travel
 734-677-0900 or msteils@conlintravel.com
 3270 Washtenaw Ave. Ann Arbor, MI 48104
 Ask for "MSU Extension Group"

(This group requires a minimum of 20 participants in addition to the MSU hosts in order to operate.)

DO NOT BOOK AIR TRANSPORTATION UNTIL CONTACTED BY MARY STEILS TO DO SO.

At a glance—TOUR INCLUSION:

- 4 nights in London, Deluxe hotels
- 3 nights in the Cotwolds
- 1 night in Bath
- Transportation with professional escort throughout our stay by deluxe private motor coach
- Pick up and drop off at Heathrow International Airport
- Eight (8) full breakfasts
- Lunch (1)
- Three (3) dinners
- Afternoon tea at Wisley Gardens
- Local travel director throughout the tour
- Entrance fees / admission to:
 - Hampton Court Flower Show, Palace Gardens
 - RHS Gardens at Wisley
 - Sissinghurst Castle Gardens and Hever Castle Gardens
 - University of Oxford Botanic Gardens
 - Hidcote Manor Gardens and Kiftsgate Court Gardens
 - Painswick Rococo Garden and Abbey House Gardens
 - Bristol Botanic Gardens

NOT INCLUDED:

- Gratuities for local guides and bus driver.
- Drinks such as wine and beer with planned lunches & dinner unless noted.
- London Underground for optional transportation and sight seeing
- Passport services
- Round trip flights to England estimated cost per person: Detroit departures: approximately \$1900-\$2200 USD plus any applicable services fees.
- Travel insurance coverage. (Highly recommended.)