

ROSS GARDEN TOURS

THE ROSE GARDENS OF ENGLAND

25 JUNE - 8 JULY 2020

ITINERARY

Come with us to England in early summer with roses smothering walls and hedgerows. Gardens have been selected for their romantic fragrant and generous flowering roses. Such abundance of flower, fruit and fragrance in the idyllic landscapes of the Howardian Hills, the Peak District, the Cotswold Hills, the rolling South Downs and the Oxfordshire countryside.

DAY 1 Thu 25 June

Home – Newcastle, UK

If you are joining our designated Emirates flight to Newcastle via Dubai, meet our Ross Tour representative at Sydney airport, or meet up at our hotel in Newcastle, UK.

DAY 2 Fri 26 June

Newcastle upon Tyne

Our tour starts at the Jesmond Dene House Hotel, located ten minutes to the north of Newcastle city centre. It overlooks the wooded valley of Jesmond Dene, the famous green lung of Jesmond, one of the city's most attractive residential areas. Meet up with Tour Leader Colin Barlow and fellow travellers at the Welcome Dinner in our hotel this evening.

Accommodation: Jesmond Dene House, Newcastle upon Tyne

DAY 3 Sat 27 June

Alnwick

Head north into the land of kings, the spectacular Northumbrian landscape to visit Alnwick Castle of the Duke and Duchess of Northumberland with one of the most exciting new gardens to be undertaken over the past 100 years. The present Duke, Ralph, is the twelfth Duke of Northumberland. This splendid castle, used as Hogwarts Castle in Harry Potter, is a blend of medieval and Italian Renaissance styles embellished with works of art, furniture and fine china. We have the option to visit the castle before lunch and then we'll explore the series of gardens. With summer come towering blue delphiniums in the Ornamental Garden and the Rose Garden is swathed in honeysuckle and clematis with 3000 roses filling the garden with scent. There's the Cherry Orchard, Grand Cascade, Bamboo Labyrinth, the Serpent Garden and the fascinating Poison Garden.

Accommodation: Jesmond Dene House, Newcastle upon Tyne

DAY 4 Sun 28 June

Newcastle – York

Travel south today to visit two notable rose gardens. The first is Wynyard Hall with its new Walled Garden, is home to 3,000 David Austin roses, floribundas and climbers with companion perennials in flower at this time of year. After extensive restoration, Sir John Hall and his daughter Allison turned Wynyard Hall into the four-star country house hotel. Roses here are grown through swags, trained along wires to clothe brick walls and spill from ornamental pillar frames. Morning tea will be served on arrival.

Travel to York this afternoon and check into the sophisticated Grand Hotel for the next two nights, located inside the mediaeval city wall, just a stone's throw from the Minster.

Accommodation: The Grand Hotel, York

DAY 5 Mon 29 June

Castle Howard

Beautiful Brideshead today when we arrive at Castle Howard in its sublime location in the Howardian Hills. The Howards have lived continuously in this house since the beginning of the 18th century. Explore the Walled Garden once the Kitchen Garden, rose garden, cut flower garden, potager, Mausoleum, the Pyramid, Temple of the Four Winds and the New River bridge.

Travel back to York with the afternoon free. For a great view of the beautiful Gothic Cathedral, York Minster, take a walk along the city wall that follows the old Roman wall.

Accommodation: The Grand Hotel, York

DAY 6 Tue 30 June

York - Birmingham

To Birmingham today with a morning visit to Chatsworth House in Derbyshire in the magnificent Peak District. This sumptuous manor is set on the River Derwent in a great park landscaped by Capability Brown.

Fully restored Grand Cascade built in 1700 tumbles down the hillside along with the canal which reflects the south facade. We'll stroll around the estate then visit the house, home to successive Dukes and Duchesses of Devonshire, as it passed down through 16 generations of the Cavendish family. Check out the new Rose Garden, originally the French Garden. More recently this classic garden has been remodelled and planted with David Austin and Old Garden roses.

Travel on to Birmingham and check in to our hotel in the centre of the city for the next four nights. Dinner included tonight.

Accommodation: Hyatt Regency, Birmingham

DAY 7 Wed 1 July

Stoke-on-Trent

A day in "The Potteries", Stoke on Trent, to visit Trentham Gardens. The Italian Garden here has been revived into what is now recognised as the largest display of perennial plantings in Europe. It's a labyrinth of colourful flowering perennials within 70 flower beds that capture dramatic views down the garden to the lake. Flanked either side by the long borders, prairie plantings of Piet Oudolf, is the formal upper garden, a rainbow of iris, a 100m rose border and a meadow. Trentham Estate is an incredible place with a stormy history, described as a 'Royal Manor' in the 1086 Domesday Book. With its rich industrial heritage of ceramics still intact, we will visit 'World of Wedgwood' where we can admire superb craftsmanship and learn about Josiah Wedgwood who founded Wedgwood in 1759.

Accommodation: Hyatt Regency, Birmingham

DAY 8 Thu 2 July

David Austin Roses

Free time this morning in Birmingham. Lunch today at David Austin's famous rose garden and nursery in Albrighton, Shropshire - sheer heaven for rose lovers. Learn about the culture of

growing roses and ways of using roses in garden design from Michael Marriott, technical manager and senior rosarian at David Austin Roses and one of the world's most respected rose experts. He is well-known for his rose garden design and his common-sense approach to looking after roses.

This garden showcases the marvellous roses bred by David Austin. Over 700 different varieties of roses are planted in the garden, which is divided into a number of smaller spaces, each with its own style. The overall concept is to enclose the exuberant and informal growth of the roses within neatly clipped evergreen hedges.

Accommodation: Hyatt Regency, Birmingham

DAY 9 **Fri 3 July**

Coughton Court

Rose time at Coughton Court, the home that Clare McLaren-Throckmorton inherited in 1992. Together with her daughter and garden designer Christina Williams, they created a series of gardens of which this beautiful old English Tudor Country House can be proud. Roses grow in mixed borders with herbaceous underplanting including hardy geraniums, violets and achilleas. Farmhouse lunch today before we return to Birmingham.

Accommodation: Hyatt Regency, Birmingham

DAY 10 **Sat 4 July**

Birmingham - Richmond, London

South to Richmond today with two exhilarating gardens en route. First stop is set against the stunning backdrop of a majestic castle, surrounded by striking views of the Cotswold Hills. Sudeley Castle has ten award-winning gardens which sweep around the castle and grounds. The Queens' Garden is the magnificent centrepiece, named

for four of England's Queens – Anne Boleyn, Katherine Parr, Lady Jane Grey and Elizabeth I. These days it is planted with 80 varieties of roses. The second garden is private, a masterwork of garden artistry. Travel on to Richmond, check in to our hotel for the next four nights.

Accommodation: Richmond Harbour Hotel, Richmond-upon-Thames, London

DAY 11 **Sun 5 July**

West Dean

The tranquillity of the rolling South Downs in West Sussex awaits and the restored gardens at West Dean, creatively inspired by its rich heritage and South Downs setting. The Walled Garden and fully restored Victorian Glasshouses masterfully demonstrate a 21st century approach to growing and displaying fruit, vegetables and ornamentals in innovative ways.

These are some of the finest Victorian glasshouses in England; sixteen of them, planted with exotic flowers, seasonal fruit and vegetables: orchids, nectarines, peppers, cucumber, tomatoes, figs, vines, melons, fuchsias and aubergines.

From West Dean to West Green this afternoon in Hampshire to visit Marylyn Abbott whose creative sense of colour is given full reign in her suite of garden rooms. The walled garden is planted with a glorious mix of bulbs, trees, shrubs, flowers, vegetables and fruit. the centrepiece here is the potager with formal planting of vegetables and decorative fruit cages. A naturalistic lake-field is wild and romantic and leads to the new Garden of Seven Bridges with pretty arched frames supporting roses and clematis. It's a joy and a tribute to this expat

Aussie. Travel back to Richmond.

Accommodation: Richmond Harbour Hotel, Richmond-upon-Thames, London

DAY 12 **Mon 6 July**

Sissinghurst

Our Sissinghurst day! Vita Sackville West's influential garden that changed the face of garden design. Of all flowers, it was roses that most captured Vita's imagination with their colours, textures of velvet or satin, evocative fragrance and generous blooms. The rose garden is where Vita indulged her senses. The combination of Harold's simple structural design and Vita's soft, billowing plantings achieve harmony. See it from a bird's eye view from the tower and the actual geometric shape and irregular fit of the garden becomes strikingly apparent.

Accommodation: Richmond Harbour Hotel, Richmond-upon-Thames, London

DAY 13 **Tue 7 July**

Hampton Court Palace Flower Show

We will arrive early for a full day at the RHS Hampton Court Palace Flower Show. It's a treat with hundreds of flower displays and designer gardens. The prestigious Rose of the Year award will be announced, following the assessment of the year's most promising new introductions. Late afternoon we will return to Richmond with our Farewell Dinner this evening.

Accommodation: Richmond Harbour Hotel, Richmond-upon-Thames, London

DAY 14 **Wed 8 July**

Our tour finishes at breakfast this morning. Transfer to airport for those taking the designated flight to Sydney via Dubai.

DAY 15 **Thu 9 July**

Arrive Home

DETAILS

- Tour escorted by Colin Barlow
- Luxury air-conditioned motorcoach throughout tour
- Stay at the Jesmond Dene House, Newcastle upon Tyne, The Grand Hotel, York, Hyatt Regency, Birmingham, Richmond Harbour Hotel, Richmond-upon-Thames, London.
- Breakfast daily
- 3 Lunches
- 4 Dinners
- Entrance fees to all gardens and sightseeing including Alnwick Garden, Wynyard Park, Jackson Wold, Castle Howard, Chatsworth House, Trentham Estate, Coughton Court, Sudeley Castle, Broughton Grange, West Dean Garden, West Green House, Sissinghurst and the Hampton Court Palace Flower Show.

PRICE

- Twin Share land only \$9,295 pp
 - Single Supplement \$2,150
- Call us to arrange your flights. Travel on our designated flights and receive complimentary airport transfers. All prices in Australian dollars. Prices based on minimum 15 passengers.

DISCOUNTS

- Earlybird \$300 - Pay by 27/2/20
- Previous Traveller \$100
- Garden Clinic Member \$50

TO BOOK PLEASE CONTACT ROSLYN OR MELISSA

 1300 233 200  travel@rosstours.com

OR BOOK ONLINE www.rosstours.com/englandroses

