

# GARDEN TOURS



**Perennially Yours**  
**English Gardens & Hampton Court Palace Flower Show Tour**  
**2011**  
July 2 – 10, 2011

## PERENNIALLY YOURS



## PERENNIALLY YOURS ENGLISH GARDENS & HAMPTON COURT PALACE FLOWER SHOW TOUR 2011

This special Celebration of English Gardens Tour will feature visits to some of the finest gardens and horticultural facilities in England, as well as valuable networking and social opportunities.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- 4-Star Hotel Accommodations for 8 nights
- English breakfast daily
- Three dinners (Welcome dinner in Bury St. Edmunds, Welcome to London dinner and Farewell dinner)
- Hampton Court Palace Flower Show Ticket and Show Guide
- Entrance to Hampton Court Palace and Privy Garden
- Cambridge Botanic Gardens
- Punt on the River Cam
- Bressingham Gardens
- Beth Chatto Gardens
- Sissinghurst Gardens
- Great Dixter House and Gardens
- East Rushton Old Vicarage Gardens
- Afternoon Cream Tea at the Famous Essex Rose Tea House
- All entrance fees, coach and driver tips
- Guided Tours of Cambridge Botanical Garden, Beth Chatto and Blooms of Bressingham
- Special Garden Gift for you and
- Unforgettable Memories!

Kerry Ann Mendez, owner of Perennially Yours in Ballston Spa, NY, is dedicated to teaching people of all ages the art of low-maintenance perennial gardening and landscaping. As a garden consultant, designer, writer, teacher and lecturer, she focuses on time-saving gardening techniques and workhorse plant material as well as organic practices. Over 8,000 people have taken her classes. She has been in many national magazines including *Fine Gardening*, *Garden Gate* and *Better Homes and Gardens' Garden Ideas & Outdoor Living* plus her gardens have been in several published gardening books. She has been a featured guest on HGTV and was the perennial host for *Capital News 9's In The Garden* television segment as well as info segments for Channel 13.

She is the garden columnist for *Life@Home* magazine and writes freelance pieces for regional and national magazines. As a presenter for *Horticulture* magazine's 2010 national webinar series, her webinars attracted thousands of gardeners from around the country. In July 2010, she was one of four panelists (the only American) at the Adrian's Bloom's European Press Day Event in England in conjunction with the Blooms tour. Mendez has conducted 1,000 home garden and landscape consultations in Upstate New York and New England.

She is a self-taught gardener with over 25 years of experience and a 'passionate perennialist' that enjoys mixing humor with practical information. Mendez's first book, *The Ultimate Flower Gardener's Top Ten Lists*, was released in March 2010. She is a member of the Perennial Plant Association, national Garden Writers Association, and a federated garden club. For more about Kerry Ann Mendez and Perennially Yours, please visit [www.pyours.com](http://www.pyours.com)

Kerry Mendez and Donna Dawson, professional garden tour organizer and owner of *I Can Garden*, will lead this exhilarating tour to provide an experience second to none. For those who are booked on the tour, you will receive tour notes from Donna about a month prior to the tour leaving with all sorts of handy information that you can go over to prepare for your holiday. Donna has many more pictures of these gardens to enjoy at <http://www.icangarden.com/picttour.cfm>

Your incredible land itinerary:

**July 2, 2011 Saturday - Arrival into London on your own.**



Overnight at London Heathrow 4-Star Radisson Edwardian with full English breakfast next morning. This hotel is a short 15 minute ride from the airport. There are hotel hoppa buses at each of the terminals. Check in time is 3 p.m.  
<http://www.radisson.com/middlesex-hotel-gb-ub3-5aw/gbedwair>

**July 3 – Sunday** - after breakfast and check out we board our Coach for Cambridge Botanical Gardens Guided Tour



- the Garden has a collection of over 10,000 labeled plant species in beautifully landscaped settings, including Rock Garden, Lake, Glasshouses, Winter Garden, Woodland Walk, and nine National Collections.

Cambridge University Botanic Garden was established as a University teaching and research resource by Professor John Stevens Henslow on land acquired in 1831, and finally opened to the public in 1846. Henslow, who is perhaps now best remembered for inspiring his pupil Charles Darwin with a love of natural science, recognized the need to study plants in their own right. He was convinced that trees were the most important plants in the world and these form the framework of the Garden. Today the Garden welcomes around 100,000 visitors each year.

With a framework of mature trees and shrubs, this paradise of plants comprises diverse, superbly landscaped settings including: the Rock Garden, representing the alpine plants from the mountains of every continent; the Lake and Water Garden, teeming with bird life; tropical rainforest, the alpine house and seasonal displays in the Glasshouses; and the historic Systematic Beds, displaying 1600 hardy representatives of more than 80 families of flowering plants.

The Garden also boasts many important plant collections including lavenders, hardy geraniums, British native plants displayed on the Ecological Mound, and the finest collection of trees in the East of England.



Then a delightful and relaxing Punt on the River Cam and onward to Bury St. Edmunds where we check into the beautiful 4 Star Angel Hotel for the next three nights.

A standard punt takes you the length of the Backs between Silver St and Quayside lasting approximately 45 minutes. The tour includes Queens' College and the Mathematical bridge, Kings College, Claire College, Trinity Hall, Trinity College, St. Johns College, the bridge of Sighs, and Magdelene College.

Blankets and umbrellas are provided as standard. Life jackets are available on request.

Their chauffeurs are expert punters, who can present you with the historical facts and stories of the colleges, University and the student life. Have you heard that Sir Isaac Newton designed the Mathematical Bridge,

without nuts or bolts? Come and discover the truth behind it.

Our hotel accommodation in Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk offers seventy-five rooms all with



individual charm. Join the list of Literati and Glitterati that have stayed here from Charles Dickens to King Louis Philippe of France to Pierce Brosnan and Angelina Jolie. Savour a sweet night's sleep on feather down pillows. Dickens stayed in 1859, and again in 1861, in room 15, now known as the Charles Dickens suite. Dickens connection with Bury dates back to the 1830s to



his first novel, "The Pickwick Papers", in which he immortalizes the town and specifically mentions the Angel Hotel.

<http://www.theangel.co.uk/>

Welcome Dinner this evening at the hotel.

#### July 4 - Monday – Beth Chatto Gardens, Afternoon Cream Tea at the famous Essex Rose Tea House



Beth Chatto is one of the most influential living gardeners in Britain who is perhaps best known for her pioneering ecological approach to gardening developed in the 1960s, yet so relevant to gardeners today. In 1960 Beth and her late husband, Andrew Chatto moved into their new home, with their two young daughters. The split-level house, was designed by an architect friend and built on a piece of wasteland, surrounded by Andrew's fruit farm. The land was too poor for farming and a complete wilderness.

Andrew Chatto, although a fruit farmer by profession, spent his life studying the origin of garden plants and their natural habitats. Beth, who had been involved in the early flower-club movement, had a keen eye for composition and design, as well as a passion for plants. Based on the principle of 'choosing the right plant for the right place', this former piece of wasteland has been transformed into one of the most beautiful gardens of today. Beth Chatto, today one of the world's leading and most well respected plants-women and garden writers, continues to garden and inspire people across the world.

Our one hour guided tour starts in the famous Gravel Garden and proceeds through all areas including the water gardens, reservoir garden, woodland and scree gardens. The guide will discuss the history of the garden, give help with plant identification and will also happily answer any questions you may have.

Led by experienced full time members of staff, with over 38 years of working with Beth Chatto between them, the talks are packed full of interesting facts, gardening knowledge and personal insights into life at the Gardens. A transcript of the talk is also available for hard-of-hearing visitors.

<http://www.bethchatto.co.uk/>

Then on to Dedham, John Constable Country. There will be time to visit the village, shop and enjoy an Afternoon Cream Tea at the famous Essex Rose Tea House (owned by Tiptree) that is famous for their preserves. Having built its wealth on the wool trade, Dedham in northeast Essex became home to many rich patrons, evidence of which can today be seen in the village's listed buildings. Best known as the one-time home of celebrated painter John Constable, Dedham is visited by thousands annually for its outstanding lowland landscapes and heritage. The landscape is perhaps the epitome of the farmed English countryside.

It has an extraordinary range of different scales and special features giving rise to distinctive landscape characters - rolling fields on the valley slopes, lush and sheltered valley-floor meadows and open marshes, and intimate tributary valleys. Its pastoral scenes are world-famous as the settings used by the artist John Constable, and Flatford Mill and picturesque Dedham retain an unspoilt quality, despite their many summer visitors.

Dedham contains a number of well preserved buildings:

- Sherman's Hall, a Grade I listed, Georgian-fronted townhouse used as a school until 1873 and now belonging to the National Trust.
- the Old Grammar School, founded by Elizabeth I. The present building dates from 1732 and was attended by John Constable. It is now private residences.
- the Sun Inn, a medieval building that retains its coaching arch.
- a congregational church built in 1739 and now the Dedham Art and Craft Centre.
- Southfields, Grade I listed, is the most splendid of the many medieval buildings in the village. Formerly a factory used when Dedham was a wealthy wool town it is now a series of cottages.
- The Parish Church of St Mary's; the present building dates from the late 15th century. The Ascension by John Constable is on permanent display in the church.
- Castle House, the home of Sir Alfred Munnings and now the Sir Alfred Munnings Art Museum.

Dedham is the ancestral home of General William Tecumseh Sherman, of American Civil War fame, whose ancestors immigrated to Massachusetts in the 1630s

#### Essex Rose Tea House



Almost five hundred years old, listed and mentioned frequently in historic surveys and reports, the Essex Rose at Dedham is a fine timber-framed building looking out across Royal Square and towards the church... The Essex Rose has served many diverse purposes over the centuries but it found fame as a tea house more than half a century ago when Miss Loe began to cater for the tourists that were flocking to the area. We will enjoy Tiptree Strawberry Conserve with Two Tiptree scones, butter and fresh cream, served with the



Tiptree tea of your choice. Make sure you take home a jar or two of the jam to enjoy!

<http://www.trooms.com/>

Angel Hotel – Dinner on own this evening

#### July 5 - Tuesday – Morning Leisure Time, East Rushton Old Vicarage

Morning free to enjoy Bury St Edmunds, a Britain in Bloom and Bury in Bloom City and so very easy to walk.



Morning free to enjoy Abbey Gardens and Bury St Edmunds, a Britain in Bloom and Bury in Bloom City, and so very easy to walk.

For more information about Abbey Gardens click on <http://www.burystedmunds.co.uk/cathedral-abbey-gardens.html>

The following link below provides a step by step guide to walking in Bury: <http://www.burystedmunds.co.uk/bury-st-edmunds-walk.html>



and don't forget to see if you can spot the Nutshell Pub, reputedly the smallest pub in Britain!

also of note is the only remaining example of a playhouse dating from the Regency Period, the Theatre Royal Bury St. Edmunds. I was lucky enough to be able to go inside just before a performance last year. A very simple and surprising theatre.

for further reading on this very historical borough and also note in the article mention of the Angel Hotel!

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bury\\_St\\_Edmunds](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bury_St_Edmunds)

In the afternoon we board the coach to visit the East Rushton Old Vicarage gardens, one of the most remarkable and enjoyable gardens made in recent years. Created by Alan Gray and Graham Robeson, it is a feast of formal design and decorative exuberance.



ALAN GRAY and GRAHAM ROBESON would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to their garden here at East Ruston Old Vicarage. Because this is their private garden created for their own enjoyment there are no signs to direct you; there is however a map and a key index in their brochure that you can purchase.

'When we came here there was no garden whatsoever, it was a blank canvas. This was not a bad thing because it afforded us the opportunity to vent our creativity. Every part of the garden was designed entirely by ourselves as were all the various buildings. We have used no outside help and our sole aim has been to try and enhance the setting of our home.

One of our great joys is to see the pleasure that the garden can bring to many of the visitors and that everybody seems to find some part of it that is special to them. Throughout the garden you will see many rare and unusual plants growing. '



The Old Vicarage lies one and a half miles from the North Sea in an exposed prairie landscape containing large arable fields. Many of the wildlife habitats for birds and mammals have long been swept away. We have endeavoured throughout the garden to replace some of these by the planting of mixed hedgerows, banks, wildflower areas and ponds. The soil here is of excellent quality being a light sandy loam with a neutral pH. Due to the maritime influence the garden suffers less from extensive frosts and we have planted large shelter belts of Pinus radiata, the Monterey pine, Alnus cordata, the Italian alder and many eucalypts. This also enhances the garden's unique micro-climate which enables us to grow such a huge range of plants.

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We bought East Ruston Old Vicarage in 1973. It had been empty for the previous two years and there was no garden here at all, just tufted grass three feet tall. At this time although coming from Norfolk we were both in London during the week to enable us to earn our livings. Each Friday evening we undertook the arduous journey from central London to East Ruston, returning to London the following Sunday evening or at the latest very early Monday morning. This we did for many years, but it allowed us the delight to be able to start gardening and this we did with great enthusiasm on an area of some two acres.

Over the years, starting in 1989, we have had the opportunity to purchase some of the former glebe land that had originally surrounded the Vicarage, plus a bit more. This meant that shortly after the mid 1980's when we came to live here permanently we could commence gardening on a larger scale. However at that time it was not our intention to make a larger and larger garden. When it began, the sub-division of our land was influenced by a black and white slide that somebody kindly gave us. It was taken in the 1960's during the winter

and clearly showed the former small field boundaries on the ground, where 24 fields had been converted into a single 101 acre field. It occurred to us then that because of the modern farming methods a huge amount of wildlife habitat had been lost. Hedges, ditches, banks and ponds had all been swept away and so, armed with the ordnance survey map from the 1880's, we decided to put back some of this valuable shelter.

And so began the life of the garden that we enjoy today although at this time our idea was to create somewhere for us to walk our dogs without using the local farmer's fields. How things have changed. Gradually the original garden that we had created within the confines of our two acres was moved out into the newer land and areas such as the long borders were scaled up to become larger and we hope more interesting. It is important to note that the garden here is an oasis in a prairie landscape where farmers have made bigger fields for bigger yields. Within the garden there is a microclimate that allows us to grow many plants that might be tender in all but a few sheltered spots. This we have achieved by the planting of shelter belts mainly of Monterey Pine, Italian Alders and Eucalyptus. This and the fact that most of the gardens within the whole are relatively small in area helps to keep our main enemy, the wind, above head height.

Another factor that helps the garden is its maritime influence. The University of East Anglia department of climatology published charts of weather statistics over the last fifty years. One chart shows clearly that on the eastern coast of Norfolk and Suffolk to within three miles of the sea we experience the same mean amount of frost as Devon and Cornwall, although bending down in a stiff wind in the coldness that in January it does not always feel so!

Over the years the garden and grounds have grown further and now total 32 acres. We promise that that is the end of the growth in area, however it will continue to, we hope, and as all of you know, a garden never stands still, it moves on, after all it is a living breathing being.

We hope that you enjoy your visit to our garden, and we know that it is unique whether you like it or not. Sometimes, when both the light and the temperature are right we wonder where in the world we are. Could it be the Mediterranean, the Southern Hemisphere or somewhere such as South Africa. No, it is East Ruston Old Vicarage within one and a half miles of the North Sea or German Ocean and it is our own special creation. The result, as it says on the terracotta gate *Consilio et Labore*, by counsel and by labour, or by discussion and hard work from us, to give pleasure which we enjoy sharing with others.

Angel Hotel – dinner on own this evening – make sure you are all packed and ready to leave this hotel the next morning after breakfast.

#### **July 6 - Wednesday - Blooms of Bressingham Gardens, coach to London**

The expansive Bressingham gardens cover 17 densely planted acres with over 8,000 varieties. There's the new Winter Garden, designed by Adrian Bloom and his team: this contains drama-filled juxtapositions of trees, shrubs, perennials, grasses and bulbs. Then there's the Summer Garden, specifically designed to reach its maximum potential in the warmer months of the year with miscanthus, crocosmia, agapanthus, geraniums, eupatorium and asters, which made a bold impact when viewed from the entrance to the gardens. Next, the visitor can explore Foggy Bottom, a six-acre zone of plants from many different countries, set against paths, trees and shrubs to provide a whole experience for the horticultural fan. The Fragrant Garden, originally planted in 1963 and currently undergoing its final redesign, will be opened with spring to autumn plants, in particular those with scented flowers and foliage, and Adrian's Wood – a three-acre space linking Foggy Bottom with the Dell Garden – is an ever-popular zone, with its five enormous specimens of sequoiadendron giganteum, or giant redwood, some of which exceed 80 feet in height. Over the 40 years since it was first planted, the Wood has become a beautiful home to North American species and cultivars of perennials, grasses, bulbs, trees and shrubs.

We will enjoy a personal welcome from Adrian as well as be guided around these enchanting gardens by him!



Later in the afternoon we leave for London and check in at the 4-Star Tara Copthorne for the last four nights. The Copthorne Tara Hotel London Kensington is one of the most well known 4 Star hotels in London. It is ideally located in a quiet corner of the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea and offers convenient access to other areas of London.

The High Street Kensington Tube Station is 3 minutes away. Here you will also find a Marks & Spencer, Boots Drugstore and all kinds of other shops where you can pick up food. Concierge will have directions on how to get to the airports for your departures as well as there is a shuttle service that you can take if you do not want to take the tube.

<http://www.millenniumhotels.co.uk/cophornetarakensington/index.html>

Welcome to London Dinner at the hotel.

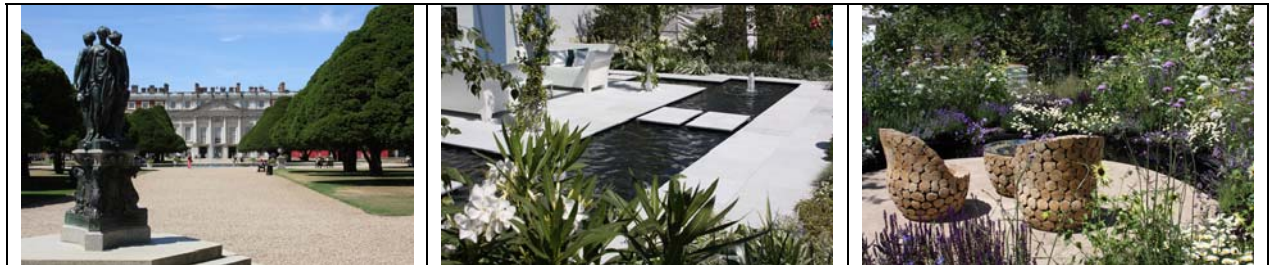
## July 7 - Thursday – Hampton Court Palace and Flower Show



The 22nd Hampton Court Palace Flower Show with show guide. Set on the grounds of the Palace, it is a feast for the eyes and a chance to do some power shopping while checking out gardens. The UK's biggest gardening show – covering 34 acres - is back in full bloom this summer. Organized by the Royal Horticultural Society, Hampton Court Palace Flower Show has become a much-loved British institution, having gained a reputation for providing some of the world's best conceptual gardens and a feast of Grow Your Own attractions. Visitors can expect an eclectic showcase of horticultural delights, making it a world class addition to the thriving summer festival season.

### Last years stats:

- There are 16 Show Gardens, 13 Small Gardens, six Conceptual Gardens, five Sustainable Gardens and six Shakespeare's Comedies Gardens.
- The new Home Grown marquee is 2000 square metres, enough space for 2200 phone boxes.
- The total size of all the fruit and vegetables on display in the Growing Tastes marquee is 869 square metres, roughly the size of three tennis courts side-by-side.
- The massive Floral Marquee is 6750 square metres – that's enough room for Big Ben's clock tower to fit in four times over.
- The Rose Festival will feature 287 square metres of roses – equivalent to 13 London bus-loads.
- It takes three weeks to build a show garden, and two weeks to build a small garden, but the gardens all come apart in just three days.
- There are over 600 exhibitors at the show, including gardens, nurseries, floral arrangement and floristry, fruit and vegetable growers and trade stands.



After you have visited the show and desire some quiet time, we have also included entry to the Hampton Court Palace and Privy Garden. Henry VIII's very favourite palace was Hampton Court. Privy Garden, or Private garden provided the Sovereign with security and privacy away from the affairs of State.

The first Privy Garden at Hampton Court Palace was laid out between 1530 and 1538 for King Henry VIII. The garden covered an area of just over 61m x 91m and was split into two areas. One of these contained brass sundials and numerous statues of heraldic beasts on poles. The other contained a bowling alley, a magnificent domed banqueting house and the Water Gallery which provided a landing stage from the Thames.

Much of the original layout of the Privy Garden was revealed through a combination of archaeological and historical research during the 1995 restoration, which returned William III's garden to its 1702 state. Historical accuracy governed the design of the garden, from the elaborate broderie to the very flowers and shrubs which once grew there. The Privy garden contains 33,000 box plants, topiary and Queen Mary's Bower that survives from an earlier Privy Garden by William III and Mary II.

William III died before it was completely finished and all the gardeners and workmen were so scared of not being paid that they submitted the fullest accounts for all their work. Even so, many of them including Tijou who made the ironwork and the supplier of the statues were never paid in full by Queen Anne.



While in the Privy Garden, wander down to the end to see the Great Grape Vine. Hampton Court has the oldest and largest grape vine in the world. The 'Great Vine' was planted in 1768 by Capability Brown. It has always had its own greenhouse, its record crop was 2,245 bunches of grapes in 1807 and today it averages 500-700 bunches a year.

You will hear all sorts of interesting tidbits of information as we travel from the hotel to the show!

We will meet back at the coach and leave at 4 p.m.  
Tara Copthorne Hotel – dinner on own this evening

### July 8 Friday - Day of Leisure in London

*"...when a man is tired of London, he is tired of life, for there is in London all that life can afford."* Dr Samuel Johnson 1709-1784

Enjoy shopping, strolling, visiting Museums or take in the gorgeous Kew Gardens. We will have plenty of ideas closer to the tour. Also think about this evening to book a show!

Tara Copthorne Hotel – dinner on own this evening

### July 9 - Saturday – Great Dixter and Sissinghurst

On our last day after breakfast we head out on a full day excursion to Great Dixter and Sissinghurst in the Weald of Kent, where some of the most romantic gardens have been created and a truly fitting end to our England's Finest Gardens tour. I never tire of watching my tour guests see these gardens for the first time. They are both so different.

Great Dixter



'Melding antiquity and nature with the delicate controlling touch of man.' Tony Sissons  
Great Dixter's internationally renowned garden was created by one of Britain's most celebrated 20th century gardeners, Christopher Lloyd, the gardening writer and television personality known as "Christo", who died four years ago. The 57-acre estate, with its Grade I-listed, medieval timber-framed house, was bought by his father, Nathaniel Lloyd, in 1910, at which time it had virtually no garden whatsoever. The younger Lloyd transformed it into one of the most profusely planted sites in the land, its flower beds and borders complemented by ornamental hedges, an orchard and a wildflower meadow.



The future of Great Dixter, the medieval estate which has come to epitomize the English country garden, is to be guaranteed now by a multimillion-pound lottery award aimed at conserving one of the country's most remarkable displays of flowers and plants. I can still see Christopher walking along one of the pathways in his bright green shirt and carrying a huge trug with his little dachshunds following close by. You will enjoy going through his house and seeing his office. It was never open while he was alive because he was usually in there writing.

Sissinghurst - One of the world's most celebrated gardens!



Sissinghurst's garden was created in the 1930s by Vita Sackville-West, poet and gardening writer, and her husband Harold Nicolson, author and diplomat. Sackville-West was a writer on the fringes of the Bloomsbury group who found her greatest popularity in the weekly columns she contributed as gardening correspondent of *The Observer*, which incidentally – for she never touted it – made her own garden famous. Sissinghurst's garden is one of the best-loved in the whole of the United Kingdom, drawing visitors from all over the world. The garden itself is designed as a series of "rooms", each with a different character of colour and/or theme, divided by high clipped hedges and pink brick walls. The gardens are set off by a tall tower of pale pink brick which captivated Vita when she first saw Sissinghurst; she wrote some 20 books in the Elizabethan Tower room and it remained her sanctum until her death age 70. If you want, you can climb the curved staircase and see what her writing room looked like as they have kept it to look as though she had just stepped out of the office to go look at a new plant or welcome a visitor.



One of the famous gardens here is the white garden and with us being here in July, you should be able to see the *Rosa mulliganii* in full blooming glory!

The site is ancient— "hurst" is the Saxon term for "an enclosed wood". A manorhouse with a three-armed moat was built here in the middle ages. By 1305, Sissinghurst was impressive enough for King Edward I to spend the night. In 1490, Thomas Baker purchased Sissinghurst. The house was given a new brick gatehouse in the 1530s by Sir John Baker, one of Henry VIII's Privy Councilors', and hugely enlarged in the 1560s by his son Sir Richard Baker, when it became the centre of a 700-acre (2.8 km<sup>2</sup>) deer park. In 1573, Queen Elizabeth I spent three nights at Sissinghurst.

For Sackville-West, Sissinghurst and its garden rooms came to be a poignant and romantic substitute for Knole, reputedly the largest house in Britain, which as the only child of Lionel, the 3rd Lord Sackville she would have inherited had she been a male, but which had passed to her uncle as the male heir.

After the collapse of the Baker family in the late 17th century, the building had many uses: as a prisoner-of-war camp during the Seven Years' War; as the workhouse for the Cranbrook Union; after which it became homes for farm labourers.

Sackville-West and Nicolson found Sissinghurst in 1930 after concern that their property Long Barn, near Sevenoaks, Kent, was close to development over which they had no control. Although Sissinghurst was derelict, they purchased the ruins and the farm around it and began constructing the garden we know today. The layout by Nicolson and planting by Sackville-West were both strongly influenced by the gardens of:

- Gertrude Jekyll and Edwin Lutyens
- the earlier Cothay Manor in Somerset laid out by Nicolson's friend Colonel Reginald Cooper DSO. Cothay was later described by one garden writer as the "Sissinghurst of the West Country."
- Hidcote Manor Garden, designed and owned by Lawrence Johnston, which Vita Sackville-West was instrumental in preserving.

Sissinghurst was first opened to the public in 1938. There is a whole series of articles on this garden here <http://www.ukgardendesigner.com/article2.htm> for additional reading.

Our Farewell Dinner will be at the hotel to make it easier for those leaving on early flights the next morning.

**July 10 – Sunday** - After breakfast you make your way home or perhaps onwards with so many unforgettable memories....and many new found friends.

**Your land package includes:**

- Land package includes:
- 4-Star Hotel Accommodations for 8 nights
- English breakfast daily
- Three dinners (Welcome dinner in Bury St. Edmunds, Welcome to London dinner and Farewell dinner)
- Hampton Court Palace Flower Show and Show guide
- Entrance to Hampton Court Palace and Privy Garden
- Cambridge Botanic Gardens
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- Guided Tours of Cambridge Botanical Garden, Beth Chatto and Blooms of Bressingham
- Special Garden Gift for you and
- Unforgettable Memories!

You can come earlier or extend your stay, just let us know if you want to stay in the tour hotel so we can try and get you our rate. Please note this on your reservation form.

Not included:

Airfare, insurance, meals unless noted, items of a personal nature and extra hotel charges.

PLEASE Note that the tour is based in British Pounds



**Tour Dates: July 2 – 10, 2011**

**LAND only** £1635 British Pounds \*\* p/p sharing  
**SINGLE Supplement** £520 British Pounds  
See **Highlights Box** for all inclusions on this tour.

**NOTE** Deposit on tour is 500.00 US with balance due 3 months from tour leaving.  
Tour is priced in British Pounds

You will be notified when to book your air – tour requires minimum of 30 registrants.  
When booking air, you want a London return flight.

Email: [donna@icangarden.com](mailto:donna@icangarden.com)

Toll Free – 1-866-642-7120

Subject to change without notice – October 17, 2010