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English Gardens & The Chelsea Flower Show – 2019

9 days - Limited to 18 guests

Savor the joys of spring in the quintessential English landscape as you take in a member's-only day at the Chelsea Flower Show; stroll the gardens of HRH The Prince of Wales at Highgrove; and tour the birthplace of Sir Winston Churchill, Blenheim Palace.

Itinerary

DAY 1 ARRIVE LONDON, ENGLAND

Upon arrival, you are met and transferred to your luxury hotel surrounded by gardens. Enjoy a private welcome dinner with your fellow guests at this historic manor house.

South Lodge | Meals: Dinner

DAY 2 STORRINGTON | PARHAM HOUSE

Journey to Storrington for a private tour of the 16th-century Parham House and its landscaped Pleasure Grounds. Stroll Veronica's Maze and The Walled Garden, learning how they are organically maintained. After lunch at Parham House, visit magnificent and historic Arundel Castle.

South Lodge | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch



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DAY 3 SISSINGHURST & GREAT DIXTER | ARTS & CRAFTS GEMS

Today, enjoy a private tour of the late Christopher Lloyd's garden at Great Dixter, conducted before opening hours. Built in the Arts and Crafts style, note how it mingles vegetables and flowers, a large orchard with pockets of wild flowers and a magnificent herbaceous border. Later, drive to Sissinghurst Castle and stroll its garden. Learn how Harold Nicolson, a diplomat and author, laid down its main lines, while his wife, Vita Sackville-West, a poet and garden writer, handled the planting. View the influential White Garden, which exemplifies Gertrude Jekyll's idea of using color themes.

South Lodge | Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 4 HAMPSHIRE | WEST GREEN HOUSE

Drive north to the quaint and charming Cotswolds area, pausing in a wooded corner of North Hampshire for a visit to the gardens of West Green House. Learn how acclaimed designer Marylyn Abbott masterfully fused neo-classical and contemporary influences as you tour the grounds with the senior gardener. Afterward, enjoy lunch with West Green House's owner. Later, toast your day with a Scenic Sundowner before dining at your hotel.

Dormy House | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 5 THE COTSWOLDS | KIFTSGATE & HIDCOTE MANOR

Enjoy a private visit to Kiftsgate Court Gardens and stroll the harmonious, color-schemed upper gardens. Continue to nearby Hidcote Manor — one of England's greatest gardens and a real Arts and Crafts masterpiece — for a guided tour through a series of unique outdoor "rooms." Nestled in the Cotswolds, a range of hills known for their beauty, the garden offers stunning panoramas across the Vale of Evesham. Afterward, drive to the lovely town of Chipping Campden to visit its attractive High Street, Jacobean Market Hall and impressive Church of St. James.

Dormy House | Meals: Breakfast

DAY 6 HIGHGROVE | GARDENS OF A PRINCE

Drive to Highgrove in Gloucestershire, country home of HRH The Prince of Wales, for a guided tour of his delightful gardens. Among the most innovative in the United Kingdom, the gardens are maintained using organic and sustainable methods. Continue into the historic town of Tetbury, where there is time for lunch at your leisure. Next, enjoy a private visit to Badminton, country home of the Duke and Duchess of Beaufort. Tour the house and gardens, pausing to enjoy a traditional cream tea.

Dormy House | Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 7 BLENHEIM PALACE | BIRTHPLACE OF SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL

Drive to Blenheim Palace, a magnificent edifice set in 2,100 acres of beautiful parkland landscaped by Lancelot "Capability" Brown. Enjoy a special talk and tour focused on the life of Sir Winston Churchill, who was born here in 1874. Examine the breadth of his talent and achievement, from bricklayer to the "Greatest Briton." After lunch, continue to London.

The Milestone Hotel | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

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DAY 8 THE CHELSEA FLOWER SHOW | A WORLD OF INSPIRATION

Attend the world-renowned Chelsea Flower Show on an exclusive, members-only day. Enjoy a four-course luncheon and an open bar, as well as morning and afternoon tea, in an exclusive Royal Horticultural Society hospitality area. Walk countless exhibits showcasing the finest examples of English gardening and some of the most avant-garde show-garden designs in the world. Return to the hotel in the late afternoon, gathering in the evening for a farewell dinner. *The Milestone Hotel* | *Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

DAY 9 DEPART LONDON

After breakfast, transfer to the airport and depart.