



Spring Garden Masterpieces of England and the RHS Chelsea Flower Show 2021

11 MAY – 21 MAY 2021

Code: 22113

Tour Leaders **Professor Tim Entwisle**

Physical Ratings 

Combine a day at the renowned Chelsea Flower Show with some of England's finest gardens incl. Rousham, Hidcote, Bourton, Broughton Grange, Sezincote, Great Dixter, Sissinghurst & Highgrove Gardens.

Overview

Join [Professor Tim Entwisle](#) on this cultural garden tour of England that combines a day at the renowned Chelsea Flower Show with some of England's finest gardens such as Rousham, Hidcote, Kiftsgate, Bourton, Sezincote, Great Dixter and Sissinghurst.

- Immerse yourself in the lovely medieval city of Oxford and visit Magdalen College gardens.
- Study the development of the English country house from 17th-century Rousham House to 20th-century Great Dixter.
- Be treated to the contemporary gardens of Pettifers and Tom Stuart-Smith's Broughton Grange, partly influenced by the Dutch Wave movement.
- Visit private gardens such as Througham Court Gardens and HRH The Prince of Wales' Highgrove House Gardens.*
- Make a special visit to the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, with [Richard Barley](#), Director of Horticulture.
- Explore Australian Marylyn Abbott's award-winning West Green House Gardens; and visit Ightham Mote, a wonderful example of a small medieval moated manor house, perfectly located within a peaceful garden surrounded by woodland.
- Wander through picturesque Cotswold villages including Stow-on-the-Wold.
- Enjoy a farewell meal at the Kew Gardens Botanical Restaurant.

* Note: we are unable to confirm a number of the private garden visits until February 2021.

Testimonials

For me the garden tour was an indulgent treat to myself. It was a delight for the senses, an opportunity to be refreshed and inspired by the wonders of nature and human design. Jane, NSW.

I wouldn't hesitate to travel again with ASA. Tour details were well organized and clear and tour leaders made our experiences enjoyable and memorable. Helen, SA.

11-day Garden Tour of England

Overnight Oxford (6 nights) • Royal Tunbridge Wells (1 night) • London (3 nights)

Overview

This exciting program combines a day at the renowned Chelsea Flower Show and the Garden Museum with a tour to some of England's finest country houses and gardens. Restored Bourton House won the prestigious HHA/Christie's 'Garden of the Year Award' in 2006. Sezincote's oriental gardens complement S.P. Cockerell's fascinating 'Indian' house. Designed by Chelsea Gold Medal winner Tom Stuart-Smith, Broughton Grange represents one of the most significant private contemporary gardens in Britain. Pettifers Garden stylishly combines the Dutch Wave movement with 'English prettiness' in a townhouse garden by owner Gina Price. Scientist and architect Christine Facer Hoffman has appended to her 17th-century house her own experimental garden that creates spatial narratives based upon number sequences found in nature. Rousham's interiors are extraordinarily well preserved; it's been owned by the Dormer family since 1635 and has fine landscaped gardens laid out by William Kent. Great Dixter is famous for its plantings established by Christopher Lloyd and Sissinghurst is the beloved masterpiece of Vita Sackville West. At West Green House Gardens Marylyn Abbott has reconciled her Australian gardening heritage, dominated by brilliant light, with England's softer, more muted atmosphere. Ightham Mote, meanwhile, is a wonderful example of a small

medieval moated manor house, located within a peaceful garden surrounded by woodland. In these and other fine gardens we explore the initial influence of Italian formalism, 18th-century reactions against formal Italian and French modes by English landscape gardeners, the reversion to more formal styles in the second half of the 19th century, and the personal influences of that century's famous garden designers. Special highlights include a planned visit to Highgrove, where HRH The Prince of Wales has created some of the most inspired and innovative gardens in the United Kingdom and a tour of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew with Richard Barley, Director of Horticulture. In Oxford we visit the Oxford Botanic Garden, the oldest botanic garden in Britain (founded in 1621), featuring inspiring herbaceous borders and glasshouses, and the award-winning gardens of 550-year-old Magdalen College. We also enjoy lovely Cotswold villages such as Stow-on-the-Wold, stately Tunbridge Wells, and learn about the development of the English country house.

Leaders



Professor Tim Entwisle

Director and Chief Executive of Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria since March 2013, following 2 years in a senior role at Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, and 8 years as Executive Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust in Sydney.

Director and Chief Executive, Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria

Professor Tim Entwisle is a highly respected scientist, scientific communicator and botanic gardens director. He took up the role of Director and Chief Executive of Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria in March 2013, following two years in a senior role at Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, and eight years as Executive Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust in Sydney. Tim is an Honorary Professorial Fellow in the School of Botany at The University of Melbourne and has been a Visiting Professor in the School of Biological and Biomedical Science, Durham University. He is an expert in freshwater algae (a genus, family and order of algae were named after him in 2014) but has a broad interest in all plants and related life forms – for example, he edited and wrote for the 4-volume *Flora of Victoria*. In 2014 Tim published *Sprinter and Sprummer: Australia's Changing Seasons*, challenging the use of the traditional four seasons in Australia.

Tim blogs (*TalkingPlants*), *tweets*, and looks for any opportunity to promote science, plants and gardens. He is a frequent guest on Australian radio and television, and writes opinion pieces for the major newspapers. Over the summers of 2014-15 and 2015-16 Tim hosted ABC Radio National's first gardening show, *Talking Plants*, and he contributes regularly to RN's *Blueprint for Living*. He writes for a variety of science, nature and garden magazines and maintains an active social media profile. In 2017 Tim joined ASA as tour lecturer for 'Gardens in Spanish Culture'.

Tim also has an interest in indie music, literature, kayaking and anything to do with Dr Samuel Johnson.

- Learn more about bushland biodiversity in Tim's video - [Biodiversity and the Seasons](#) (YouTube - 3:02)
- Hear Tim talk about managing heritage trees in Sydney - [Trees - Natural and Cultural Values](#) (Youtube - 31:13)
- Tim explains why we need plants to live and to enjoy life - [Curing Plant Blindness and Illiteracy](#) (Youtube - 60:00)
- Tim joins Jon Faine as co-host of [The Conversation Hour: Tim Entwisle, Mark Nesbitt, Caroline Cornish, and Ayleen O'Hanlon](#) (ABC Radio, 16 October 2018)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YoBtGFN_-NI

Combine this tour with

Romania Revealed: Saxon Villages, Transylvanian Cities and Byzantine Monasteries 2021
26 MAY – 8 JUN 2021



Itinerary

The following itinerary describes a range of gardens and estates which we plan to visit. Many are accessible to the public, but others require special permission which may only be confirmed closer to the tour's departure in 2021. The daily activities described in this itinerary may change or be rotated and/or modified in order to accommodate alterations in opening hours, flight schedules and confirmation of private visits. Participants will receive a final itinerary together with their tour documents prior to departure. Meals included in the tour price and are indicated in the itinerary where: B=breakfast, L=Lunch and D=dinner.

Oxford - 6 nights

Day 1: Tuesday 11 May, London Heathrow – Oxford

- Arrive London Heathrow and transfer to Oxford
- Introduction & Welcome Dinner

On arrival at London Heathrow airport, those taking the ASA 'designated' flight will transfer by private coach to Oxford, home to the oldest university in the English-speaking world. If you are travelling independently, you should meet the group at the [Mercure Eastgate Hotel](#). This evening there will be a short introductory meeting before dining at a local restaurant. (Overnight Oxford) D

Day 2: Wednesday 12 May, The Cotswolds

- Private visit of Sezincote House and Gardens
- Market town of Moreton-in-Marsh
- Guided tour of Bourton House Gardens with the Head Gardener, Jacky Rae
- Stow-on-the-Wold

Today we drive into the Cotswolds to visit two magnificent gardens located near the village of Moreton-in-Marsh. Our first visit is to Sezincote Manor, where an exotic oriental garden was created to complement the

architect S.P. Cockerell's fascinating 19th-century Regency house, which he designed in an Indian, Moghul style; Sezincote served as the inspiration for George IV's Brighton Pavilion. Sezincote's extraordinary eccentricities include a temple, not to any Grecian deity, but to the Hindu goddess Souriya; garden sculptures include a bronze serpent and Brahmin bulls, whilst minarets top the conservatory.

Midday we travel to the northern Cotswolds town of Moreton-in-Marsh, where there will be time at leisure for lunch and to explore the high street, which has many elegant 18th-century inns and houses, including the Redesdale Market Hall.

In the afternoon we continue to the nearby award-winning three-acre gardens of Bourton House. The gardens had become overgrown and neglected when Richard and Monique Paice acquired them in 1983. Over the past 25 years, the ornamental garden with its 18th-century raised walk overlooking the rolling Cotswold Hills, the original kitchen garden, and Bourton's orchard, have been transformed. The Paices' achievement was recognised when Bourton House Garden was honoured with the prestigious HHA/Christie's 'Garden of the Year' award in 2006.

Our day concludes with a drive through the picturesque Cotswolds, including a short stop at the village of Stow-on-the-Wold. Stow-on-the-Wold was an important medieval market town and is now a centre for English antiques. As well as the large market square, the town has some very early coaching inns, including the Royalist Hotel that has timbers that have been carbon-dated to 987; it is believed to be the oldest inn in England. (Overnight Oxford) B

Day 3: Thursday 13 May, Oxford – Banbury – Lower Wardington – Oxford

- Broughton Grange, Banbury
- Pettifers Garden, Lower Wardington

We begin today with a visit to Broughton Grange, which has received much attention since opening under the National Garden Scheme (NGS) in 2004. The gardens are set in 350 acres of parkland, farmland, and open meadow, with a style of planting that owes its origins to the Victorian era. The gardens' development accelerated in 2001, when acclaimed landscape designer Tom Stuart-Smith, who has been awarded eight RHS Chelsea Flower Show gold medals including three Best in Show awards, was commissioned to transform a 6-acre field into a walled garden. This impressive new garden features three individually themed terraces and has been designed with consideration to the surrounding rural landscape. Broughton Grange now represents one of the most significant private contemporary gardens in Britain. A ploughman's lunch will be provided after our guided tour of the gardens.

After lunch, we explore the innovative Pettifers Gardens, where head gardener Polly Stevens will provide us with a guided tour. The tour will describe not only the interesting and surprising plant combinations, but also how this garden has undergone changes made by the owner and designer, the Honourable Mrs. Gina Price, since the early 1990s, when she began to design the garden. Combined with friendship and advice from Dianyn Binney at Kiftsgate Court Gardens, Pettifers has today developed a reputation as one of the must-see English country gardens. RHS judge and media personality James Alexander-Sinclair described the garden in *Gardens Illustrated* magazine as "undoubtedly one of the most exciting and delightful gardens in the country." (Overnight Oxford) BL

Day 4: Friday 14 May, Oxford – Througham Court – Highgrove – Oxford

- Private Guided tour of Througham Court Gardens with Dr Christine Facer Hoffman

- Highgrove House: Lunch & Guided tour of Gardens (*subject to confirmation in 2021*)

We depart Oxford early this morning and travel 77 kilometres south to the county of Gloucestershire, where Througham Court, a 17th-century Jacobean house with 6 acres of formal/informal landscape overlooks a peaceful Cotswold valley. Christine Facer Hoffman, scientist and landscape architect, describes her private garden as “a personal ‘laboratory’ to experiment with new ideas, materials and planting combinations.” Developed since 2000, contemporary areas have been artfully embedded in the Cotswold architect Norman Jewson’s 1930s Arts and Crafts masterpiece, which features magnificent yew topiary and dry stone wall terracing. Hoffman has stated that her contemporary ‘fragments’ are inspired by scientific discoveries and theories. She uses mathematical number sequences found in nature to create a symbolic and metaphorical narrative so that the gardens may be ‘read’ by the visitor. They recently featured in the RHS publication *The Garden* magazine and in Alan Titchmarsh’s *Garden Secrets* on BBC 2.

Mid-morning we make the short drive to Doughton village, where Highgrove House, the country home of Their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall, is located. The Prince purchased Highgrove in 1980, and has spent 30 years transforming its grounds into what have been acknowledged as some of the most brilliant and inventive gardens in the United Kingdom. “A series of interlinked areas, each with their own character and purpose, weave magically around the garden, with the house always visible in the distance. For the last 25 years the gardens and surrounding land have been managed to the organic and sustainable principles that His Royal Highness has for so long championed.” After lunch and our 2-hour guided tour of the gardens, we return to Oxford, where the evening is at leisure. (Overnight Oxford) BL

Day 5: Saturday 15 May, The Cotswolds

- Hidcote Manor
- Kiftsgate Court Gardens
- Village of Bibury

Today we travel first to Chipping Campden and the delightful National Trust property, Hidcote Manor. Hidcote is significant for its influential garden, designed in the English Arts and Craft style by Major Laurence Johnston as a series of rooms of different character and theme, separated from each other by walls and hedges.

At midday we continue to Kiftsgate Court Gardens, which tell the story of three generations of women gardeners: Heather Muir, Dianyn Binny and Anne Chambers. Heather Muir created the gardens in the 1920s. From the mid-fifties Dianyn Binny added the semi-circular pool in the lower garden and redesigned the white sunk garden. One of the finest accomplishments of its current owner, Anne Chambers, is the new water garden whose composition is ‘abstract modern’.

Our day concludes with another drive through the Cotswolds visiting the village of Bibury, described by William Morris as ‘the most beautiful village in the Cotswolds’. (Overnight Oxford) BL

Day 6: Sunday 16 May, Oxford & Steeple Ashton

- Rousham House and Gardens
- Guided tour of the University of Oxford Botanic Gardens with Dr Alison Foster, Senior Curator
- Magdalen College and its award-winning gardens

This morning we drive north of Oxford to Steeple Ashton to visit another stately home of very different aspect. Rousham House has remained the property of the Dormer family since its construction in 1635. The

house retains much of its original panelling, staircases, furniture and art works. Several alterations were made in 1876 when the north side of the house was added, but for the most part Rousham remains a stunning example of 17th-century architecture and decoration. The gardens are of particular importance as they represent the first phase of English landscape design and have undergone few changes since being laid out by William Kent.

Following some time at leisure for lunch, we shall enjoy a walking tour of the magnificent University of Oxford Botanic Gardens with senior curator, Dr Alison Foster. Finally, we shall visit the award-winning gardens of 15th-century Magdalen College. Magdalen's extensive grounds include its own deer park, wildflower meadow and a riverside walk. For Oscar Wilde, who matriculated at Magdalen in October 1874, 'The Magdalen walks and cloisters' were the ideal backdrop for reading Romantic poetry! (Overnight Oxford) B

Royal Tunbridge Wells - 1 night

Day 7: Monday 17 May, Oxford – West Green House Gardens – Sevenoaks – Royal Tunbridge Wells

- West Green House Gardens: Lunch & Guided tour of Gardens
- Ightham Mote, Sevenoaks

We depart Oxford early this morning and travel 60kms south to the Hart District of Northern Hampshire to visit West Green House Gardens that surround a lovely 18th-century house. These are the creation of an Australian, Marylyn Abbott. One could possibly call this a 'biographical garden' in the sense that it is a very personal creation based upon Marylyn's early love of gardens, inculcated by her mother and grandmother when she was growing up in Australia (Marylyn masterminded the famous Australian garden, 'Kennerton Green'). At West Green House she has reconciled her Australian gardening heritage, dominated by brilliant light, with England's softer, more muted atmosphere. Marylyn is a prolific writer; her book *The Resilient Garden*, in keeping with her experience reconciling very different gardening environments, discusses a collection of plants that will acclimatise to both Mediterranean and cool temperate gardens. Her gardens appear in many publications, in one of which (*The Royal Horticultural Society's Garden Finder* 2007) Charles Quest-Ritson has stated:

"West Green House Gardens has many original features. A grand water staircase provides the focal point to the Nymphaeum fountain designed by Quinlan Terry. By the house is a charming small topiary garden where water lilies flourish in small water tanks sunk in the ground. It runs up to a handsome aviary with unusual breeds of bantams and chickens. Beyond, are a dramatic new Persian water garden in a woodland glade, a newly restored lake, more follies and fancies, new walks and massive plantings of snowdrops, daffodils and fritillaries."

Lavishness is a hallmark of the Abbott style – 10,000 tulip bulbs are planted every year – but Marylyn also emphasises the importance of drama, colour, innovation and humour in her garden.

Following a light lunch, we continue our journey east to Ightham Mote, a wonderful example of a small medieval moated manor house, perfectly located within a peaceful garden surrounded by woodland. Dating from the 14th century, this house has seen many changes but each subsequent section has been preserved in extraordinary condition. Medieval knights, courtiers to Henry VIII and high-society Victorians have all contributed sections to Ightham Mote. Highlights include the picturesque courtyard, Great Hall, crypt, Tudor painted ceiling, Grade I listed dog kennel and the private apartments of Charles Henry Robinson, who gave Ightham Mote to the National Trust in 1985. We shall walk to the house, enjoying its rural setting, before exploring its beautiful interior. Of special note is the chapel, with its perfectly preserved

interior, pulpit and tester. We shall also enjoy the gardens, with an orchard, water features, lakes and woodland walks.

In the late afternoon we travel a short distance to Royal Tunbridge Wells, a town that rose to prominence when it became a spa in the late 17th century. Tonight we shall dine together at the hotel's restaurant. (Overnight Royal Tunbridge Wells) BLD

London - 3 nights

Day 8: Tuesday 18 May, Royal Tunbridge Wells – Great Dixter – Sissinghurst – London

- Great Dixter House & Gardens
- Sissinghurst Castle Gardens

Today is a day of superb gardens. The Lloyd family developed Great Dixter early in the 20th century from an original design by Sir Edwin Lutyens. Today it is more famous for the plantings established by Christopher Lloyd documented in his many classic gardening books. The residence comprises a mid 15th-century hall house, typical of the Weald of Kent, to the south side of which a second, early 16th-century yeoman's house was grafted. Lutyens enjoyed using local materials and retained farm buildings like oast houses, cowsheds, barns and outbuildings. Around these he designed his garden, featuring a sunken garden, topiary and yew hedges. Christopher Lloyd managed Great Dixter from the 1950s and was noted for his innovative approach and introduction of concepts like the mixed border and meadow garden, and his replacement of the rose garden with schemes using less fashionable plants like cannas and dahlias. We will investigate his full range of planting schemes. Although Lloyd is no longer present in the garden his gardener Fergus has achieved what some consider even better results in recent years.

We next drive to Sissinghurst Castle Garden, one of England's greatest garden delights. Sissinghurst was the garden of poet and writer Vita Sackville-West and her husband Harold Nicolson, journalist, MP and diplomat, and is possibly the most influential of all 20th-century gardens. Built around the remnants of an Elizabethan castle, of which the tower remains a central garden feature, the garden is divided into distinct spaces where a formality established by Nicolson is clothed by a romantic planting style pursued by Sackville-West. The garden retains its original charm and romance with such delights as its parterre, white garden, cottage garden, nut walk and orchard. We shall explore Sissinghurst's many hidden corners, sumptuous planting combinations and the view from the top of the tower, always a good starting point for those who wish to understand the garden's layout.

In the late afternoon we travel to London where we shall spend the next three nights at the [Citadines Holborn-Covent Garden](#). (Overnight London) BL

Day 9: Wednesday 19 May, Chelsea Flower Show

- The Chelsea Flower Show (Members Day)
- The Garden Museum

Today is dedicated to the Chelsea Flower Show, the world's best-known flower show. Located in the grounds of Sir Christopher Wren's Royal Hospital (1689), the Show is held annually in May and attracts more tourists to London than the Wimbledon Championships! We will therefore arrive early in order to enjoy the remarkable displays before they become too crowded. All of the gardens on display are constructed in the two weeks prior to the show and, following the event, are dismantled and the grounds reinstated. Around the periphery of the grounds are display gardens, sponsored by newspapers and magazines, major stores

and insurance companies, whilst inside the giant marquee are exhibits by plant growers. Here you will see perfect displays of everything horticultural from bonsai to bulbs, rhododendrons to roses. This visit has been designed so that you are free to wander through the event at your leisure, not forgetting the botanical art and floral displays. This is a visual feast that all gardeners will want to enjoy at least once in their lives!

In the mid afternoon we visit the nearby Garden Museum, which has recently been redeveloped and showcases an impressive collection and temporary exhibitions in its galleries. The museum, founded by Rosemary Nicholson in 1977, is housed in a former church and features a medieval tower with a view to Westminster. In what was formerly St Mary's at Lambeth, this building dates back to the medieval era and is Britain's only museum of garden history art and design. (Overnight London) B

Day 10: Thursday 20 May, London

- Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew – with Richard Barley, Director of Horticulture at Kew Gardens
- Farewell Lunch at the Botanical Restaurant, Kew Gardens
- Afternoon at leisure

Today is a unique opportunity to explore the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, with Richard Barley, who was appointed Director of Horticulture at the Gardens in April 2013. With his knowledge based on the day-to-day management of the site, Richard will give deep insights into these world-renowned gardens. The original gardens were created for Augusta, Princess of Wales around her home, Kew Palace. Today it contains the largest collection of plants in the world with tropical and sub-tropical plants being kept in appropriate conditions in magnificent Victorian glasshouses. The variety of plants is overwhelming but Kew has a magic far above the ordinary run of Victorian plant collections, perhaps because of its size and the underlying but unobtrusive formality of its structure. The Queen's Garden is a faithful copy of a 17th-century garden with parterres, sunken garden and pleached alleys. A new treetop walk by Marks Barfield Architects (who designed the London Eye) opened in May 2008.

Our day concludes with a farewell lunch at the Botanical Restaurant, housed in Museum No. 1 with stunning views to Palm Lake. The remainder of the afternoon is free for you to explore London at your leisure. (Overnight London) BL

Day 11: Friday 21 May, London, Tour Ends

- Airport transfer for participants departing on the ASA 'designated' flight

The tour ends in London. Participants travelling on the ASA 'designated' flight will transfer to the airport to take their flight home to Australia. Alternatively, you may wish to extend your stay in London. Please contact ASA if you require further assistance. B

Accommodation

11-day Cultural Garden Tour of England

ASA has selected 4-star hotels that are themselves historical buildings and/or are located in historical centres. All hotels provide rooms with en suite bathroom.

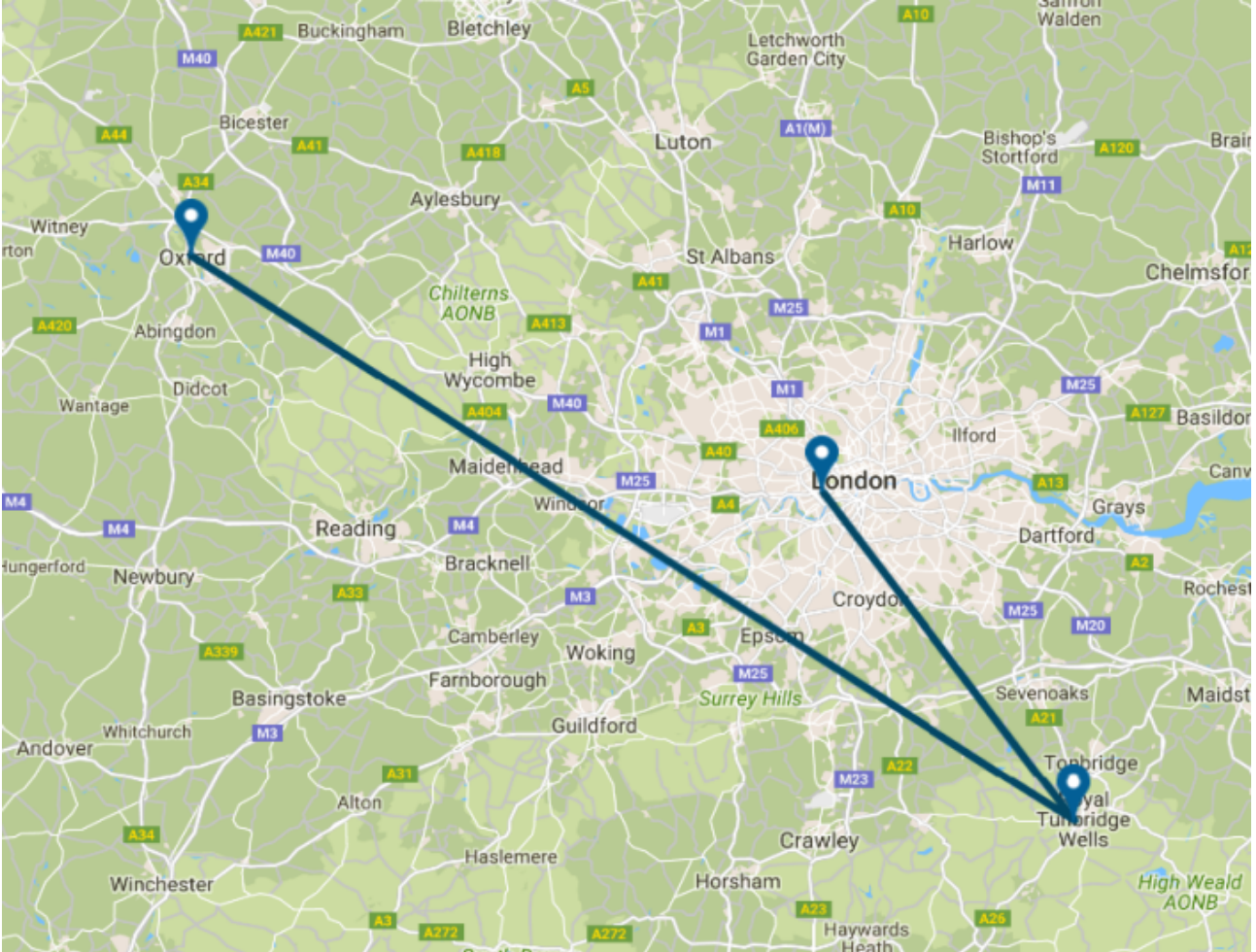
- Oxford (6 nights): 4-star Mercure Oxford Eastgate Hotel – centrally located hotel set in a 17th-century townhouse building that was once frequented by author J.R.R. Tolkien. www.mercure.com
- Royal Tunbridge Wells (1 night): 4-star The Spa Hotel – situated in 14 acres of picturesque grounds on the edge of town. www.spahotel.co.uk
- London (3 nights): 4-star Citadines Holborn-Convent Garden – contemporary apartment-hotel located within London's historic law district close to shops and restaurants, and within a 10-minute walk from Convent Garden. www.citadines.com

Note: Hotels are subject to change. In this instance a hotel of similar standard will be provided.

Single Supplement

Payment of this supplement will ensure accommodation is for sole occupancy throughout the tour. The number of spaces available for single occupancy is extremely limited. People wishing to take this supplement are therefore advised to book well in advance.

Tour Map



Tour Price & Inclusions

AUD \$TBA Land Content Only – Early-Bird Special: Book before 31 July 2020

AUD \$TBA Land Content Only

AUD \$TBA Single Supplement

For competitive Economy, Business or First Class airfares please contact ASA for further information.

Tour Price (Land Content Only) includes:

- Accommodation in twin-share rooms with private facilities in 4- and 5-star hotels.
- Buffet breakfast daily, lunches & evening meals as indicated in the itinerary where: B=breakfast, L=lunch & D=dinner
- Drinks at welcome and farewell meals. Other meals may not have drinks included.
- Transportation by air-conditioned coach as outlined in the itinerary; public transport in London
- Airport-hotel transfers if travelling on ASA's 'designated' flights
- Porterage of one piece of luggage per person at hotels (not at airports)
- Lecture and site-visit program
- Entrance fees to all sites
- Use of audio headsets during site visits
- Tour notes
- Tips for the coach driver, local guides and restaurants for included meals

Tour Price (Land Content Only) does not include:

- International Airfare: Australia-London, London-Australia
- Personal spending money
- Airport-hotel transfers if not travelling on the ASA 'designated' flights
- Luggage in excess of 20kg (44lbs)
- Travel Insurance



Physical Endurance & Practical Information

Physical Ratings 

The number of flags is a guide to the degree of difficulty of ASA tours relative to each other (not to those of other tour companies). It is neither absolute nor literal. One flag is given to the least taxing tours, seven to the most. Flags are allocated, above all, according to the amount of walking and standing each tour involves. Nevertheless, all ASA tours require that participants have a good degree of fitness enabling 2-3 hours walking or 1-1.5 hours standing still on any given site visit or excursion. Many sites are accessed by climbing slopes or steps and have uneven terrain.

This 11-day Cultural Garden Tour of England involves:

- Moderate walking and standing during site visits; walking tours may include steep slopes, flights of stairs, cobbled streets and uneven ground during garden visits.
- Moderate travel by air-conditioned coach; public transport in London.
- Visiting a number of towns and villages on foot, walks uphill from bus parks to historic town centres and other sites.
- 4-star hotels with two hotel changes.
- You must be able to carry your own hand luggage. Hotel portage includes 1 piece of luggage per person.

It is important to remember that ASA programs are group tours, and slow walkers affect everyone in the group. As the group must move at the speed of the slowest member, the amount of time spent at a site may be reduced if group members cannot maintain a moderate walking pace. ASA tours should not present any problem for active people who can manage day-to-day walking and stair-climbing. However, if you have any doubts about your ability to manage on a program, please ask your ASA travel consultant whether this is a suitable tour for you.

Please note: it is a condition of travel that all participants agree to accept ASA's directions in relation to

their suitability to participate in activities undertaken on the tour, and that ASA retains the sole discretion to direct a tour participant to refrain from a particular activity on part of the tour. For further information please refer to the ASA Reservation Application Form.

Practical Information

Prior to departure, tour members will receive practical notes which include information on visa requirements, health, photography, weather, clothing and what to pack, custom regulations, bank hours, currency regulations, electrical appliances and food. The Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade website has advice for travellers: www.smartraveller.gov.au

Booking Conditions

Making a Tentative Reservation before the tour price has been published

ASA INTENTION TO TRAVEL APPLICATION FORM

Some ASA tours fill almost immediately. Don't miss out! You can register your 'Intention to Travel' by completing this application and returning this to ASA with a AUD \$100.00 per person deposit. Once the tour price has been published, the itinerary and ASA Reservation Application Form will be sent to you. From the time you receive the itinerary you will have two weeks to either:

- Send us a completed ASA Reservation Application Form together with an additional deposit of AUD \$400.00 per person. On receipt of this Reservation Application and deposit, ASA will process your booking and if approved, send you a tour confirmation. At this time your deposit of AUD \$500.00 is subject to the tour's Booking Conditions.

Or

- CANCEL your Intention to Travel in writing. ASA will refund your AUD \$100.00 per person deposit, less a \$33.00 service fee (including GST).

Participation Criteria

To participate in an ASA tour, you must be reasonably fit, in good health and able to participate in all activities without assistance from Tour Leaders or other tour members. If you require assistance, a fit and able travel companion must undertake to accompany and assist you with all tasks for the duration of the whole tour. ASA's ability to make reasonable adjustments to accommodate your specific needs, your health and safety and the health and safety of other tour members, is of paramount importance to us. For this reason the ASA Reservation Application includes a Medical Information section. As a general guideline, you must be able to accomplish each of these activities without assistance or support:-

- walk and stand unassisted for at least 2-3 hours a day in hot, humid conditions
- walk confidently on and over uneven surfaces
- climb at least 3 flights of stairs
- embark and disembark from ferries, buses and trains
- walk up and down steep slopes

- walk at a steady pace and no less than 1km every 15-20 minutes
- organise, manage and carry your own luggage
- follow and remember tour instructions
- meet punctually at designated times and places
- administer your own medication

Single Supplement

Payment of this supplement will ensure accommodation is for sole occupancy throughout the tour. The number of spaces available for single occupancy is extremely limited. People wishing to take this supplement are therefore advised to book well in advance.



Intention to Travel Application

TOUR NAME _____

TOUR DATES _____

Booking before the tour price is available

Some ASA tours fill almost immediately. Don't miss out! You can register your 'Intention to Travel' by completing this application and returning this to ASA with a AUD\$100.00 per person deposit. Once the tour price has been published, the itinerary and ASA Reservation Application Form will be sent to you. From the time you receive the itinerary you will have two weeks to either:

- Send us a completed ASA Reservation Application Form together with an additional deposit of AUD\$400.00 per person. On receipt of this Reservation Application and deposit, ASA will process your booking and if approved, send you a tour confirmation. At this time your deposit of \$500.00 AUD is subject to the tour's Booking Conditions.

OR

- Cancel your Intention to Travel in writing. ASA will refund your AUD\$100.00 per person deposit, less a \$33.00 service fee (including GST).

Applicant Details (as in passport)

TITLE Mr Mrs Ms Miss Dr Other _____

FIRST NAME _____ Preferred FIRST NAME _____

MIDDLE NAME _____ SURNAME _____

POSTAL ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ COUNTRY _____ POSTCODE _____

TEL. (AH) () _____ TEL. (BH) () _____ Mobile Tel: _____

EMAIL address _____

Date of birth ____ / ____ / ____ GENDER Male Female

Tour Accommodation (rooming preferences)

I/we would like: a twin-bedded room a double-bedded room a room for sole occupancy

I am travelling: on my own with a friend/family member Travel Companion _____

Meals

I do not have any specific dietary requests

Please **X** the box if you **CAN NOT** eat any of the following:

fish poultry red meat dairy products

eggs pork nuts

Other _____

Allergies: Refer to the Medical Information

Correspondence

Your preferred method of correspondence Postal Mail Email Address _____

Participation Criteria

To participate in an ASA tour, you must be reasonably fit, in good health and able to participate in all activities without assistance from Tour Leaders or other tour members. If you require assistance, a fit and able travel companion must undertake to accompany and assist you with all tasks for the duration of the whole tour.

ASA's ability to make reasonable adjustments to accommodate your specific needs, your health and safety and the health and safety of other tour members, is of paramount importance to us. For this reason the ASA Reservation Application includes a Medical Information section.

As a general guideline, you must be able to accomplish each of these activities *without assistance or support*:-

- walk & stand unassisted for at least 2-3 hours a day in hot, humid conditions
- walk confidently on and over uneven surfaces
- climb at least 3 flights of stairs
- embark and disembark from ferries, buses and trains
- walk up and down steep slopes
- walk at a steady pace and no less than 1 km every 15 - 20 minutes
- organise, manage and carry your own luggage
- follow and remember tour instructions
- meet punctually at designated times and places
- administer your own medication.

Applicant's Signature _____

Dated _____

Tour / Course Name

Name of Traveller 1 _____

Name of Traveller 2 _____

I have enclosed a payment to the value of \$ _____ (including CC or bank fee if applicable) for this tour

Payment by (please indicate): Cheque Direct Debit (see below) Credit Card (see below)

International Payments

Welcome to our international travellers! If you are making a payment and do not have an Australian bank account/credit card, we can only accept payment as follows:

- via credit card with the applicable fee - the credit card company/bank will set the exchange rate
- via bank transfer; please give your surname and tour code (eg. Smith 21705) as a reference and ask your bank to allow for all charges.

Bank cheques or personal cheques will not be accepted.

By Cheque (accept Australian cheques only)

Please make cheques payable to *Australians Studying Abroad*

Direct Deposit or Internet Banking

You will need to:

1. Provide your bank with ASA's bank details (see below) and the amount you wish to transfer OR make a direct deposit through any ANZ branch
2. Include any fees levied by the banks
3. Provide a reference number (Mobile or last name recommended).
4. Complete section below, including confirmation no. (given when transaction completed).

Australians Studying Abroad bank details

Bank ANZ
 Branch 420 St Kilda Road, Melbourne Vic
 Swift Code ANZBAU3M
 BSB 013-423
 Account No 3472-32759

Bank confirmation No. _____

Reference used: Mobile or last name recommended

Date Money Transferred _____

Credit Card Payment

Credit card fees apply: Mastercard, Visa & American Express 2%

Please debit my: Mastercard Visa American Express

I authorise ASA to debit my credit card for the amount due plus the applicable fee as above

Credit Card Number _____

Expiry Date _____

Security Code (CVC) _____

Bank the Card is linked to (eg. NAB or ANZ) _____

Cardholders Name _____

Cardholders Billing Address _____

Postcode _____

State _____

Country _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Cardholders Signature _____