



English Country Gardens



Follow in the footsteps of England's most celebrated landscape gardeners with this tour that takes you to some of the most famous castles, houses and gardens in the country.

From the gardens that became the blueprint for the English Landscape Movement to the 14 acre estate that Jane Austen frequented this itinerary lets you explore somewhere inspiring and breathtaking each day around the south east of England.

Itinerary

Day 1	Arrive in London - Chiswick House & Gardens
Day 2	Leeds Castle - Great Comp
Day 3	Sissinghurst Castle – Great Dixter
Day 4	Canterbury - Goodnestone Park Gardens
Day 5	Dover Castle - Cliffs of Dover - The Pines Garden
Day 6	Hampton Court Palace - Royal Botanical Gardens at Kew
Day 7	Departure from London

Highlights

- Entrance to Leeds Castle
- Visit some of the most magnificent gardens in England
- Explore the coastal port towns of Dover and Folkestone
- Discover the white cliffs of the south east coast
- Medieval Dover Castle

Full Itinerary



Day 1: Arrive in London - Chiswick House & Gardens

Arrive in the UK. Travel to your accommodation and enjoy the afternoon at leisure. Visit Chiswick House & Gardens (not included), inspired by Earl of Burlington's grand tours of Italy. Built between 1726 and 1729 with William Kent, it is a fantastic example of 18th century British architecture and the gardens became the blueprint for the English Landscape Movement. The spectacular Italianate Gardens are filled with temples, statues and obelisks hidden away amongst the trees. Overnight in London area.



Day 2: Leeds Castle - Great Comp

Your first visit of the day is to Leeds Castle to discover over 500 acres of gardens and parkland. Continue to Great Comp, a plantsman's delight filled with rare and beautiful shrubs, followed by Lullingstone Castle, home to the innovative World Garden of Plants. From here, set off for Nymans Garden (not included), one of the finest gardens in Sussex. Your final stop, if time allows, is the Sussex Prairie Garden (not included) at Henfield. Overnight in Tunbridge Wells/Ashford/Maidstone area.



Day 3: Sissinghurst Castle - Great Dixter

Visit the magnificently manicured gardens of Sissinghurst (not included). This famous garden was created by Vita Sackville-West and Harold Nicolson from 1930 and became the most admired English garden of its time. Continue to another classic English country garden - Great Dixter (not included). The late distinguished garden writer Christopher Lloyd was the genius behind Great Dixter, with its timbered 15th-century house. Overnight in Tunbridge Wells/Ashford/Maidstone area.



Day 4: Canterbury - Goodnestone Park Gardens

Continue to Canterbury for a visit to Goodnestone Park Gardens (not included). The gardens were created by generations of the Fitzwalter family and Jane Austen was a frequent visitor as her brother lived on the estate. There are 14 acres of garden to explore at your own pace including a walled garden, an arboretum, a box parterre, a wonderful wisteria planted over 70 years ago and several ancient trees. If time permits explore the coastal towns of Dover/Folkestone. Overnight in Canterbury/Dover/Folkestone area.



Day 5: Dover Castle - Cliffs of Dover - The Pines Garden

Today guests have the chance to discover England's beautiful south east coast. Guarding the entrance to Dover for over nine centuries, Dover Castle (not included) is an imposing medieval site. The White Cliffs of Dover (not included) are a magnificent coastal site overlooking the English Channel and one of the most famous landmarks in England. If time permits visit The Pines Garden (not included) which offers a range of wellbeing facilities. Overnight in Canterbury/Dover/Folkestone area.



Day 6: Hampton Court Palace - Royal Botanical Gardens at Kew

Hampton Court Palace Gardens (not included) were laid out by William III in the then fashionable scheme of avenues radiating from the house. The famous maze covers about one third of an acre and has yew hedges totalling nearly half a mile. Later you will continue on to the Royal Botanical Gardens at Kew (not included), where three hundred acres of botanical delights grace Kew Gardens. Overnight in London area.



Day 7: Departure from London

Unfortunately, it is time to return to the airport and join your flight home.