



ENGLISH GARDENS & THE CHELSEA FLOWER SHOW - A LUXURY SMALL GROUP JOURNEY (2025)

Savour the joys of spring with privileged access at every turn on this quintessential English journey spanning exclusive estates and gardens, culminating in a Royal Horticultural Society Members' Day at the Chelsea Flower Show.

Small Group Journeys, Luxury Small Group Journeys



Europe, England



9 days from AU\$22,955 pp



18 Guests

Journey Overview

Savour the joys of spring with privileged access at every turn on this quintessential English journey spanning exclusive estates and gardens, culminating in a Royal Horticultural Society Members' Day at the Chelsea Flower Show.

Journey Highlights

- Attend the world-famous Chelsea Flower Show in a style befitting a member, enjoying all-day access to an exclusive RHS hospitality pavilion where you are invited to savour a full breakfast, lunch with Champagne and a traditional high tea
- Stroll through the Arts and Crafts-style gardens of Sissinghurst Castle, planted by Vita Sackville-West
- Spend an afternoon at Hidcote Manor, one of England's greatest gardens
- Watch a master trainer put some of England's finest thoroughbred jump racers through their paces on an exclusive experience at Jackdaws Castle in the Cotswolds
- Privately explore the birthplace of Sir Winston Churchill, Blenheim Palace, with a local expert leading the way



Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive London, England

Upon arrival, you are met and transferred to your luxury hotel set among gardens. Enjoy a private welcome dinner at this historic manor house.

Ockenden Manor | Meals: D

Day 2: West Sussex | Heritage Gardens

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 nearby Borde Hill Garden, set on 200 acres of traditional English landscape.

Ockenden Manor | Meals: BL

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, it mingles vegetables and flowers, a large orchard with pockets of wildflowers and a magnificent herbaceous border. Later, drive to Sissinghurst Castle and stroll its garden. Learn how Sir Harold Nicolson, a diplomat and author, laid down its main lines while his wife, Vita Sackville-West, a poet and gardening writer, handled the planting. View the influential White Garden, which exemplifies early 20th-century garden designer Gertrude Jekyll's use of colour themes.

Ockenden Manor | Meals: BD

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 fused neoclassical and contemporary influences as you tour the grounds with the senior gardener. Then, stay on site for lunch. Later, toast your day with a Scenic Sundowner before dining at your hotel.

Dormy House | Meals: BLD

Day 5: The Cotswolds | Kiftsgate & Hidcote Manor

Drive to the lovely town of Chipping Campden to visit its High Street, Jacobean Market Hall and impressive Church of St. James. Afterward, enjoy a private visit to Kiftsgate Court Gardens and stroll the harmonious, colour-schemed upper gardens. Continue to nearby Hidcote Manor — one of England’s greatest gardens and a true Arts and Crafts masterpiece — to explore its 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.

Dormy House | Meals: BD

Day 6: The Cotswolds | A Glimpse into the Sport of Kings

Visit Jackdaws Castle, a renowned facility for British jump racing. Follow horses from their indoor school outdoors to watch them work on their various gallops under the watchful eye of the owner-trainer and his team, all the while taking in the stunning scenery of this magical setting. Return to the yard to watch a horse swim in an equine pool and then join a guide who introduces you to some of the amazing thoroughbreds. Finish with a cordial visit to the owners’ suite. This afternoon, explore Sudeley Castle (resting place of Katherine Parr) or stroll the scenic Cotswolds Way to enjoy the idyllic English countryside.

Dormy House | Meals: B

Day 7: Blenheim Palace | Birthplace of Sir Winston Churchill

Drive to Blenheim Palace, a magnificent edifice set among 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 at leisure, continue to London.

Brown's Hotel | Meals: B

Day 8: The Chelsea Flower Show | A World of Inspiration

Attend the world-renowned Chelsea Flower Show on an exclusive Royal Horticultural Society Members’ 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.

Brown's Hotel | Meals: BLD

Day 9: Depart London

After breakfast, transfer to the airport and depart.

Meals: B

Journey Details

Minimum age is 10 years.

First group event: welcome briefing at 6:30 p.m. on Day 1.

Last group event: farewell dinner at 7:30 p.m. on Day 8.

Departures are guaranteed to operate with a minimum of 2 guests.

Note: Combine this journey with the first departure of **French Gardens: Paris & the Loire** to create one grand garden show adventure.

Included with Every Luxury Small Group Journey

- English-Speaking Resident Tour Director® and Local Guides
- Hand-Selected Luxury Accommodations
- Airport Meet and Greet with Private Transfers
- Travelling Bell Boy® Luggage Handling
- Full Breakfast Daily; Select Lunches and Dinners
- Traveller's Valet® Laundry Service
- Internet Access
- Entrance Fees, Taxes and All Gratuities Except Resident Tour Director
- 24/7 A&K On-Call Support
- Guaranteed Departures with Just Two Guests

Customise this Journey

Talk to one of our expert Journey Designers or your travel agent about booking this tour as a private journey for your own small group with family or friends. Or, if you would prefer to travel privately, find out more about creating the perfect bespoke Tailor-Made Journey based on this itinerary.

Map



Accommodation

Brown's Hotel, London



If you're looking for the glitz and the glamour of Mayfair, you have come to the right place. Brown's Hotel has been a retreat for royalty, presidents and literary greats over the centuries. With 33 suites and 82 hotel rooms designed by Olga Polizzi, you can follow in the footsteps of celebrity and relax behind the red rope, in sumptuous, sophisticated interiors.

The restaurant Charlie's is named after the founding Forte, Lord Charles, who loved traditional charm as well as contemporary touches in his hotels. In his honour, Charlie's marries traditional British cuisine with modernity. The cocktail bar also pays homage to its namesake, photographer Terrence Donovan, with his iconic 1960s prints adorning the walls, stylish drinks on offer, and even a 'Naughty Corner.'

An enduringly distinguished destination in London. Effortlessly elegant.

Why We Like it

- A Rocco Forte Hotel, set in the heart of London's elegant Mayfair
- Close to local attractions and boutique, designer shops
- Warm, personal service to make you feel at home
- Specialised Rocco Forte Kids' programme and Wellness programme
- **Our top tip:** all guests have access to the chauffeured Bentley Mulsanne, so you can enjoy a decadent shopping trip around Mayfair

Dates & Pricing

Prices are in AUD, per person, based on double occupancy

May 14, 2025 - May 22, 2025

Price	Single Supplement	Internal Air (From)	Availability
AU\$22,955 pp	AU\$9,175	AU\$0	Call for Availability

Abercrombie & Kent

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