

Join us on the Friends of Kings Park and Travelrite International

# 2025 GARDEN TOUR TO ENGLAND

with Sue McDougall

Visiting London for the Chelsea Flower Show,  
Devon, Cornwall and the Cotswolds

20 May to 3 June, 2025



TRAVELRITE  
INTERNATIONAL





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with Sue McDougall

Sue McDougall was appointed the Director of the Western Australian Botanic Garden in November 2021, and is leading a team of specialists who are passionate about WA's unique flora. Ex - situ conservation is at the heart of Kings Park. Sue's enthusiasm for the natural environment is contagious. She has spent her whole life 'growing' things and her career hasn't veered far from this interest. Sue is a horticulturist, broadcaster and landscape architect and is once again looking forward to sharing her love of gardens and the natural environment with you.

## DAY 1 Tuesday 20 May, 2025

Our holiday starts with a flight to London today.

**In flight**

## DAY 2 Wednesday 21 May, 2025

On arrival we visit the famous Kew Gardens, London's largest UNESCO World Heritage site and home to the world's most diverse collection of living plants and a scientific research centre of international renown. Set in 300 acres we will discover beautiful glasshouses including the iconic Palm House and its exotic rainforest; the Princess of Wales Conservatory with 10 of the world's climatic zones; and the Waterlily House with its amazing, giant lily pads. We travel into central London for check-in. The tour manager will meet those wishing to dine with the group this evening.

**London**

## DAY 3 Thursday 22 May, 2025

The highlight of our time in London will be an escorted visit to the famous Chelsea Flower Show. Chelsea is the main event in the English horticultural calendar and boasts amazing displays of the world's best flowers and plants. You will see fabulous show gardens specially created by leading designers. Sue will ensure that you get the most from this wonderful show. We return to our hotel early afternoon, with an optional drop off at Harrods for those who would like to have time to shop. The rest of the day is free for independent activity before we enjoy a welcome dinner in the evening.

**London**

## DAY 4 Friday 23 May, 2025

This morning, we will visit Hampton Court Palace and Garden. The Palace offers a fascinating insight into the activities of British monarchs from Henry VIII onwards. The garden is most famous for its Great Vine, planted in 1768, which still produces hundreds of bunches of Black Hamburg grapes each year. The Pond Gardens offer a magnificent display of bedding plants. The recently restored Privy Garden of William III is a spectacular example of baroque design, with parterres, cut work, clipped yews and spring and summer displays of 17th-century plants. This afternoon will be a delight as we visit a private "Romantic" garden. Sue will lead the group along a short woodland path that leads from dovecote to beehives, where we will see informal planting that contrasts with formal topiary, this includes box and garlanded cisterns. We also see a colourful courtyard, a conservatory and a pond with a fountain.

**London**

## DAY 5 Saturday 24 May, 2025

Today we visit the Royal Horticultural Garden, Wisley. The RHS was given Wisley Estate in trust by Sir Thomas Hanbury in 1903. The garden will capture the imagination with richly planted borders and luscious rose gardens and amazing glasshouses which recreate tropical, moist temperate and dry

**London**



temperate habitats. Trials of flowers, vegetables and fruit were expanded at Wisley and they continue to be some of the principal features of the garden. Several Chelsea Flower Show prize-winning gardens are displayed in the grounds. Our visit will be an interesting look at the history of gardening in Britain. The afternoon will be free to explore London. Why not book a show?

## DAY 6 Sunday 25 May, 2025

Today we depart London and travel east through the beautiful English countryside to visit Stourhead. Sue will take the group on a tour of delightful Stourhead and explain the visionary design of Henry Hoare II. It is claimed by many that this garden is the greatest surviving example of a classical garden. We continue to the county capital, Exeter for our two-night stay.

**Exeter**



**DAY 7 Monday 26 May, 2025****Exeter**

Today we will visit two superb gardens. Cothay Manor is located in a magical setting, surrounded by 6 hectare of garden and wildflower meadow. During the 1990s the present owners completely re-made the garden as a series of rooms and courts within the original framework. There is a Bishop's room, where the colour scheme is reds and purples reflecting the episcopal robes and a white garden called the Green Knight Garden. We continue our journey to visit Knightshayes garden. Near the house the terraces are planted with shrub roses and tree peonies and herbaceous plants. Battlement hedges frame the pool garden with a backdrop of acers and topiary foxes repeated throughout the garden. This evening Sue and the tour manager will meet other tour members, who would like to have dinner together.

**DAY 8 Tuesday 27 May, 2025****Falmouth**

We travel into Cornwall today to visit the Eden Project. Located on a reclaimed china clay pit the Eden Project is an educational charity. The complex is dominated by two huge enclosures consisting of adjoining domes, that house thousands of plants species. The largest of the domes simulates a rainforest environment. After our visit we check into our hotel in the Cornish coastal town of Falmouth. The remainder of the day will be free.

**DAY 9 Wednesday 28 May, 2025****Falmouth**

Today we travel to Glendurgan a sheltered 10 hectare valley garden, which slopes down to the atmospheric Helford River. Created by the Fox family in the 1820s the sheltered micro climate permits plants from all over the world to flourish. We continue with a visit to nearby Trebah. We will have spectacular views over massive clumps of rhododendrons, which will be in full bloom during our visit, as we look over the ravine and down to the Helford River. There is an extensive collection of sub-tropical Mediterranean plants.

**DAY 10 Thursday 29 May, 2025****Stratford-upon-Avon**

We will depart for our visit to Sudeley Castle Garden this morning. Described as one of the most beautiful castles to visit in England, there is so much to discover at Sudeley Castle. There are 10 magnificent gardens to explore, each with its own unique style and design. We continue to Stratford-upon-Avon for a four-night stay. The tour manager will meet the group in the lobby to suggest restaurants for the evening meal.

**DAY 11 Friday 30 May, 2025****Stratford-upon-Avon**

We travel west to beautiful Gloucestershire today. We first visit Bourton House, an inspiring garden offering an alternative to a traditional country house garden. The geometric potager is a particular delight. Well-kept lawns, quiet gardens, a knot garden and Cotswold's stone walls are set off



by herbaceous borders. In the afternoon we visit Sezincote. We travel along a long dark avenue to enter the property, where we are surprised to see an English country house built in the Mogul style of Rajasthan architecture. The cool and elegant curving Orangery frames the Persian garden of Paradise in the south which has been laid out with canals and Irish yews. Streams and pools are lined with great clumps of bog plants. We return to Stratford-upon-Avon for an evening of exploration.

**DAY 12 Saturday 31 May, 2025****Stratford-upon-Avon**

We will have time this morning to visit some gorgeous Cotswold villages. We first visit Burton-on-the-Water regularly voted the prettiest village in England. We continue to Snowhill known for its beauty and its views over the Severn Vale, where we will visit Snowhill Manor. The honey-coloured house contains the collection of artefacts assembled by Charles Wade. We will enjoy the organically gardened cottage garden with a wide range of spring flowers, bulbs and roses.

**DAY 13 Sunday 1 June, 2025****Stratford-upon-Avon**

In the morning, we will visit Rousham Garden designed by William Kent in the New English Style of Landscape in the 17th Century. We will see the pond and cascades that Kent designed as it is one of the few gardens from this date that have escaped alteration. We have free time this afternoon before we enjoy a farewell dinner in the evening.

**DAY 14 Monday 2 June, 2025****Departure**

We check out of the hotel and travel through the Cotswolds to visit two of the finest gardens in England. We first visit Chipping Camden known for its beautiful classic stone cottages before travelling to Hidcote, one of the most notable gardens in the world. It was created by self-taught gardener, Lawrence Johnson in the early part of the 20th century with a fabulous sense of design and great planting skills, using mainly 19th-century varieties. After lunch at leisure at Hidcote, we travel the short distance to Kiftsgate Court. This garden is full of colour and scent. The magnificent old species of roses are the glory of the garden. In the late afternoon we continue to London airport for our return flight to Australia

**DAY 15 Tuesday 3 June, 2025****Arrival**

The group arrives in Australia and tour arrangements conclude.



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# ENGLAND

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## Tour Price

Tour price per person twin-share	\$ 9,490
Single Supplement	\$ 2,000

## Included in the price:

- Return economy-class air travel from Perth to London.
- Air Taxes at 4/5/24.
- Travel in first-class chartered coach.
- Accommodation on a bed and breakfast basis in first-class and moderate first-class hotels, taxes and service charges.
- A welcome dinner in London and a farewell dinner in Stratford upon Avon.
- Sightseeing, entrances to gardens and attractions as detailed in itinerary.
- Tour leadership by Sue McDougall.
- Management by a Travelrite International with an Australian tour manager meeting the group in London.

## Not included in the price:

- Passport and visa fees.
- Travel insurance.
- Meals unless specified in the itinerary.
- Sightseeing and general expenses unless specified in the itinerary.
- Additional travel arrangements not in the detailed itinerary. These will be quoted for separately.

**Extending:** You can stay longer in England for minimal extra cost. *Please contact 1800 630 434 for more information.*

## General Information and Booking Conditions

International touring can involve a considerable amount of walking and stair climbing in the places visited and it is important that all tour participants have a level of physical fitness that allows them to take part in this activity without the assistance from others.

**TOUR OPERATOR:** Travelrite International Pty Ltd, Licence number 30858 (ABN 64 005 817 078) is the tour operator.

**TOUR COSTS:** The tour costs are based on airfare, general transport, accommodation costs and foreign exchange rate at 4/5/2024. Travelrite reserves the right to alter the costs if any of these factors change, giving any passenger that has booked the right to withdraw with a full refund of monies paid or modify arrangements. No alterations to price will be made within 60 days of departure from Australia.

**DEPOSITS AND PAYMENTS:** A non-refundable deposit of \$1000 per passenger is required at the time of booking for the Chelsea Garden tour. Full payment will be required 62 days before departure of the Garden Tour. A 1.5% administration fee will be charged on payment by credit card.

**AIR TAXES:** On return flights from Perth as listed in the itinerary. Please contact us for air taxes from different cities. Air taxes at 4 May 2024. If they change due to government and airline charges and currency variations, Travelrite International reserves the right to charge additional amounts.

**CANCELLATION CONDITIONS:** Cancellations within 62 days of departure will result in the loss of all monies paid. Cancellation outside 62 days from departure will result in a cancellation fee of \$1000 per person.

**TRAVEL INSURANCE:** Travel insurance is recommended to cover the costs of cancellation fees due to illness, death in family, etc.

**MINIMUM TOUR NUMBERS AND CONDITIONS:** The tour has been priced on the basis of a minimum number of passengers having booked 62 days prior to departure. Travelrite reserves the right to cancel the tour, giving a full refund of all monies paid or offer arrangements to proceed with the tour at a modified cost. Travelrite reserves the right to change advertised entrances if necessary for the smooth operation of the tour.

**REFUNDS:** The tour is based on arrangements that do not allow for any refunds in respect to sightseeing, accommodation, meals, airfare, or other services not utilized after the tour has commenced.

**TRAVEL DOCUMENTS:** All passengers will require a valid passport. Visas for countries visited are not required for Australian passport holders. If you hold another passport, please check with Travelrite.

**BAGGAGE:** All passengers qualify for the 20kg (44lb) free baggage allowance.

**RESPONSIBILITIES:** Travelrite International Pty Ltd is the tour organiser. Travelrite International Pty Ltd, its agents, officers, affiliates, and/or suppliers of services pursuant to or in connection with these fly/stay holidays shall act only as agents in making arrangements for hotels, transportation including transportation by ship, restaurants, or any other service and do not assume any liability whatsoever for any injury, damage, death, loss, accident or delay to person or property due to an act of negligence or a default of any hotel, carrier restaurant company or person rendering any services included in fly/cruises, or by act of God. Further no responsibilities are accepted for any damage or delay due to sickness, pilferage, labour disputes, machinery break-down, quarantine, government restraints, weather, terrorism, or other causes beyond their control. No responsibility is accepted for any additional expense, omission, delays, re-routing or acts of any government authority. Baggage is at owners' risk throughout the fly/stay holiday. The passage contract between the carriers concerned when issued shall constitute the sole contract between the carriers and the purchasers of these fly/stay holidays and/or the passengers. The right is reserved to withdraw any fly/ stay holiday and/or make such changes in the fly/stay holidays as may be found desirable or necessary for the convenience of the parties and the proper carrying out of the tour. This contract shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Victoria, Australia.

**DELAYS AND UNFORESEEN EVENTS:** You engage Travelrite to book this tour on your behalf and you acknowledge that Travelrite acts as your agent for the purpose of making contracts between you and the various providers of accommodation, transportation and other services that comprise the tour. Travelrite may without reference to you provide or make available to you, or may as your agent engage any third party to provide or make available to you, any good or service which Travelrite reasonably believes

is necessary for your benefit to maintain the tour itinerary, repatriate you or otherwise accommodate, transport or sustain you in circumstances in which the tour itinerary fails wholly or partly for any reason. You appoint Travelrite your attorney for this purpose. You agree to pay Travelrite any cost thereof and you indemnify Travelrite in respect of any cost it incurs in this regard. Travelrite advises you to obtain travel insurance generally including in respect of the risk that any such good or service may become required.

**HOW TO BOOK:** Bookings can be made by sending full names and addresses of intending tour members with a non-refundable deposit of \$1000 for the Garden Tour of England.

**Travelrite International Pty Ltd.**  
423 Whitehorse Road  
Balwyn 3103 Victoria  
Further information or a booking form  
contact the following numbers:

**Toll Free 1800 630 343**  
**Phone: (03) 8803 6868**  
**Email: sales@travelrite.com.au**  
**www.travelrite.com.au**

**ABOUT TRAVELRITE INTERNATIONAL:** Travelrite International Pty Ltd (ABN 64 005 817 078) is a well-established travel company which has been marketing throughout Australia for over 40 years and operating in Victoria for more than 40 years. It has an ATAS accredited office at Balwyn, which is also accredited with IATA. As such they directly represent the major airlines of the world and all major domestic and international hotel, tour and transport operators. Travelrite International has been operating special interest tours for over 35 years, and now runs over 120 tours a year. Travelrite International Pty Ltd is a full member of the Australian Federation of Travel Agents – AFTA.



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