

**Chelsea Flower Show
& an Insider's Look at Great Gardens in Southern England
May 15-23, 2007**

This **small group tour** is tailor-made for serious and inquiring gardeners who want to learn how top gardens are developed and managed in England. This is also an opportunity for executive directors, garden “angels”, or development staff, to increase their knowledge since the focus will be on experiencing a cross-section of large and small, public and private gardens with short talks from owners, head gardeners, and guides.

Highlights:

- The Alexander House Hotel and Utopia Spa (a Small Luxury Hotel); 5 nights; 2 dinners
- The 4-star Rubens at the Palace Hotel in London; 2 nights
- Canterbury Cathedral
- Lunch at Gravetye, the former home of William Robinson (1838-1935), now a Relais & Chateaux hotel. Gravetye has one food star from Michelin, and in 2005, Travel & Leisure listed Gravetye as 35th best hotel in the world and 8th best in Europe.
- Chelsea Flower Show on the first member's day; early arrival to miss the crowds; one year membership and a year subscription to the The Garden, the Royal Horticultural Society's (RHS) journal

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The gardens:

- Leonardslee Gardens, lakes, rhododendrons, azaleas, rock garden, begun in 1801
- Selehurst Gardens, owner Sue Prideaux has a highly individual vision
- Wakehurst Place (a Kew outpost) and the Millenium Seed Bank
- Groombridge Place, moated manor house built in 1662, borders, terraces, themed gardens
- Squerryes Court, private 20 acre garden evolved over many garden periods
- Chartwell, Winston Churchill's home on a hill with views over the Weald of Kent
- Emmetts Gardens, plantsman's collection of trees and shrubs, rose and rock garden
- Yalding Organic Gardens, a Henry Doubleday Research experimental & display beds
- Goodnestone Park (home of gardenwriter George Plumptre), over 300 years of gardens
- Great Dixter, Christopher Lloyd died this year but his garden lives on
- Merriments Gardens, private garden with pools and pergolas amidst color themed beds
- Sissinghurst, Vita Sackville-West wrote about the plants that she tested in her garden
- RHS's garden at Wisley and the bookstore: 240 acres of heaven

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The land package is \$4,720 per person sharing and includes 7 nights; breakfast daily; entrance fees to all gardens, transfers from Gatwick airport with the group, a driver/guide with transportation in a 16-seat air-conditioned/forced-air coach, and a host. Single supplement is \$810. Airfare is not included. Deposit is \$450. This unique garden trip will fill quickly, so please call Linda McHam (864-582-1498) soon to book your place. Or visit www.copper-beech.com for the itinerary and a reservation form.