

GARDENS OF THE COTSWOLDS

for Heritage Circle Members of the
Royal Oak Foundation

MAY 29 - JUNE 3, 2023



THE ROYAL OAK FOUNDATION

Americans in Alliance with the National Trust of England, Wales and Northern Ireland



Dream of the English countryside, with gently rolling hills and picture-perfect traditional villages and you may well have a vision of The Cotswolds.

Close to London and Oxford, yet still unspoiled, this sought-after area with its gorgeous gardens and royal connections is our destination for spring 2023.

Staying at a luxurious historic inn in the charming village of Broadway, we will be shown famous and influential gardens such as Hidcote, now in the care of the National Trust and neighbouring Kiftsgate, with its monumental rambling rose. We will also have special access to a number of secret private gardens where owners have created their own horticultural paradise. We can compare the design and planting of Tudor knot gardens, cottage gardens, organic gardens and walled gardens and admire features from romantic temples and grottoes to imaginative topiary and striking contemporary sculpture. A crowning highlight, subject to confirmation, will be a visit to Highgrove, the garden of HM The King, a pioneer of organic gardening.

Your tour will be accompanied by art historian and garden lover Rosalind Malandrinos who lives in the Cotswolds and is a guide at Sudeley Castle.



Day 1 / Monday, May 29

Travel To Broadway

MORNING

Depart from London Victoria for Broadway, transfer by private coach to The Lygon Arms.

AFTERNOON

After a light lunch in the hotel, explore the attractive village of Broadway often referred to as the “Jewel of the Cotswolds”. The village lies beneath Fish Hill on the Cotswold escarpment. The “broad way” is the wide grass-fringed main street, centred on the Green, which is lined with red chestnut trees and picturesque honey-coloured Cotswold limestone buildings. The village has an interesting artistic heritage and is known for its association with the Arts and Crafts movement. The wide High Street is lined with a wide variety of shops and cafes, many housed in listed buildings.

EVENING

Welcome drinks and dinner in a private room at the hotel.

Overnight at The Lygon Arms.



Day 2 / Tuesday, May 30

Hidcote & Kiftsgate

MORNING

Visit the garden at Hidcote Manor (National Trust) one of England's great gardens, and one of the most influential of the 20th century. Major Lawrence Johnston, a self-taught gardener, created this Arts and Crafts masterpiece from fields in the early 1900s, when he and his mother settled in Britain from America.

Lunch Independently at Hidcote Café.

AFTERNOON

Continue to nearby Kiftsgate Court Gardens. Just after the Great War, Heather Muir and her husband bought Kiftsgate and her long friendship with neighbour Lawrence Johnson undoubtedly inspired the creation of the garden. The friends

gardened in the same way, with structured design, a wide choice of plants and exemplary use of color. Mrs Muir's daughter, Dianyn Binny, and grand daughter, Anne Chambers, have enhanced the garden over the years however Heather's original ideas and sense of color guide their planting.

EVENING

Return to the hotel for time at leisure.

Dinner privately in a local restaurant.

Overnight at The Lygon Arms.



Day 3 / Wednesday, May 31

Sezincote, Rockcliffe & Upton Wold

MORNING

After breakfast leave the hotel by coach for a privately guided visit of Sezincote house and garden. This unique 18th century house situated at the heart of a traditional, family-run estate of rolling Cotswold countryside appears as a 200-year-old Mogul Indian palace, set in a romantic landscape of temples, grottoes, waterfalls and canals reminiscent of the Taj Mahal.

Continue to Daylesford Organic Farm for lunch.

AFTERNOON

Leave for Rockcliffe Gardens, Lower Swell. This large traditional English garden of eight acres includes beautiful color themed herbaceous borders, a rose terrace, a traditional walled kitchen garden and a pathway of topiary birds.

EVENING

Leave early evening for Upton Wold for a private guided tour of the wonderful gardens followed by a private dinner. The gardens are architecturally and imaginatively laid out around the 17th century Cotswold stone house with magnificent views.

Overnight at The Lygon Arms



Day 4 / Thursday, June 1

Highgrove, Frampton Court & Sudeley Castle

MORNING

Leave by coach for Highgrove.

Visit Highgrove Gardens for a tour of the garden of the family residence of Their Majesties The King and The Queen Consort (subject to confirmation of opening dates in 2023). Since 1980 the former Prince of Wales has been devoted to creating one of the most inspired gardens in Europe. The garden and surrounding land have been managed to the organic and sustainable principles that the King has for so long championed.

Lunch at The Orchard Restaurant at Highgrove.

AFTERNOON

Leave for Frampton-on-Severn, the Vale of Berkeley. On arrival at Frampton Court Estate, visit Frampton Manor garden followed by the formal garden at Frampton Court. The Manor of

Frampton has been in the Clifford family for almost one thousand years. Comprising of the timber-framed 16th century Manor house, surrounded by cottage style gardens and the early 18th-century Palladian Frampton Court with its historic gothic Orangery, Dutch canal and parkland.

EVENING

Early evening drive to historic Winchcombe for a private visit to Sudeley Castle & Gardens. Best known as the home of Queen Katherine Parr, the last and surviving wife of King Henry VIII. Surrounding the beautiful Castle are 14 acres of stunning award-winning gardens including an intricate Tudor Knot garden, a collection of English roses and double yew hedges. Dinner privately at the Castle.

Overnight at The Lygon Arms



Day 5 / Friday, June 2

Eastleach House, The Old Rectory & Westwell

MORNING

After breakfast leave the hotel by coach to visit Eastleach House gardens. Perched on the hill above the village, the attractive Cotswold stone house is surrounded by a 14-acre garden of many different parts. From the South Lawn there are views of the Marlborough Downs on one side, whilst on the other there is a Rill Garden and Walled Garden which is planted with yew hedges dividing the space into rooms.

Continue to lunch privately at Quenington Manor, The Old Rectory followed by a garden visit. Situated on the banks of the River Coln, this is an organic garden of variety. With mature trees, large vegetable gardens, herbaceous, shade, pool and bog gardens. A charming contemporary dovecot/library is built alongside the river, and various contemporary sculptures are found in the grounds.

AFTERNOON

After lunch continue to Westwell to a nearby private garden by kind arrangement with the owners. The late Mrs Anthea Gibson was one of England's foremost landscape gardeners and the garden at her home was her masterpiece. The Tudor manor house, which Mr and Mrs Gibson bought in 1979, is surrounded by a seven-acre walled garden. Mrs Gibson transformed the garden within its architectural framework and focused upon the use of water in both traditional and more innovative ways. This beautiful garden also has unusual features such as a twin rill, moonlight garden, paddy field and mount.

EVENING

Return to the hotel.

Private farewell dinner at the hotel.



Day 6 / Saturday, June 3

Departure

MORNING

Transfer by coach (with luggage) to London Victoria.



General Information

Hotel

Located in the heart of the Cotswolds within the village of Broadway, the 4 star Lygon Arms is a Grade II* listed building dating back to the 16th century. Steeped in history, the hotel is furnished in traditional country décor set in three acres of picturesque grounds. Facilities include a swimming pool, tennis court and luxury spa.

Price

\$ 5,680 USD per person

Single supplement: \$ 764 USD per person

- accommodation in 4-star hotel Lygon Arms
- transportation as per the itinerary
- all breakfasts, 4 lunches and 5 dinners including wine, water and coffee
- drinks reception on first night of the tour
- entrances into gardens and houses as per the itinerary
- portage at the hotel
- gratuities to guides, drivers and in restaurants
- whisper system headsets
- the services of a Lecturer
- the services of a Specialtours Tour Organizer
- tour booklets with sightseeing notes
- \$500 of your payment per person is a tax-deductible contribution to the Royal Oak Foundation

Price does not include:

- flights from USA to UK return
- individual airport transfers
- any meals indicated as independent
- personal extras
- housekeeping tips
- insurance



Payment and Booking Information

The Royal Oak Foundation will be collecting payments and Booking Forms for this tour for payment to The Ultimate Travel Company Ltd on your behalf. Your payment can be made by Credit Card (American Express, Visa and Master Card) or by Check [made out to the order of "Royal Oak Foundation"]. Please note that in the event of any conflict between these payment terms and those in Specialtours at The Ultimate Travel Company's Terms and Conditions, these payment terms shall prevail.

If you would like to join the tour, please complete and return the Specialtours Booking Form and send us a non-refundable deposit of \$1,500. Please remit this payment to The Royal Oak Foundation, c/o Ian Murray, Executive Director, Royal Oak Foundation, 20 West 44th Street, New York, NY 10036. (Contact information: Tel: (212) 480-2889, ext. 202; Email: imurray@royal-oak.org)

The deadline for signing up to the trip is January 27, 2023. Please note that your booking is not confirmed until we have received both your booking form and non-refundable deposit of \$1,500. The full balance of your payment is due no later than February 13, 2023.

N.B. Although Royal Oak Foundation is collecting payments for this tour, by enrolling you acknowledge that Specialtours at The Ultimate Travel Company Ltd is the sole tour operator for this full program, and that your enrolment and participation is subject to their Terms and Conditions, attached.

Inquiries, please contact:

Ian Murray
Royal Oak Executive Director
(212) 480 – 2889 ext. 202
imurray@royal-oak.org

THE ROYAL OAK FOUNDATION
Gardens of the Cotswolds
May 29 – 3 June, 2023
Registration Form



	First / Given Name	Surname	Title	Date of Birth	Nationality
1					
2					

Address:	
Postcode:	Country:
Home Tel:	Cell Tel:
Email:	Fax:

Type/number of rooms required			Special requests (Dietary or Other)
Twins	Doubles	Singles	

INSURANCE:

It is highly recommended that you take out adequate insurance, and you should ensure that you have ample cover, particularly for cancellation and medical emergency. In order that we may assist you in case of an emergency, you must advise us of your insurance details. If you have the information already please state the details below. Alternatively, let us know as soon as you have obtained cover.

My Insurers are:	Insurer's Emergency Contact Number:
------------------	-------------------------------------

PAYMENTS BY CHECK

Checks made out to the Royal Oak Foundation may be mailed to:
 20 West 44th St., Suite 606
 New York, NY 10036

Deposits: persons @ **\$1500** per person \$

NB: Deposits are non-refundable. If booking within ten weeks of departure, full payment must be sent with this form.

Full payment: \$

CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS

The Royal Oak Foundation accepts payments by Credit Card or Debit Card.

I wish to pay by: VISA ☐ MASTERCARD ☐ AMEX ☐

Please charge my account the sum of: \$

Card Number:

Name:
 (as shown on card)

Card Expiry Date: CVC:

Cardholder Signature: Date:

The booking conditions regarding the tour/s have been read and accepted by me on behalf of all persons named on this booking form by whom I am duly authorised to make this agreement.

Signature: _____ Date: _____



Specialtours at The Ultimate Travel Company Ltd,
 25–27 Vanston Place, London SW6 1AZ, UK



Booking Conditions

These tours are operated by Specialtours at The Ultimate Travel Company Limited, which is registered in England under company number 3528325.



MAKING A BOOKING

Please complete the registration form and forward it to The Royal Oak Foundation, together with your non-refundable deposit made payable to Royal Oak Foundation. If you are booking less than 10 weeks prior to departure, the full cost of the tour is payable.

On receipt of your registration form and deposit, The Royal Oak will confirm your booking in writing, then approximately 12 weeks prior to departure send you a final invoice, which will reflect any applicable surcharges due, together with further information relevant to the tour. Invoices must be paid no less than 10 weeks prior to departure (or immediately if bookings are made within 10 weeks of departure), otherwise we reserve the right to treat the booking as cancelled and apply cancellation conditions as set out below.

FITNESS TO TRAVEL

While we do not impose any age limitations on joining a tour, participants must be reasonably fit and able to cope with its specific demands, specially where sustained periods of sightseeing and walking are involved.

If you are in any doubt as to the suitability of a tour, please make this known to us before you book and we will advise you accordingly. The Royal Oak Foundation reserves the right to decline a reservation without necessarily giving a reason.

The tour organiser, in consultation with the tour Host/Representative, has the right to disqualify any client at any time during the course of a tour, if considered necessary for the medical wellbeing or safety of the individual or the client's actions are materially affecting the enjoyment of the tour for the remainder of the group. Any decision with regard to reimbursement for any part of the tour not completed will be decided by the Managing Director of The Ultimate Travel Company Ltd. and the tour organiser.

PASSPORT, VISAS & HEALTH

All clients are personally responsible for ensuring that they have a valid passport / identity card, any required visa, and conform to the health regulations required by the relevant country. Advice on health requirements may be obtained from your doctor or from the Department of Health.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

We strongly recommend that participants take out adequate travel insurance and care should be taken to ensure adequate cover, in particular for cancellation and emergency repatriation in the event of medical problems. If you do not have travel insurance, you will not, under any circumstances, hold The Ultimate Travel Company Ltd. responsible for any personal expenditure that would have been covered by a normal fully inclusive Travel Insurance Policy.

BAGGAGE & PERSONAL EFFECTS

These remain your responsibility and risk at all times.

PRICING & SURCHARGES

The price of the tour is based upon tariffs, other costs and exchange rates, as per the date of publication of the itinerary.

The price of your travel arrangements may be varied due to changes in: transportation costs e.g. fuel, scheduled air fares and any other airline surcharges which are part of the contract between airlines (and their agents) and us, Government action such as increases in VAT or any other Government imposed increases, currency in relation to adverse exchange rate variations. In the case of any small variation, an amount equivalent to 2% of the price of your travel arrangements, will be absorbed. For larger variations this 2% will still be absorbed for increases but not retained from refunds. If the surcharge exceeds 10% of the agreed price you have the right to cancel the tour with a refund of all monies, less any non-recoverable supplier costs. Please note that travel arrangements are not always purchased in local currency and some apparent changes have no impact on the price of your travel due to contractual and other protection in place.

AIRLINES & OTHER SUPPLIERS

The Ultimate Travel Company Ltd. acts only as agent for the owners of accommodation and services provided, for all carriers by air or otherwise and for road transport proprietors, and all bookings must be accepted subject to the ticket or transport conditions and regulations of the carriers or transport proprietors, and also subject to the laws of the country in which such carriage or other facility is required.

ALTERATIONS BY THE ULTIMATE TRAVEL COMPANY LTD

Great care is taken to ensure that description, information and prices provided by The Ultimate Travel Company Ltd are accurate. Nevertheless there may be times when a facility or visit is withdrawn as a result of factors beyond our control. We will always endeavour to find a satisfactory replacement and therefore reserve the right to alter the content of tours at any time. Unless a change is significant and no suitable alternative can be provided, The Ultimate Travel Company Ltd will not be liable to make any refunds. Similarly, we must retain the right to modify, postpone or cancel any tour, flight schedule, accommodation or arrangement, if unforeseen circumstances amounting to 'force majeure' arise. In such circumstances, we will inform you as soon as possible. If the tour is postponed, participants' payments will be credited to the postponed tour. In the event a participant does not wish to commit to the new dates, payments will be refunded less any non-refundable supplier costs. Should the tour be cancelled due to 'force majeure' all payments will be refunded less any non-refundable supplier costs. We shall not cancel any tour for reason of political tension or natural disaster unless specifically recommended to do so by the relevant government office.

ALTERATIONS BY YOU

We will do our best to make any alterations you may require after confirmation has been issued, subject to availability and to the payment for any increased costs relevant to the change. Any requests for alteration to an itinerary should be made in writing.

CANCELLATION

You or a member of your party may cancel their participation on the tour provided that the cancellation is communicated in writing and by the person who signed the booking form. The deposit is non-refundable. After the balance has been paid, The Ultimate Travel Company Ltd. will charge as follows:

More than 80 days	Deposit
79 to 41 days	50%
40 to 21 days	75%
20 days or less	100%

If you are obliged to cancel, with reasonable notice, the booking may be transferred to a third party who satisfies the conditions required to take the tour. The amounts not refundable by The Ultimate Travel Company Ltd. may be recoverable under the participant's personal insurance policy.

TOUR CANCELLATION

The prices of our tours are based on a minimum number of passengers travelling. If this minimum number is not reached at least 10 weeks prior to the scheduled departure date, we will cancel the tour and offer a refund in full or propose a supplementary charge to enable the tour to operate, subject to the passengers' agreement.

OUR LIABILITIES

We do not exclude or limit any liability to our clients which may arise from proven negligence by any person employed directly by us or by our suppliers and subcontractors, servants or agents of the same whilst acting in the course or their employment (other than air and sea carriers performing any domestic internal or international carriage of whatsoever kind) in respect of death, bodily injury or illness. Such liabilities shall be subject to English law and all proceedings shall be within the exclusive domain of the English courts. We shall endeavour to afford general assistance to our clients in the event of illness, injury or death during the period of the tour. We accept responsibility for ensuring that all parts of the tour are supplied as described and that all services shall reach a reasonable standard.

These obligations and responsibilities shall be limited to where international conventions in respect of air or sea carriers apply. Naturally we cannot assume responsibility for loss or expense due to war, riots, strikes, terrorist activities or natural disaster.

DATA PROTECTION STATEMENT

Please be assured that we have measures in place to protect the personal booking information held by us. This information will be passed on to the principal and to the relevant suppliers of your travel arrangements. The information may also be provided to public authorities such as customs or immigration if required by them, or as required by law. Certain information may also be passed on to security or credit checking companies. If you travel outside the European Economic Area, controls on data protection may not be as strong as the legal requirements in this country. We will only pass your information on to persons responsible for your travel arrangements. This applies to any sensitive information that you give to us such as details of any disabilities, or dietary/religious requirements. If we cannot pass this information to the relevant suppliers, whether in the EEA or not, we will be unable to provide your booking. In making this booking, you consent to this information being passed on to the relevant persons. For full details of our data protection policy, please visit our website www.theultimatetravelcompany.co.uk