

England

Bournemouth and Gardens of Dorset

The fertile south coast of England is, not surprisingly, host to many beautiful gardens and we have included visits to two of the most popular, together with entry to Lord Montagu's Estate at nearby Beaulieu. This is set in the heart of the New Forest – Britain's newest National Park.

Tour Itinerary

Day 1 Travel to the hotel in Bournemouth. We recommend a stop in Salisbury, where the magnificent Cathedral has Britain's tallest spire. Also nearby is the lovely stately home of Wilton House and the ancient druids monument of Stonehenge.

Day 2 Morning visit to Compton Acres, one of the finest privately owned gardens in the south, with a unique series of tranquil gardens offering spectacular views of Poole Harbour, Brownsea Island and the Purbeck Hills beyond. Afternoon at leisure in Poole Harbour, for a pleasant stroll along the waterfront and optional visits to the Waterfront Museum or Aquarium. Boat trips are also available to the Brownsea Island nature reserve.

Day 3 Welcome to the Beaulieu Estate, home of the Montagu family since 1538 and also home to the world famous National Motor Museum. Also included in the visit is entrance to Palace House and Gardens, the 13th century Abbey and Monastic Life exhibition. A visit to the historic shipyard and museum at Buckler's Hard can also be included for an additional cost. With so much to see and do a full day can easily be spent at Beaulieu.

Day 4 Visit to Exbury Gardens, a spectacular 200 acre woodland garden, famous for the Rothschild collection of rhododendrons, azaleas and camellias, which form a riot of colour in Spring. Enjoy the exotic Sundial Garden and the wonderful flowering displays in summer. In Autumn the colours from maples and deciduous azaleas can equal those from New England.

Day 5 Homeward journey via the ancient city of Winchester.



Dorset Steam Fair

The Great Dorset Steam Fair takes place from the 1st to 5th September 2010 and provides an insight into what English life in the country was like during the heyday of steam power.

Dorset Gardens and Steam Fair

Coincide your tour to Bournemouth with the above dates and spend a full day at this spectacular show, set on a 600 acre showground site near Blandford Forum. Highlights include the Old Time Steam Funfair, vintage vehicle displays, shire horses and the popular music festival. The day at the Dorset Steam Fair replaces Day 3 as described above. A supplement of £6 per person applies to the above tour prices.



Woodcroft Tower Hotel, Bournemouth

Our opinion: Quiet location approximately 15 minutes walk from the pier and town centre, with an excellent reputation for its dining.

- 3 star • 40 bedrooms
- Pleasant gardens
- Regular entertainment • Coach parking

5 day tour including:

- 4 nights half board in Bournemouth
- 2 garden visits as shown
- Entry to Beaulieu

2010 price per person

Apr & Oct	£185
May to Sept	£212

❖ No Single Supplement (max 5)

Contact us for details of festive programmes and all inclusive breaks at this hotel.