

**PACIFIC HORTICULTURE PRESENTS**  
**THE MAGNIFICENT CHELSEA GARDEN SHOW AND**  
**SCOTLAND'S ECOLOGICAL GARDENS**

**May 18 – 30, 2026**  
(Departing USA 17 May)

It is our pleasure to welcome you on this incredible journey through the **UK's finest gardens, historic estates, and scenic landscapes**, including a special visit to the **Chelsea Flower Show 2026**. We hope you are looking forward to this immersive experience!



**MONDAY: 18 May: Arrival in London**

Today, you will arrive at London Heathrow Airport (LHR) and be met for a private group transfer to your hotel. Any guests who cannot make the transfer included can make their own way to the hotel by taxi or request an additional transfer. The transfer included will be based upon the majority of the group's arrival time.

This evening, enjoy a group welcome dinner with wine at the hotel, where you will have the opportunity to meet your fellow travelers and discuss the exciting journey ahead.

**3 Nights at Chesterfield Mayfair Hotel including breakfast and welcome dinner with wine.** <https://chesterfieldmayfair.com/>



#### **TUESDAY: 19 May: Chelsea Flower Show**

After an early breakfast, you will be transferred to the **Chelsea Flower Show**, where your guide will have your tickets to access the world's most prestigious garden exhibition. You will have time to explore the beautifully curated displays and learn from expert horticulturists. Guests will make their own way back to the hotel at leisure. The evening is free for you to explore London at your own pace. Dinner on your own.

#### **WEDNESDAY: 20 May: Garden Visits Outside London**



After breakfast, we will join our guide for a full day of garden visits. Our first stop today will be to visit **David Austin's Rose Garden** in Mottisfont, where we will enjoy a visit with our guide to one of the most celebrated rose collections in the world. Some time for your own lunches here before we make our way to our next stop. Meals settled directly.

In the afternoon, we will take a private tour of **Knepp Castle Gardens**, known for its stunning naturalistic planting and rewilding efforts. Isabella Tree is a British author and conservationist who has played a key role in promoting rewilding. Her book, "Wilding: The Return of Nature to a British Farm" (2018), chronicles the transformation of Knepp Estate into a haven for biodiversity.



The project has seen the return of many rare species, such as nightingales, purple emperor butterflies, and even storks. **The historic estate in West Sussex, England, is known primarily today for the Knepp Wildland Project, a pioneering rewilding initiative led by Isabella Tree and her husband Charlie Burrell.** Dinner on our own this evening.

#### **THURSDAY: 21 May: Flight to Edinburgh & visit Abbotsford Gardens and have an Afternoon Tea**

This morning, we will transfer with our guide to London Heathrow Airport to board an included flight to Edinburgh. **You must provide your correct passport details when you register for this tour.**



After we collect our luggage and meet our new driver, we will visit **Abbotsford Gardens**, the former home of Sir Walter Scott, featuring picturesque gardens and rich literary history. Here we will enjoy an Inside Out tour of the gardens taking in the history of the gardens and information about the botany with a head gardener. A lovely Afternoon tea to follow before we depart. After our

visit, we will transfer to Edinburgh, where we will check in to our hotel. Enjoy a special **dinner and storytelling experience** at the hotel, where you will hear fascinating tales of Scotland's history and folklore. Any adult beverages can be settled directly and are not included in tonight's meal.

**4 Nights Apex City of Edinburgh Hotel or Similar including breakfast and dinner the first evening.**

<https://www.apexhotels.co.uk/destinations/edinburgh/apex-city-of-edinburgh-hotel/>



**FRIDAY: 22 May: Edinburgh Castle, Royal Botanic Gardens & Local Garden**



After breakfast, we will join our guide for a walking tour of **Edinburgh's Old Town**, leading up to a guided visit to **Edinburgh Castle**, where you will learn about its historical significance and enjoy stunning views of the city.



From the castle we will stroll to the **Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh**. On arrival we will first have time at the onsite cafés for lunch on our own. After our downtime we will meet with a gardener to tour through the world-renowned collection of plants and stunning landscape grounds.



Our final stop today will be a private visit to **Redcroft Garden**, a beautifully designed private garden owned by James and Anna Buxton. Anna is a schoolmate and friend of the late Gina Price, who is remembered and adored for her beautiful Pettifer's Garden in Oxfordshire. We are excited to visit Redcroft and meet with a beloved friend of Gina's.

Dinner on our own this evening.

<https://youtu.be/Zi5tjxb5cH4?si=RFFY-mu8CgqffyzG>

### **SATURDAY: 23 May: Residential Garden & Holyrood Palace**



Our first visit today will be to a local resident garden – a small home garden in south Edinburgh of Michael and Angela. The garden is roughly 1200 square meters surrounded by a stone wall. This family garden features a mix of mature and younger trees, herbaceous beds and borders, a vegetable patch, lawn, a 19th century cast iron vinery, an old monkey puzzle, pond and a patio. Since 2002 the garden has evolved from the traditional and formal to an informal, wildlife-friendly garden with a wide variety of plants, trees and shrubs. The planting aims for year-round color and variety with fruit, vegetables and different areas for just

sitting and enjoying. Still on its journey and a work in progress, the newest initiative is to turn some of the lawn into a small wildflower meadow. All inputs are peat-free and as organic as possible.



For second and final stop today we will enjoy a guided tour of **Holyrood Palace**, the official residence of the British monarch in Scotland, featuring magnificent state apartments and exquisite gardens. Some time here at the onsite café for lunch on our own. Return to our hotel to enjoy the remainder of the day to explore on our own in the Royal Mile. Dinner on our own this evening.



## SUNDAY: 24 May: Kelpies/ Bannockburn House and Gardens/ Stirling Castle



We will depart Edinburgh this morning and travel to **Bannockburn House & Gardens**, an elegant estate with a deep connection to Scottish history. En route we will stop at the visitor center to see the **Kelpies** and take some photos and use the toilets.



Grab a snack if you like before we make it to Bannockburn. Upon reaching the house and gardens we will be greeted by a garden tour with a gardener before we tour the house on our own. Bannockburn Gardens encompasses 25 acres of diverse gardens and grounds, including fields, woodland, a walled garden, orchard, and vegetable gardens.



For our next stop, we will visit the **Radical Weaver Shop** for an insightful 60/90-minute demonstration on traditional weaving techniques. Our group is going to experience exclusively the Tartan Radicals exhibition. Explore the Radical Weavers of 1820s, the history of tartan, and its modern influences. For our private groups we will see real looms set up so guests can experience them with guidance from an expert

tutor. This also allows us a chance to meet a local weaver and ask any questions we like! Our hosts include lunch for us today!

Our final stop of the day will be **Stirling Castle**, where we will tour **Queen Anne's Garden** with a gardener, the exterior with our guide and explore the historic halls of this iconic fortress.

Return to our hotel in Edinburgh. Tonight, our dinner will be on our own.



## **MONDAY: 25 May: Full Day Transfer to Spean Bridge and visit to Inveraray Castle and Gardens**

After breakfast and check-out, we will board our coach to transfer to the **Whispering Pines Lodge** in Spean Bridge. En route we will enjoy a stop at Inveraray Castle and Gardens. Some free time for further exploration, as well as time to grab a nibble from the café on our own will be included. Upon reaching Inveraray our group is led inside for a timed, guided tour of the castle's richly furnished rooms. A knowledgeable local guide or member of the castle staff walks the group through key areas. After the castle interior tour, enjoy a leisurely walk through the gardens, with a garden guide. When our visit concludes, we will continue to Spean Bridge. This evening dinner is included for us at the hotel.



**3 Nights Whispering Pines Lodge or Similar including breakfast and dinner the first evening.** <https://www.blacksheephotels.com/the-whispering-pine-lodge/>

## **TUESDAY: 26 May: Glen Nevis Rewilding Day**

A beautiful day is planned for us to enjoy. Join the rewilding charity SCOTLAND: The Big Picture for an informative and inspiring introduction to the principles of ecological restoration, or rewilding. The day will be spent in Glen Nevis, nestled in one of Scotland's most iconic glens below Ben Nevis. Glen Nevis Estate is in the early stages of its own rewilding journey following the principles shared in this course.





Over recent years, the rewilding movement in Scotland has gathered real momentum. There are now hundreds of projects all over Scotland putting rewilding principles into action. They include large estates, farms, crofts, community landholdings and even parks and cemeteries. Rewilding means the mass recovery of the living systems on which we all depend. Rewilding means restoring and protecting vast areas of land and water – where nature is free to direct the ebb and flow of life. Rewilding means giving space back to wildlife and allowing natural processes to shape whole ecosystems so that they work in all their colorful complexity.



Rewilding is also about the way we think. It's about understanding that we are one species among many, bound together in an intricate web of life that ties us to the atmosphere, the weather, the tide, the soils, the freshwater, the oceans, and all living creatures on the planet. Scotland is ranked as one of the most nature-depleted countries in the world and although the power of nature to heal itself is extraordinary - it is not unlimited. Rewilding provides a practical pathway to address climate and nature emergencies, and to renew our fractured relationship with the natural world. It is a pathway of hope.

The day will cover: What is rewilding and why does it matter? The nine principles of rewilding. How does rewilding benefit people? The social and cultural barriers to rewilding. How to get started on your own rewilding journey. Our Lunch will be provided by our rewilding hosts this afternoon.

This evening, enjoy free time to explore or relax at the hotel. Perhaps indulge in some of their Spa services. Dinner is on our own again.



### **WEDNESDAY: 27 May: Full Day on Isle of Skye**

Today we will join our guide and driver to ferry over to the Isle of Skye. Here we will visit Armadale Castle & Gardens, the former seat of the Clan MacDonald, where we will explore the castle ruins and stunning gardens with a gardener.



For our second stop today, we will visit Attadale Estate, where a private guided tour will take us through the lush gardens, followed by a two-course luncheon of soup and salad in the main house. Dinner included for us at the hotel this evening. Our drinks will be settled directly.



On our return to Spean Bridge, we will stop to see Eilean Donan Castle. This is one of Scotland's most photographed landmarks, where we will explore its picturesque surroundings and rich history.

### **THURSDAY: 28 May: Transfer to Inverness via Dundreggan Rewilding Center and Urquhart Castle**

This morning, we will make our way to Inverness, stopping at Dundreggan Rewilding Center for a guided tour to learn about Scotland's large-scale rewilding efforts. Lunch is planned for us at the center.





In the afternoon, we will visit Urquhart Castle, a historic ruin perched on the shores of Loch Ness, where we will explore the medieval stronghold with our guide.

Check into Ness Walk Hotel in central Inverness. Afternoon free to shop and spend at leisure.

## **2 Nights Ness Walk or Similar including breakfast and dinner the final evening.**

### **FRIDAY: 29 May: Inverness Botanic Garden, Culloden Moor and Cawdor Castle and Gardens.**

After breakfast, we will meet our guide and driver for the final day of touring. First stop will be the Inverness Botanic Gardens. Here we will explore a diverse collection of plant species and beautiful glasshouses. Some time to grab a snack before we depart if we wish. Any purchases can be settled directly.



Our second stop today with our guide to make our way to the Culloden Moor Battlefield, the site of the infamous 1746 battle, where we will learn about the Jacobite Uprising. Culloden Moor is also a significant location in the Outlander series, for any fan of either the books or the TV show, as it represents the Jacobite Rising of 1745 and the last battle fought on British soil. Some free time here at the café to collect

our own preferences for lunch and settle them directly. The tour will continue after to Cawdor Castle and Gardens.





From the Battlefield we continue to Cawdor Castle. We will have an audio tour of the castle and then meet with one of their expert Gardeners to have an overview of the historical basis of the three gardens at Cawdor Castle, giving us some insight on the plants, flowers and species to enjoy as they explore the gardens. Laid out in the 18th Century, this garden continues to be developed and delivers interest in all seasons.

This garden also contains several commissioned sculptures which all have an interesting story and meaning behind them. A whisky tasting will be included for us today during our visit. Return to the hotel for some free time this afternoon.

**Final night and farewell dinner with wine at Ness Walk including breakfast pre check out. <https://www.nesswalk.com/>**

### **SATURDAY: 30 May: Return to London & Departure**



This morning after breakfast and check-out, we will be transferred to the airport in Inverness for our independently booked return flights. There is only one transfer provided to the Inverness Airport today. Guests are welcome to make their own way by taxi if their schedule is not consistent with the included transfer time.

Please contact us with your air schedule concerns. Sterling Tours LTD works with Leslie Garber of Cadence Travel La Jolla, CA who can assist you with booking your air schedule for a fee. You must book your Miles Air with your preferred supplier on your own. Leslie can also assist with travel insurance. Shannon of Sterling Tours LTD can discuss what schedule works best, and she can also assist with any pre- or post-night arrangements you like too.

[Shannon@sterlingtoursltd.com](mailto:Shannon@sterlingtoursltd.com)

**TOUR PRICE:** \$ 11,595.00 pp for Pacific Horticulture Members based on a min of 20 guests

\$ 11,695.00 pp for non-members

Single supplement \$ 2995.00 pp

To become a member of Pacific Horticulture, visit this website and register there.

<https://pacifichorticulture.org/membership-registration/>

#### **INCLUDES:**

- 12 night's accommodation, all rooms with private bathrooms
- Breakfast daily, 5 Lunches and 4 Dinners. As stated per itinerary.
- Deluxe private transportation, including one group arrival transfer and one group departure transfer
- Local Blue Badge Guide throughout and garden guides as stated in itinerary
- All sightseeing and entrances as per the itinerary
- Pacific Horticulture Escort, Linda McKendry, an APLD garden designer and rosarian who gardens in and around Los Angeles, California. Linda is passionate about roses and is an enthusiastic world traveler. She is a long-term board member of Pacific Horticulture and currently serves as a travel liaison. A Tour Escort from Sterling Tours to assist the guests.
- Patronage of \$350.00 to Pacific Horticulture
- Inner Air London to Edinburgh

#### **DOES NOT INCLUDE**

- International Airfare or transfers outside included group transfers
- Tips to your guide or driver
- Travel Insurance



## Chelsea Flower Show and Scotland Gardens for Pacific Horticulture 2026

### **Terms & Conditions**

**This information is important. Please read it carefully. Submission of an online or printed Booking Form along with payment of required trip deposit indicates you have read and expressly agree to these Terms and Conditions. If you have any questions, please contact us.**

**Travel and Trip Cancellation Insurance:** We strongly recommend that you purchase Travel Insurance. Please contact Leslie Garber @ [Leslie.garber@cadencetravel.com](mailto:Leslie.garber@cadencetravel.com)

**Reservations and Payments:** A non-refundable deposit of \$1200.00 per person is required at the time of booking. Written confirmation will be provided upon receipt of the deposit. Balance of payment will be due 90 days before departure. The tour price is based on exchange rates in effect as of April 2025 and are subject to adjustment on the final invoice.

**Number of Guests:** A maximum of 20 guests per tour can be accommodated. A minimum of 20 guests are required to operate the tour at the quoted price. Purchase of non-refundable services outside of tour itinerary (such as airline tickets) before minimum number of guests have registered is at the sole risk and expense of the guest.

**Cancellations:** All cancellations must be made in writing. As noted, final payment is due 90 days prior to departure and is non-refundable. Accordingly, we strongly recommend that you purchase appropriate cancellation insurance.

**Hotels:** Hotels are shown on your itinerary. Sterling Tours reserves the right to change any hotel through any circumstance---the substitute will be of equal or higher quality.

**Scheduled Activities:** Every effort will be made to provide such services as listed, but where unavoidable circumstances necessitate changes, the best substitute alternatives will be made at the discretion of Sterling Tours Ltd., and the local escort, without financial compensation to tour members.

**Service Fees & Taxes:** Today there are frequent service charges and taxes imposed by hotels, suppliers, and governments. These fees and taxes are included to the extent possible, but where pre-payment is not allowed the amounts concerned must be paid locally by tour members.

**Travel Documents:** A passport valid for at least 6 months after the last date of this tour is required for this trip.

**Baggage:** Sterling is not responsible for loss, theft or damage to your baggage---travel insurance is strongly recommended to protect against loss. Guests are responsible for airline and government-imposed baggage regulations and fees.

**Exclusions:** Your arrangements exclude airfare, gratuities to guides and drivers, passports, visas, excess baggage charges, items of the personal nature such as laundry, communication expenses, room service, meals not specified in your itinerary, optional sightseeing and other excursions, and any items not listed in your documents.

**Physical Capabilities:** The tour includes a SIGNIFICANT amount of walking, FREQUENT use of stairs and steeply sloped pathways on uneven or unpaved surfaces. Some of the places we will be visiting can only be seen on foot with no other access possible. Guests with limited mobility MUST consult with Sterling prior to tour registration.

**Responsibility Clause:** Sterling Tours – the “Operator”, Shannon Cummins, and/or their agents or representatives, act only as agents for the various companies involved in providing services. They assume no responsibility or liability in connection with the service of any means of conveyance which may be used either whole or in part in the performance of its duty to the passenger. Likewise they will not be responsible for any act, error or omission or for any personal injury, damage, loss, accident, delay, irregularity or inconvenience which may be occasioned by reason of any defect in any vehicles, or through any act, neglect or default, or any company or person engaged in carrying out the purpose for which tickets or coupons are issued, whether negligent or not, including, but not limited to, any act of God, terrorism or war. In the event it becomes necessary or advisable for the comfort or well-being of passengers, or for any reason whatsoever, to alter itinerary or arrangements, such alterations may be made without penalty to the Operator. The right is reserved to withdraw any or all tours should conditions be warranted, also to decline accepting or retaining passengers as members of the tour. Legal proceedings against the Operator may be instituted only in a State or Federal Court within the County of San Diego, State of California, and any claim involved in such proceedings shall be decided in the County of San Diego, State of California. Any legal proceedings against the Operator must commence within one year following the date of tour completion. Neither the Operator nor Escorts or Guide shall in any case be liable for compensatory damages and you hereby waive any right to punitive damages.

**For reservations and further information contact:**

**Sterling Tours Ltd, 306 West El Norte Parkway Suite N-316 Escondido, Ca 92026**

**Tel: 619 299-3010 x 13 / Toll Free 1 800-976-9497**

**Email: Shannon Cummins / Shannon@sterlingtoursltd.com**

**CST#2023849-40**



## **BOOKING FORM**

### **LAND COST PER GUEST:**

*Based on a min/max of 20 guests*

\$ 11,595.00 per person for Pacific Horticulture Members

\$ 11,695.00 per person for NON-MEMBERS

Single Supplement: \$ 2995

To become a PH MEMBER VISIT <https://pacifichorticulture.org/membership-registration/>

***A non-refundable deposit of \$ 1200.00 per person is required to register for this tour.***

***This deposit will be used to secure and confirm hotel space and services.***

### **RESERVATION FORM. PLEASE COMPLETE ONE FORM PER PERSON TRAVELING.**

Full Name as stated on your passport: \_\_\_\_\_

Name you prefer to be called: Mr./Mrs./Miss/Ms./Dr: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Passport # \_\_\_\_\_ Issue Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Expires: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Food Allergies or Physical Requirements: \_\_\_\_\_

Planning to arrive early or stay after the tour? \_\_\_\_\_

### **HOTEL ROOM Please check ☒ the appropriate room type below:**

Double Room, One Large Bed: \_\_\_\_\_

Double Room, Two Beds: \_\_\_\_\_

Sharing room with: \_\_\_\_\_

Single Room, not sharing \_\_\_\_\_

Single Room, willing to share \_\_\_\_\_ We will attempt to find a roommate, but if unsuccessful, the single supplement will apply

**Contact Shannon for assistance with registration [Shannon@sterlingtoursltd.com](mailto:Shannon@sterlingtoursltd.com)**

**Sterling Tours LTD, 306 West El Norte Parkway Suite N-316 Escondido, Ca 92026**

**Tel: 619 299-3010 x 13 / Toll Free 1 800-976-9497**

**CST#2023849-40**

### **LAND-ONLY TOUR PRICE AND DEPOSIT INFORMATION**

**Tour Price is \$11,595.00 per person for Pacific Horticulture members based on double occupancy and a minimum and maximum number of 20 paying guests**

**Tour Price for NON-Members is \$11,695.00 per person**

**Single supplement is \$2,995.00**

**To register for Pacific Horticulture Membership, visit:  
<https://pacifichorticulture.org/membership-registration/>**

**A non-refundable deposit of \$1200.00 per person is required to register for this tour. Checks should be payable to Sterling Tours, Ltd, mailed with this form to the Sterling Tours address below.**

**If you are paying deposit by credit card, please sign here:**

**Credit Card: VI MC AX**

**Name as seen on Card: \_\_\_\_\_**

**CC# \_\_\_\_\_ Exp: \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Billing address: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Sterling Tours Ltd., 306 West El Norte Parkway Suite N-316 Escondido, Ca 92026**

**Tel: 619 299-3010x 13 or Toll Free in the US: 1-800-976-9497**

**Email: [Shannon@sterlingtoursltd.com](mailto:Shannon@sterlingtoursltd.com) [www.sterlinggardentours.com](http://www.sterlinggardentours.com)**

**When payment has been received you will be invoiced once it has been processed. Credit cards are invoiced through PayPal and Check payments will be invoiced by email. Thank you.**