Lake District Gardens Tour



Trip style:

Destination:
Lake District

HOLIDAY OVERVIEW

Enjoy a week-long holiday at our welcoming country house on the shores of Derwentwater and explore some of Cumbria's best gardens. From the elegant Winton Park and the immaculate topiary of Levens Hall, to historic Lowther Castle, every stop is perfect for garden lovers and green-fingered guests. We'll visit a mix of hidden gems and award-winning garden spaces, all guided by our knowledgeable leader every step of the way.

WHAT YOU'LL LOVE

- Exploring the world's oldest topiary garden at Levens Hall
- Visiting a selection of award-winning and notable Lake District gardens
- Meeting like-minded garden lovers
- A more personalised experience thanks to small group sizes (maximum 16 people)

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- All entrance fees (other than National Trust & English Heritage properties)
- Comfortable en-suite accommodation in our country house

- Cream tea on arrival day
- Cooked or continental breakfast every morning
- Daily packed lunches
- Three-course evening meals, plus tea & coffee
- Guided sightseeing with an experienced HF Holidays Leader
- All transport to and from sites of interest
- Easy-to-follow routes, maps, and information in our Discovery Point if you want to explore independently

ITINERARY - ITINERARY 2027

Day 1 Arrival Day

Check-in at the hotel is available from 16:00. If you are a member you can arrive at the house from 14:00. Enjoy a complimentary cream tea at 16:30 and meet other guests.

Day 2 Sizergh & Levens

Today's journey takes us south to Sizergh Castle & Levens Hall, both near Kendal. At Sizergh, the limestone rock garden, reflective lake and colourful border planting create a garden full of interest. In the afternoon, we explore Levens Hall, home to the world's oldest topiary garden. Here, the clipped shapes stand among roses and flowering borders.

Please Note: Entry to Sizergh Castle is not included in the price of this holiday. It is a National Trust property and NT members can take advantage of free entry.

Day 3 Winton Park & Morland House

Our first day starts with a visit to Winton Park, where landscaped terraces and colourful borders open to sweeping Eden Valley views. In the afternoon, we continue to Morland House, with its extensive lawns, walled rose garden and the lower garden around Morland Beck. Both are hidden gems of the Eden Valley and have lots to offer throughout the year. Please be aware that there are uneven surfaces and steps to navigate at all gardens we visit this week, so sturdy footwear is highly recommended.

Day 4 Free Day - Northern Lake District

Discover more about Derwent Bank and the local area for ideas on how to make the most of your free day.

Day 5 Hutton-in-the-Forest & Mirehouse

For today's visits, we begin at Hutton in the Forest, where elegant terraces, a colourful walled garden and shaded woodland walks reveal centuries of careful design. Later, we continue to Mirehouse, a relaxed and welcoming garden by Bassenthwaite Lake. With wildflower corners, woodland paths and literary links, it balances both natural and man-made.

Day 6 Windemere & Surrounds.

Today we'll visit award winning RHS Partner Garden - Holehird, to explore its gardens which boast six National Plant Collections, including rhododendrons, hydrangeas and alpine amongst others.

Our second garden today is Yews Estate, where we're treated to a tour there, introducing us to the formal gardens (designed by Mawson & Avray Tipping), as well as to the Flower Farm owned and operated by the estate.

Day 7 **Dalemain & Lowther**

On our final day, we start with a visit to Dalemain Mansion, known for its Blue Himalayan Poppy, Meconopsis Dalemain. This much-loved family home boasts herbaceous borders and a romantic rose walk. We'll round off at Lowther Castle, where dramatic ruins frame modern gardens and sweeping lawns, woodland avenues, and imaginative planting have reinvigorated the grandeur of the estate.

Day 8 **Departure Day**

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast before making your way home.

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

Packing list

The UK has a famously unpredictable climate so it's best to be prepared for weather that's sunny one minute and raining the next. To make it easier, here's a list of items you should consider packing.

Essentials

- Suitable, sturdy footwear with a good grip - you'll be on your feet for much of the day on uneven ground
- Waterproof jacket
- Sunhat
- Rucksack
- Water bottle (at least 1 litre capacity)
- Sunscreen
- Mobile phone

Recommended

- UV sunglasses
- First aid kit, including plasters
- Sit mat
- Waterproof pouch for valuables
- Rubbish bag (remember to always leave no trace)
- Wallet/purse

Optional Extras

- Walking poles – some gardens are not flat and may require walking up/down uneven
- steps or across potentially slippery ground or rocks
- Waterproof overtrousers
- Flask for hot drinks
- Durable lunch box
- Waterproof rucksack liner

TRIPNOTE VALIDITY

TRIP NOTE VALIDITY These Trip Notes are valid based on the date printed at the bottom of the page. They will occasionally be updated post booking and pre-departure. We will send you the latest trip notes prior to departure through a link in your pre departure documents or we can send you a copy in the post if preferred. In booking this trip you should be confident in your ability to participate in all activities described in these Trip Notes. If you have any doubt about your suitability you should call HF Holidays and ask to speak to one of the team about this itinerary. The information in these Trip Notes is given in good faith. Where differences exist between the Trip Notes and our current brochure, the Trip Notes supersede the brochure. All holidays can be subject to unexpected changes; so please be prepared to be flexible where necessary. At times, it may not be possible to follow the itinerary as planned due to weather conditions, political, physical or other factors. In these circumstances we will make the best possible alternative arrangements to maintain the integrity of the original itinerary.

Document produced: 6 November 2026