

# VPR presents *Gardens of England* with gardening expert Charlie Nardozzi May 19 - 27, 2009

## **TUESDAY, MAY 19 DEPARTURE**

Meet our VPR host Charlie Nardozzi and Goodspeed trip director at Boston Logan airport. Board trans-Atlantic flight to London. Dinner and breakfast served aloft.

## **WEDNESDAY, MAY 20 LONDON**

After landing in London and clearing customs, meet our private guide and board the coach. We'll travel directly to our first garden, the Royal Horticultural Society's Garden at Wisley. We'll enjoy tea and scones before we begin the tour. This 250-acre garden captures the imagination with richly planted perennial borders, luscious rose gardens, and new state-of-the-art Glasshouse. It also features trial gardens with new varieties of vegetables and flowers and model gardens that offer solutions for a variety of landscape circumstances and situations. Afterward we'll depart for our London hotel and check in. In the evening, we'll gather in the hotel restaurant for dinner.



*Breakfast aloft, Tea & Scones, Dinner.* Overnight London

## **THURSDAY, MAY 21 THE CHELSEA FLOWER SHOW**

Today we'll have the entire day to enjoy the internationally famed RHS Chelsea Flower Show. The Holy Grail for gardeners, this is the most famous garden show in the world and signals the beginning of the summer garden season in England. Each year celebrities, royalty, and gardeners visit the demonstration gardens that feature more than 60 show gardens, floral art displays, fully designed gardens, and more than 600 vendors in the trade show area. Tonight you have the option of experiencing London entertainment, choosing between theater, musicals, opera, and classical music. *Breakfast.* Overnight London

## **FRIDAY, MAY 22 BATH ~ RIVERFORD ORGANIC FARM IN BUCKFASTLEIGH**

This morning we leave London and travel west to Bath, a spa town which has been well known for its natural hot springs since the Roman era. The fashion of "taking the waters" was revived during the Regency era and many of the finest houses, streets and parks date from that period. Visit the Roman Baths and Pump Room and see Bath Abbey, the Royal Crescent and Queen's Square.

Following our visit, we'll travel to Devon, stopping to visit the Riverford Organic Farm. Guy Watson and his family have been farming organically for more than 20 years, growing more than 85 different varieties of vegetables. The gardeners will describe their unique home-delivery system. We'll take a tractor and trailer ride through the farm over the beautiful rolling countryside, sampling seasonal vegetables as we go.



We'll then depart for the charming market town of Tavistock, located on the River Tavy below the slopes of Dartmoor National Park. This delightful town with its pleasing architecture is well situated to



all of our garden visits for the next three days. The history of Tavistock stretches back over 1000 years to the founding of a Benedictine Abbey in 974 A.D. Once the largest and wealthiest abbey in Southwest England, the Abbey was dissolved in the 16th century and given to the Russell family, the future Dukes of Bedford. It is to the 7th Duke of Bedford that Tavistock owes its present form. Putting his wealth to good use, he became Tavistock's greatest benefactor, funding extensive town restoration and building houses for the workers. As such, Bedford Square, the Pannier Market and the Town Hall are all the Duke's work, marked by his signature, an engraved letter B. The market was chartered in 1105 and is now held here every day of the week offering a variety of local produce, antiques and crafts. After checking in, we'll dine together at our

hotel. *Breakfast, Dinner.* Overnight Tavistock



### SATURDAY, MAY 23      GARDEN HOUSE ~ ROSEMOOR GARDENS

This morning after breakfast, we head south to Yelverton and visit the Garden House. This elegant former home of the vicars of Buckland Monachorum dates from the early 19th century. Its gem of a garden is off the beaten path and features beautiful views of the surrounding countryside. We'll explore the 10-acre garden, actually several gardens in one. The highlight is the beautiful 2-acre Walled Garden surrounding the ruins of Buckland's 16th century vicarage. The garden has a huge selection of shrubs and herbaceous perennial plants.



We'll then travel to the beautiful Torridge Valley to visit Rosemoor Gardens. Another Royal Horticultural Society garden, Rosemoor spans 65 acres and has 3500 plants. Enjoy the stunning gardens such as Lady Anne Berry's original garden, arboretum, foliage garden, Mediterranean and semi-tropical garden, water garden, cottage garden, and more. After the visit, we'll return to Tavistock, where we'll have the evening free to dine at leisure in one of the

local pubs. Nothing better represents the spirit of the English than the pub. Not a mere tavern or restaurant, the pub represents a connection to the community as well as to one's ancestors. Indeed, some pubs are older than the town's churches. Count on a good pint, no-nonsense food and great story-telling. No one is a stranger!

*Breakfast.* Overnight Tavistock

### SUNDAY, MAY 24      EDEN PROJECT

After breakfast, we'll travel to Cornwall and visit the Eden Project, which was envisioned in 1995 by Tim Smit and opened to the public in 2001. The Project showcases over 100,000 plants from around the world in two giant transparent domes, each recreating different climate conditions. The world's largest multi-domed greenhouses recreate the natural environment of tropical rainforests in South America and Africa, temperate regions with distinct seasons like the Mediterranean and California, Chile and the Himalayas. Outside the domes are landscaped gardens and educational walks. On a Sunday afternoon in the gardens of Cornwall, the cares of the world slip away. The beauty of the horticultural world here spans so many varieties, you'll understand why this is called Eden. At the end of the day, compare notes with fellow travelers and hear what marvels were discovered in the gardens.



*Breakfast.* Overnight Tavistock

### MONDAY, MAY 25      LOST GARDENS OF HELIGAN ~ MEVAGISSEY

Today we'll drive to the nearby Lost Gardens of Heligan. Created mainly in the 1800s, this garden was abandoned for decades until being recently rediscovered and renovated. One of the finest 19<sup>th</sup> century estate gardens in England, Heligan features 57 acres of planted gardens and 100 acres of ornamental woodlands, with follies and temples scattered throughout. Today the grounds include a complex of walled gardens and a huge vegetable garden.

Afterward we'll visit the working fishing village of Mevagissey and stroll along the Coastal Walk. This village, which has changed little over the years, features tiny medieval streets and cob and slate buildings. Venture on the famous Cornwall Coastal Walk for picturesque views of the harbor, village, and shoreline. After our visits, we return to our hotel to relax and dine at leisure in town. *Breakfast.* Overnight Tavistock

### Tuesday, May 26      Stonehenge ~ Wilton House Garden Centre

This morning after breakfast we'll check out and board our coach and travel to Stonehenge, one of Britain's most important prehistoric monuments. This huge megalithic structure, probably of religious significance, was erected about 5,000 years ago. We will continue our journey and visit the Wilton House Garden Centre. Set in the stunning gardens of Wilton House in Salisbury, the garden center features a broad selection of plants, seeds, bulbs, tools, and garden products along with beautiful display gardens. We'll travel to Windsor, check into our hotel and enjoy our final evening together at a farewell dinner. *Breakfast, Dinner.* Overnight Windsor

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 27      LONDON ~ UNITED STATES

After breakfast we check out of our hotel and depart for the airport.

## TOUR DETAILS ~ GARDENS OF ENGLAND TOUR

**Price: \$3,379** in double room

Single Supplement: **\$465**

### Price includes:

- \* Hotel accommodations in 4-star, double occupancy rooms with private bath
- \* Hotel portorage, service charges and taxes
- \* Accompaniment by a Goodspeed & Bach trip director
- \* Transportation throughout by private coach and driver
- \* Local guide to all destinations in the tour
- \* Dinners at the hotels (4)
- \* Tea and scones at Wisley Gardens
- \* Visits and admission fees to:
  - Wisley Gardens
  - 1-day Admittance to the Chelsea Garden Show
  - Roman Baths and Pump Room
  - Riverford Garden Farm
  - The Garden House
  - Rosemoor Gardens
  - The Eden Project
  - Lost Gardens of Heligan
  - Stonehenge
  - Wilton House Garden Center
- \* Customized handbook about for each traveler about the regions traveled

**Price of flights: \$342** on British Airways from Boston to London round trip plus taxes of *approximately \$410\**  
Airfare, Airline Taxes and Fuel Surcharges are subject to change until tickets are issued.

## REGISTRATION FORM

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ place(s) for the following individuals on **VPR's Garden of England Tour, May 19-27, 2009**

A tour deposit of \$1000 payable to Goodspeed & Bach is enclosed—**balance due** on March 14, 2009

NAME (s) as it appears on valid passport:

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Phone(days) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Travel companion name(s) on passport: \_\_\_\_\_

Travel preferences (*please check all that apply*)

Double occupancy with traveling companion (**\$3,379** per person)

I would like a single room (additional **\$465**) *please note single room space is limited*

I would like to be matched with another traveler

I would like group airfare on British Airways from Boston (**\$342** plus taxes of approx. \$410 subject to change until ticketing)

I prefer to make my own flight arrangements

Please inform me about bus transportation from Vermont to Boston Logan Airport

*I (we) have read the itinerary and terms and conditions as found below and also available on [www.goodspeedandbach.com](http://www.goodspeedandbach.com) and agree to abide by all the stipulations contained therein.*

SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

*Please make tour checks payable to **Goodspeed & Bach, Inc.** and mail registration to: 34 Church Street # 5 • Burlington, VT 05401 • Call 1-888-446-1789 or email [debflanders@comcast.net](mailto:debflanders@comcast.net) • **SPACE IS LIMITED !***



## VPR GARDENS OF ENGLAND TOUR GENERAL INFO

### Tour Administration

This tour of England, designed by Vermont Public Radio and Goodspeed & Bach, Inc., offers an in-depth look at the culture, history and gardens of England. Gardening expert Charlie Nardozzi will host the program, and a tour director will accompany the group. A portion of the tour benefits Vermont Public Radio, but is not considered a tax-deductible contribution according to IRS regulations.

### Air Travel Arrangements (not included in the tour price)

Group flights are scheduled on British Airways from Boston Logan Airport at a cost of \$342 plus taxes. The Land Program begins upon clearing customs in Europe. Group air conditions and terms are set by the airline. Group air is provided as a convenience by Goodspeed & Bach, Inc. You may choose to fly with the group to Europe or you may choose to fly on your own. Air travel can be also arranged for those individuals traveling from other cities or planning different travel dates.

### Accommodations

During the tour, accommodations will be arranged in first-class hotels in double occupancy rooms with private shower or bath. Single rooms can be arranged for a supplementary fee of \$465 and are based upon availability at the time of your request (space is limited). The hotels are selected to provide a balance between central location, excellent service, character, amenities and price. They are 4-star hotels, and each has a unique character which will result in variations in room size, breakfast menu and some amenities. Circumstances may arise between now and departure where the hotel may be changed. We will do our best to arrange a replacement hotel of the same quality.

### Changes in the Itinerary

VPR and Goodspeed & Bach, Inc., reserve the right to alter the order of events or to make changes deemed necessary for the comfort, convenience and safety of the participants. Every effort will be made to adhere to the printed itinerary, but weather conditions, transportation difficulties or other circumstances beyond the control of VPR and Goodspeed and Bach, Inc., and the local suppliers could force the cancellation or substitution of events or specific services.

### Reservation Procedure

To register for the tour, please fill out and return the registration form below along with a per-person deposit of \$1000. You may also register by phone (toll free **888-446-1789**) or e-mail [debflanders@comcast.net](mailto:debflanders@comcast.net). Registrations will be accepted in the order in which they are received. Space is limited.

### Payment Policy & Schedule

Tour payments may be made by check, payable to Goodspeed & Bach, Inc. After your initial deposit of \$1000, the balance payment is due by **March 14, 2009**. Deposits and payments are refundable if written notice of cancellation is received 120 days or more in advance of departure, less a \$100 per person non-refundable administration fee. 90 days prior to departure: Full refund less \$1000.00 per traveler. We regret that refunds cannot be made for cancellations less than sixty-five (65) days prior to the departure date. Travel insurance is highly recommended and can be purchased at an additional charge through Goodspeed & Bach, Inc. Cancellation charges also apply to additional accommodations reserved prior to and after the tour. Goodspeed & Bach, Inc. cannot assume responsibility for any fees relating to the issuance and/or cancellation of air tickets. *Full terms and conditions are also available at [www.goodspeedandbach.com](http://www.goodspeedandbach.com).*