



## A tour is announced!

*Julia Guest* has designed and escorted garden tours for over 30 years with particular interest given to garden history and garden design. This small-group tour (maximum of 14 guests) will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> tour to these areas of Scotland and Yorkshire. Staying in cities with character and sophistication - Edinburgh and York - magical cities, not 'big cities' with plenty to enjoy outside of our scheduled activities. Yorkshire is reputed to be England's 'new garden county' and here we will find classic landscape gardens such as Castle Howard and Fountains Abbey & Studley Royal Water Garden. In Scotland we visit cutting-edge contemporary designs such as Broadwoodside and Little Sparta, and lovely private gardens throughout the tour that are making headlines in the gardening world. The tour promises variety of style and approach; many tour guests will be repeat passengers from across Canada.

**The itinerary is tentative** but sure to appeal with a combination of private and public gardens; if you do not recognize the names and significance of the gardens to be visited – wonderful! On-board conversation and information given will introduce you before each arrival and a suggested reading list is given long before leaving home. Hotels are without pretension, well-located and comfortable; a motorcoach with a professional driver is at the tour's disposal. There is time to explore the Yorkshire Moors and Dales; be sure to include sturdy shoes for this and for the gardens, some of which involve rough ground and some distances. Consider adding nights in Edinburgh York for further independent activities. As a 'garden tour', the focus is not surprisingly on gardens!

### Some (but not all) features of The Itinerary

#### **Edinburgh (4 nights):**

**Landform Ueda** is home to the first landform by Charles Jencks on the agenda.

The **Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh** is one of the finest in the world - and our visit will be guided.

**Broadwoodside** is a contemporary private garden quickly becoming one of the most influential gardens in Scotland.

**Little Sparta**, a 20thC creation by the poet Ian Hamilton Finlay where wordplay and unique gardening combine in beautiful landscape.

**Jupiter Artland** is possibly the most exciting and innovative sculpture park to open in Britain – a private collection and our visit will be guided.

**A walking tour in Edinburgh** to Dean Village, Stockbridge and Charlotte Square to discover some of the public garden spaces in Edinburgh.

The **Garden of Cosmic Speculation**, open to the public on only one day a year and by special arrangement open to our group alone. This exciting and important contemporary garden uses nature to speculate on deeper ideas.

**Penrith (1 night):** Overnight on the edge of the Lakes District offers time for a country walk and a relaxing evening. A festive dinner is planned for us in a highly rated dining room.



Garden of Cosmic Speculation



Scottish Thistle

**York (4 nights):**

**Lowther Castle**, an abandoned castle with its romantically atmospheric gardens under the craftful hand of Dan Pearson.

**Gresgarth Hall**; the private garden of designer Arabella Lennox-Boyd, an Italian style “dreamy garden”.

**Sleightholme Dale Lodge** is set in a seemingly bleak and exposed location on the edge of the North Yorkshire Moors.

**Fountains Abbey & Studley Royal Water Garden** - a 16thC water garden incorporating the ruins of a medieval abbey.

**Parceval Hall** is a peaceful place in the Dales National Park with a strong Arts and Crafts tradition.

**Scampston Hall**, a plant person’s paradise, transformed by the modern hand of Piet Oudolf.

**Castle Howard** is set in a dramatic landscape, with a beautiful woodland garden and fine ornaments.



### How it works:

The tour will be based on only 14 guests, this exclusive tour is priced per person, sharing accommodation; a guesstimate is CA\$5500. Hotels assess a supplement for single occupancy of rooms; it may be possible to share with another tour guest.

***The tour agenda and cost are not yet finalized – please register your interest for updated information.***

### The tour price will include:

- Comfortable 4-star accommodations, chosen for their locations in relation to the gardens visited and considering the travel distance between our destinations.
- All rooms have private facilities with bath and/or shower.
- Full English breakfast daily.
- Three 3-course dinners – Welcome Dinner in Edinburgh, in Penrith in the hotel’s 2-Rosette Dining Room, and in the private Library and Drawing Room of The Grange in York.
- All garden entry fees; many are by special arrangements for private visits and with an introduction by the owner of Head Gardener. Guiding is included where considered appropriate and offered by the property.
- Transportation throughout by private transport with a professional driver. All fuel charges, driver expense, parking fees and road taxes are included.
- Value Added Tax (currently 20%) is included, as is transfer of luggage from the motorcoach to hotel rooms on arrival and from room to coach on departure.
- Gratuities for the driver and garden guides are taken care of by Julia on behalf of the group.
- The tour is researched, developed and planned specifically for this group by Julia Guest of Travel Concepts, who will accompany the tour and be responsible for its management.
- Julia will be the tour guide.
- A tour booklet will be delivered approximately one month before arrival with a detailed agenda, hotel contact list and passenger list, notes on the gardens to be visited, ideas of what to pack and how much money to budget, flight itinerary and all other arrangements made personally for you by Travel Concepts.

### Payment:

A deposit to secure space is \$1000. The balance will be due July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020. **Advance registrations are now being taken.**

### Cancellation:

All payments are non-refundable and non-transferable as they are made. Cancellation insurance is strongly recommended and Travel Concepts will assist with this on an individual basis.

**Contact Julia Guest at Travel Concepts for more information: [JuliaG@trvlconcepts.com](mailto:JuliaG@trvlconcepts.com)**

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