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# *Gardens of the Channel Islands and Isle of Wight*

## *June 19<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>, 2018*

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Join Gardener and Author Marty Wingate on this tour of the enchanting Channel Islands. Located closer to France than England, these islands enjoy a beautiful climate, sandy beaches, and amazing seascapes.

While a part of the British Isles, the Channel Islands are not part of the United Kingdom. These islands recognize the sovereignty of the queen, but do not answer to parliament. We'll spend 6 nights on the two largest of the islands with day trips to two of the more intimate and unique places.

### **What's included:**

- 10 Night Accommodations with Breakfast
- Flights and Ferry Transportation as indicated
- 4 Dinners
- 3 Lunches or Teas
- Admissions to Gardens and Historic Sites as indicated
- All Local Transportation

### **Our Itinerary:**

**Monday, June 18<sup>th</sup>**      **Depart USA for UK**

**Tuesday, June 19<sup>th</sup>**      Meet at London's Gatwick Airport for our afternoon flight to the island of Guernsey. We'll arrive at our hotel in time to relax and meet for a welcome pint and dinner near the hotel. Overnight St Peter Port      (D)

**Wednesday, June 20<sup>th</sup>** Morning visit to Raymond Evison Clematis Center. We'll break for lunch, then journey to Sausmarez Manor for a tour of the house and garden. Your evening is free to explore the city. Overnight St Peter Port (B)

**Thursday, June 21<sup>st</sup>** We're taking a day trip by ferry to Herm this morning for a walking tour of the island's gardens with a local guide. Suggested lunch and an ale at the Mermaid Pub with afternoon free time to visit Shell Beach or Saint Tugual's Chapel. Return to Guernsey late afternoon. Overnight St Peter Port (B)

**Friday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>** A morning visit to Hauteville House to see the gardens and house. This manse was the home of Victor Hugo during his 15-year exile from France. The author wrote or published many of his works while living here, including Les Misérables.

In the afternoon, we're scheduled to travel to Jersey by Ferry, arriving in Saint Helier in time to check into our hotel in the port of St Helier. We'll meet for dinner near the hotel this evening. Overnight St. Helier (BD)

**Saturday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>** Morning visit to Samares Manor and Garden. Lunch on your own, followed by a visit to Reg's Garden. Overnight St Helier (B)

**Sunday, June 24<sup>th</sup>** Ferry to Sark for a day trip that will include a morning visit to the gardens of La Seigneurie. Lunch on your own, followed by an afternoon carriage ride and Garden Walk. Return to Jersey late afternoon. Overnight St Helier (B)

**Monday, June 25<sup>th</sup>** We're departing for Southampton on a late afternoon flight, with a visit to la Hogue-Bie, - a Neolithic Passage Tomb dating back 6,000 years and one of the ten oldest buildings in the world. We'll stop for lunch on the way to our flight this afternoon. Upon arrival in Southampton, we'll meet our driver, who'll take us over the Solent to the Isle of Wight. We'll arrange a time to meet for dinner after checking into our hotel. Overnight Ventnor (BLD)

**Tuesday, June 26<sup>th</sup>** We'll see English Heritage site of Carisbrooke Castle this morning, followed by a tour of the State Rooms of Queen Victoria at Osborne House. Overnight Ventnor (B)

**Wednesday, June 27<sup>th</sup>** A morning visit to the Ventnor Botanical Gardens followed by the National Trust gardens at Mottistone. Overnight Ventnor (B)

**Thursday, June 28<sup>th</sup>** We're departing Wight this morning on our way to our final night in England near Heathrow Airport. On the way, we'll visit Michaelmas, a small private garden which is part of the NGS open garden scheme. We'll arrive at our afternoon visit of Wisley Gardens, one of the Jewels of the Royal Horticultural Society. You'll have a choice of places to get lunch at the garden before you start your tour. We'll arrive at our hotel in the early evening and will enjoy our farewell dinner nearby. Overnight Heathrow (BD)

**Friday, June 29<sup>th</sup>**      Guests are provided with transportation to Heathrow this morning for flights home or may choose to stay over in London on their own.

Evison Clematis Center    <http://www.raymondevisonclematis.com/main/home.asp>

La Hougue-Bie            <https://www.jerseyheritage.org/places-to-visit/la-hougue-bie-museum>

Reg's Garden            [http://www.gardenvisit.com/gardens/reg\\_garden\\_jersey](http://www.gardenvisit.com/gardens/reg_garden_jersey)

Osborne House         <http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/osborne/>

Carisbrooke Castle      <http://carisbrookecastlemuseum.org.uk/>

Ventnor Botanic         <https://www.botanic.co.uk/>

Mottistone Garden      <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/mottistone-gardens>

Michaelmas Garden     <https://www.ngs.org.uk/?bf-garden=21446>

La Seigneurie           <http://www.laseigneuriegardens.com/>

Herm                      <https://www.herm.com/>

Sark                       <http://www.sark.co.uk/>

Guernsey                <http://www.visitguernsey.com/>

Jersey                    <https://www.jersey.com/>

Isle of Wight            <https://www.visitisleofwight.co.uk/>

Hauteville House      <http://www.visitguernsey.com/victor-hugo-house>

Samares Manor         <http://www.samaresmanor.com/>

Sausmarez Manor      <http://www.sausmarezmanor.co.uk/>

RHS Wisley Garden     <https://www.rhs.org.uk/gardens/wisley>

The cost of this tour is \$4500 per person, based on double occupancy. There are a limited number of single rooms available for the supplement of \$800. The initial deposit to confirm your reservation, is \$1500 per person. The balance is due by March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018. A discount of \$230 per couple or \$140 per single is available for guests paying by check instead of Visa/Mastercard. The overall number of participants is limited to 18 people.

Flights to London are not included in the tour cost. I've added some suggested itineraries and options for purchasing air tickets.

## **Arriving London:**

Delta (Virgin Atlantic) and British Airways flights from Seattle to London arrive at Heathrow. Arrivals into Heathrow (LHR) will need to take a shuttle to Gatwick (LGW).

New non-stop **Norwegian Air** service will arrive at Gatwick, eliminating the need to change airports. This is the recommended option.

**Delta** will either get you into LHR on a nonstop from Seattle or will get you to Gatwick on a connection via JFK or ATL. Since we're staying near Heathrow on the return, you'd book the nonstop on Delta on Friday, June 29<sup>th</sup>.

**British Airways** offers nonstops from SEA to LHR, but their arrival time is much too late to catch a reasonable flight to Guernsey. Unless you planned to arrive a day or two early on British, this airline will not work for our purposes.

Depart Seattle on Monday, June 18<sup>th</sup> for Gatwick (best option) or Heathrow with the plan to shuttle to Gatwick for the flight to Guernsey.

### Heathrow/Gatwick Shuttle

**National Express** runs a shuttle from LHR to LGW for the price of £12 per person. The service runs round the clock, up to 5 times an hour, and takes about 45 minutes.

When you're ready to book your flights, contact Brad at NW Travel to ensure that the itinerary meets group requirements.