

HOLIDAY BASED IN BINFIELD, BERKSHIRE

HOLIDAY – 6TH TO 9TH SEPTEMBER 2026

Sunday, 6th September

Depart West Down 07.45 a.m. with pick ups at Braunton and Barnstaple stopping for a comfort break at Taunton Dean Services before we drive on to the NT village of Lacock in Wiltshire for a three hour visit in time for lunch - there are plenty of places for light refreshments - and a look round the delightful old village and the National Trust Lacock Abbey, Garden and Fox Talbot museum (the inventor of photography) which are free to enter if you are a NT member or an entrance fee of approximately £20.00 to non members.

The setting for many television programmes and films – Cranford, Pride and Prejudice, Downton Abbey, Emma, Harry Potter and Wolf Hall. With it's central grid of four streets, Lacock today looks much like it did 200 years ago. There is lots to discover in the village, quaint traditional stone cottages, the old workhouse, the medieval tithe barn, the old lock-up and the village church.

We then travel on to the **Coppid Beech Hotel**, Binfield for three nights bed, breakfast and evening meals with en suite facilities. The Hotel has fully equipped classic double/twin bedrooms, seven single rooms and deluxe doubles with a balcony (at an extra cost). There is an indoor large swimming pool we can use as hotel residents.



<http://coppidbeech.com/>

Monday, 7th September

We leave this morning to drive to Waterperry Gardens near Oxford which was made famous by Beatrix Havergal who established her School of Horticulture for Ladies there. It's now home to 8 acres of beautifully landscaped ornamental gardens, a quality plant centre and garden shop, gallery and gift shop, museum and tea shop.

Waterperry Gardens is a magical place where you are surrounded by beautiful trees, shrubs and flowers, classical borders, modern planting, secret corners and long vistas.

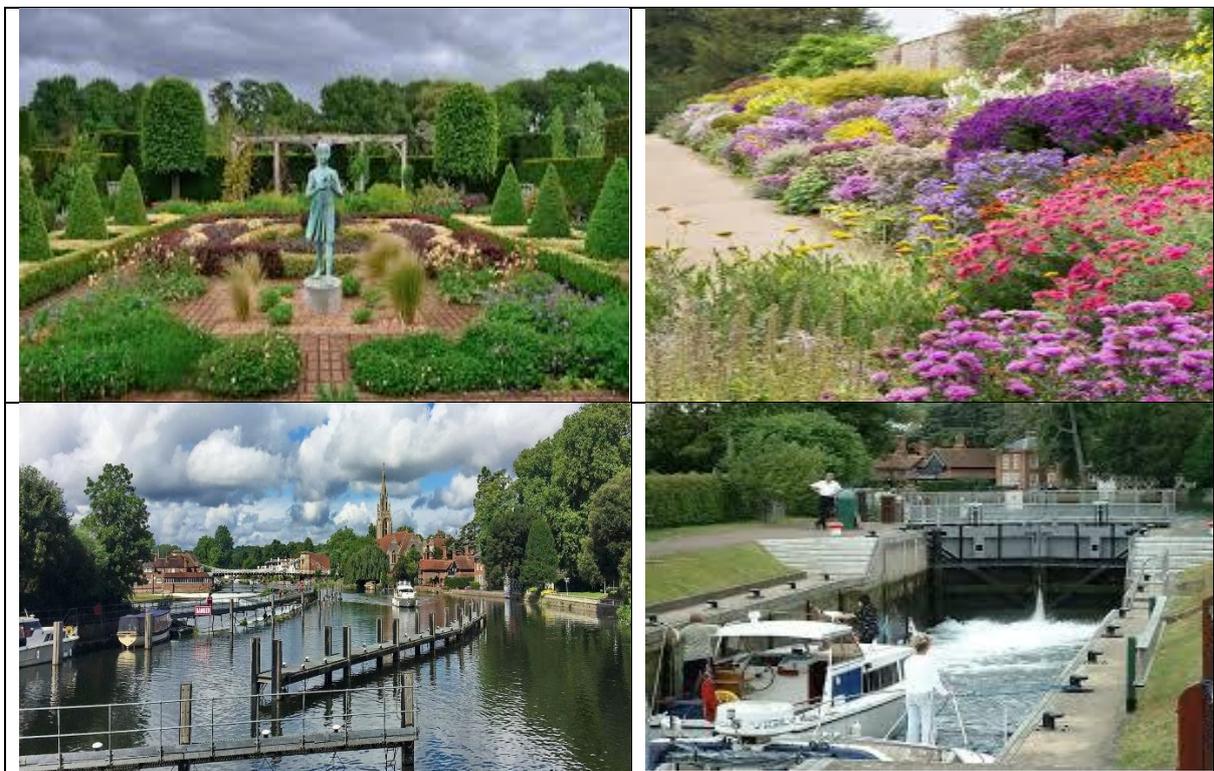
Home to the renowned horticultural college between 1932 and 1971, the emphasis was on food production rather than spectacular ornamental gardens.

Over the past twenty years though the gardens have developed and grown, and many new projects have been undertaken and completed.

There is a Formal Garden, the Mary Rose Garden, a Waterlily Canal and the Long Colour Border, and a recently planted small arboretum in the meadow area beyond the canal to look round.

<http://waterperrygardens.co.uk/>

After refreshments we then drive back to the hotel stopping off at Marlow in Buckinghamshire to explore the town set on the bank of the River Thames with its riverside gardens, lock, suspension bridge, church and shops. Situated on a beautiful stretch of the River Thames, midway between Reading and Windsor, it is surrounded by the lovely countryside of the Chiltern Hills. Marlow is rich in history, reflected in its Georgian and Victorian architecture.



Tuesday, 8th September

We have two alternatives today:

RHS Wisley – The Royal Horticultural Society’s garden. Entrance to Wisley is free as we are affiliated members of the RHS and allowed one free visit a year to one of their main gardens. It is their first and biggest garden so plenty of time there to explore, get ideas from and of course refreshments to enjoy and plants to purchase. The garden looks stunning in the autumn and there are lots of places to sit and enjoy the views.

Planted last year the newly designed area by world-famous Dutch garden designer and plantsman Piet Oudolf, the Oudolf Landscape envelops you in his signature ‘new perennial’ planting style.

The huge cathedral-like Glasshouse, covering the area of 10 tennis courts and rising to 12m (40ft) high, is home to the RHS’s world-class tender plant collection.

OR Brooklands Museum – discover the pioneers of speed, flight and adventure at the birthplace of British Motorsport, aviation and home of Concorde.

<http://brooklandsmuseum.com/>

There will be an additional charge of approximately £26.40 (£24.00 excludes voluntary donation) to see racing cars, buses and an aircraft flight shed. A real ‘boys’ day out!



Wednesday, 9th September

We leave the hotel and depart for home via a relaxing two hour horse drawn canal trip along the Kennet and Avon canal including lunch.

<http://kennet-horse-boat.co.uk/horse-drawn-boat-trips/>



Our final part of the journey sees us arriving at West Down at approximately 6.00 p.m.

Please note that apart from the leaving times in the mornings all other times are approximate and are dependent upon traffic.