



Guernsey

Home to Castle Cornet, St Peter Port and the famous dairy cows, Guernsey is an explorer's paradise with many woodland walks, cliff-top trails and stunning flower-filled gardens waiting to be discovered.

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Just a short ferry crossing from home, Guernsey is an eternal favourite with ramblers, foodies, garden enthusiasts and everyone in-between. Its endless rocky cliffs, temperate climate and stunning scenery provide the perfect backdrop to a relaxing gardener's holiday.

During our 6-day trip we visit some of the best private gardens on the island of Guernsey, passing through a selection of the Parishes which make up the separate districts.

Grange Court Gardens is a gem of a garden, set in the heart of St Peter Port. This 2-acre site is laid out as 3 distinct areas - a rose garden with folly wall; an informal garden planted with exotics and a grouping of rare plants and shrubs leading to a restored Victorian vinery.

La Petite Vallee is also in St Peter Port and has many styles, levels and views. This 3-acre garden has a wealth of rare and unusual plants, with a water cascade that flows down a staircase and along the lower terrace before winding around the garden and splashing down a waterfall to a Koi pond.

In the Parish of St Pierre du Bois lies Mille Fleurs Gardens, set in a peaceful wooded conservation valley. Much of the planting in this 3-acre site has been chosen with wildlife in mind. Roses, clematis and numerous perennials frame the arches and doorways, accompanying a natural spring and ponds surrounded by giant gunneras. We also visit the orchid fields of St Andrews Parish, managed by the Guernsey National Trust.



Top: Grange Park; Bottom: Sark Island

We have planned two optional excursions to the tiny islands of Sark and Herm during our trip. Traffic is prohibited on these islands so a trip here is like stepping back in time, where a laid-back vibe and horse-drawn carts are the everyday norm.

Despite its size, Sark punches well above its weight by boasting some of the most beautiful coastlines anywhere in the world, with mile upon mile of rugged cliff tops and wildflower meadows. During our trip we visit the formal gardens of La Seigneurie, with its stone walls, Victorian glasshouse and hedge maze.

Just 20 minutes by ferry yet truly 'off the beaten track', Herm is a delightful island with stunning bays and glorious gardens, which our guide - Herm's Head Gardener - will point out to us during our private tour.

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Itinerary

During our trip to Guernsey, Herm & Sark we stay at the St Pierre Park Hotel, a wonderful 4* residence situated in acres of lush parkland, woodland and lakes.

Whether you prefer the challenge of the 9-hole golf course, the indoor swimming pool complex or the hotel's health spa, this is one of the best places to stay in Guernsey. As well as impressive facilities, the hotel offers accommodation of the very highest standards. Each room has a private balcony or terrace, with many overlooking the grounds.

Day 1: Arrival at St Pierre Park Hotel, Guernsey.

Day 2: Morning visit to Grange Court Gardens and, after taking lunch (not included) in the bay of St Peter Port, spend the afternoon in La Petite Vallee.

Day 3: Optional trip to Sark Island. Take a horse & carriage ride to La Seigneurie and wander through the finest gardens in the Channel Islands.

Day 4: Mille Fleurs gardens in the morning and, after lunch (not included), a walk through the orchid fields of St Andrews.

Day 5: Optional trip to Herm. Private visit to the formal gardens with Head Gardener.

Day 6: Fly home.



Cost: £765 per person | **Single supplement:** £140 per person

Price includes 5 nights' half board, return flight & transfers, transport & entrance costs to private gardens. Flights from East Midlands Airport. Other regional flights available on request. Herm & Sark tours are optional extras - details will be sent with holiday information pack.