

Secret Gardens, Iconic Estates, and Medieval Tales of Yorkshire and Derbyshire

May 30th- June 12th, 2020

With Karen & Andy Chapman



Join us for an unforgettable adventure through the rolling, English countryside of Yorkshire and Derbyshire.

While many garden tours of England focus on the famous estates of the south, this tour will take you off the beaten track to explore medieval manor houses, quaint country villages, and iconic stately homes to the north. You will have private guided tours of hidden gems as well as world-class gardens such as Scampston and RHS Harlow Carr; gardens that will have you yearning to return.

Yet to truly experience England, you need to do more than just visit gardens. We will tour and learn about York Minster, Fountains Abbey and the plague village of Eyam, take time to wander through a local market and cobbled streets to pick up a few souvenirs, eat in historic coaching inns, and celebrate the ancient well dressing festival in the Peak District village where your hosts used to live.

As a bonus, all guests will receive complimentary membership of the Royal Horticultural Society with all the associated member benefits including exclusive members-only admission to the opening day of the RHS Chatsworth Show.

This is a tour like no other: it will be a unique blend of treasured experiences.

ITINERARY

Day 1: Saturday, May 30th

Depart Seattle for Manchester, England (*flight details to be finalized August 2019*).

Day 2: Sunday, May 31st



Your adventure begins in earnest when we meet you at Manchester airport and board our coach for the drive to **York Gate Gardens** (left) near Leeds. Originally a private garden whose design was inspired by Hidcote, this one-acre landscape is divided into a number of garden rooms by traditional hedges of yew and beech. Today it is run by Perennial, a unique UK charity which helps people working in horticulture when times get tough. After a private tour and **afternoon tea** we will continue on to the historic city of **York** where the **Doubletree York Hotel** will be our home for 4 nights, conveniently situated overlooking the medieval Monk Bar and within easy walking distance of all attractions.

We'll celebrate with **dinner** together at the hotel this evening. (*Photo and credit: York Gate Gardens*)

Day 3: Monday, June 1st

After breakfast we will take a short walk to **York Minster**, for a private tour. We will then explore the **York Museum Gardens**, a 10-acre botanical garden in the heart of the City, and on to the cobbled streets of **The Shambles**, a maze of half-timbered Tudor buildings. You'll then have some free time to explore the local shops, museums and enjoy lunch on your own.



We'll reassemble mid-afternoon for a short drive to **Stillingfleet Lodge Gardens** (above), where owner Vanessa Cook will lead us on a private tour and offer a **wine reception**. This quintessential, wildlife friendly garden, and nursery will give you lots of ideas as you explore the series of small, interconnected gardens that include classic English herbaceous borders, meadow, rill garden, kitchen garden, and orchard. After returning to the hotel you will have the evening to enjoy a leisurely meal in York on your own. (*Photo credit: Stillingfleet Lodge Gardens*)

Day 4: Tuesday, June 2nd

This morning our coach will take us to the edge of the North York Moors where we will visit **Helmsley Walled Garden** and enjoy a private tour. This is a delightful 5-acre garden in a picture-perfect setting that also serves as a horticultural therapy garden. After a light lunch we will head to **Scampston Walled Garden** (shown). Here a horticulturalist will give us a private tour of the world class, contemporary garden designed by renowned plantsman Piet Oudolf. After enjoying traditional afternoon tea, it's back to our hotel where you are free to have dinner in York at your leisure. *(Photo credit: Val Corbett)*



Day 5: Wednesday, June 3rd



This morning we will tour the **private garden** of **Martin and Jill Fish** and enjoy **homemade refreshments**. Martin is “quite a character”, a well-known British television and radio celebrity, and an accredited RHS judge. After returning to our York hotel, the remainder of the day is “**free time**” to walk the City walls, visit one of the many museums (*The Jorvik Viking Museum is our favorite*), shop for souvenirs, have lunch or a “fat rascal” at Betty’s tea shop or visit the Minster for Evensong. Dinner will be on your own this evening.

(Photo of The Shambles: Creative Commons license)

Day 6: Thursday, June 4th

We leave York this morning and head to the award-winning gardens at **Newby Hall**, Ripon. During our time here, we will enjoy a private guided tour, have a light **lunch** together and still have some time to explore the doll’s house and teddy bear exhibits, or take a 15-minute ride on the miniature railway.

The coach will then take us to **Fountains Abbey & Studley Royal Water Gardens** (shown) where a guide will tell us the fascinating history behind this medieval abbey and World Heritage Site. Our hotel for the next two nights will be the **White Hart Hotel** in Harrogate, a stylish hotel within easy walking distance of town. We will enjoy **dinner** together at the hotel this evening. *(Photo credit: Le jardinet)*



Day 7: Friday, June 5th

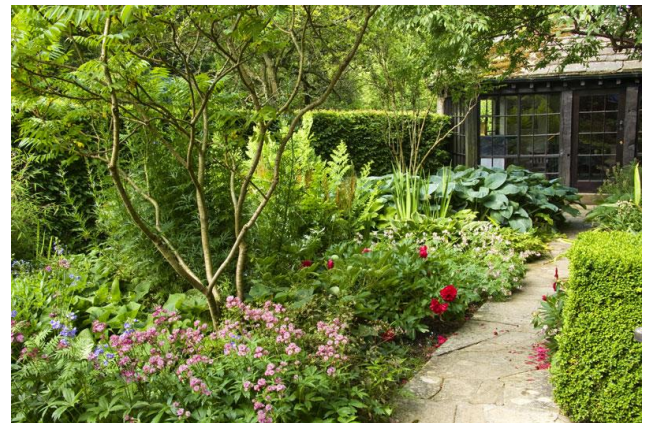


A short drive will take us to **RHS Harlow Carr** (left) where we will have a private guided tour of these awe-inspiring gardens as well as some time to explore on your own and visit the gift shop. We will be having **lunch** together at **The Malt Shovel**, a quaint 16th Century country village pub, before driving on to the romantic, moated, medieval manor house **Markenfield Hall**. Here we will be given a private tour of the newly developed gardens and the Hall itself, whose fascinating history dates back to the Domesday Book of

1086. You will be free to enjoy dinner on your own in the spa town of **Harrogate** this evening. (Photo credit: Le jardinet)

Day 8: Saturday, June 6th

Heading into the picturesque **Yorkshire Dales National Park** we will visit two enchanting **private gardens** in Nidderdale before having **lunch** together at **The Wellington**, a traditional 18th century coaching inn. From here we'll have a short drive to **Parcevall Hall Gardens**, (right) a hidden treasure and a "plantsman's garden", where we are free to wander through the quiet 24-acre gardens featuring plant collections, formal design elements, and woodland.



Our home for the night is the **Red Lion** in Burnsall, originally a 16th century Ferryman's inn. This evening we'll enjoy a "farewell to Yorkshire" **dinner** at the **Craven Arms**, a delightful 16th century country pub, and feast in the reproduction Cruck Barn with its soaring oak trusses, heather thatch roof, and inglenook fireplace.

Day 9: Sunday, June 7th



We will be driving to the **Peak District National Park**, Derbyshire this morning, arriving at the **Riverside House Hotel**, Ashford-in-the-Water, in time to enjoy a three course **Sunday lunch** in a truly idyllic setting. We will then lead you on an informal tour of this ancient village (where we used to live), pointing out the well dressings and explaining how they are created, before meeting at the village church for the **Blessing of the Wells ceremony**. Our coach will then take us to **The George Hotel**, a 500-year-old coaching inn in the village of Hathersage where you can enjoy dinner on your own (should you need any!) This will be our base for 2 nights.

(Photo from welldressing.com. Used with permission)

Day 10: Monday, June 8th

The market town of **Bakewell** (right) is our destination today, beginning with a tour of a **private garden**, a short stroll through the fields from the town center. This is a traditional English style garden with lawns and herbaceous borders set against the backdrop of a historic property dating back to the 1600s. You will then have time to explore the market stalls and local shops, indulge in a delicious Bakewell pudding (perfect with coffee or tea), stroll by the river, and eat lunch. *(Photo credit: Le Jardinets)*



In the afternoon we will visit **Haddon Hall** (left, *photo credit: Haddon Hall*) home of the Duke and Duchess of Rutland and the finest example of a fortified medieval manor house in existence. A guide will lead us on a private tour of the Hall (one of Karen's absolute favorites) and renovated gardens. You will be free to enjoy dinner at your leisure this evening either at our hotel or in one of the village pubs or small restaurants.

Day 11: Tuesday, June 9th

We begin today in **Eyam**, the Plague Village. A local, specialist guide will lead us on a walking tour of this medieval village, telling us the fascinating stories of the people who lived and died here during the time of The Black Death.

From here we will drive to **Renishaw Hall & Gardens** (right) for **lunch** followed by a guided tour of the stunning Italianate gardens. Tonight, we will be staying the **Peak Edge Hotel**, Stonedge, Chesterfield, a boutique hotel in a quiet rural setting; our home for the next 3 nights. Dinner will be on your own at the hotel restaurant or bar.



(Photo credit: © Renishaw Hall & Gardens, by kind permission of Alexandra Sitwell)

Day 12: Wednesday, June 10th



Let's slow the pace today! You'll be able to sleep in and start organizing your suitcases before we take a short ride to **Caudwell's Mill and Crafts** in the village of **Rowsley**. Here you'll be free to tour the historic, water-powered flour mill, visit artist studios in the mill yard, shop for unique gifts, and grab a bite to eat for lunch in the café at your leisure.

Our final stop of the day is **Crich Tramway Village**. Step back in time as you ride the vintage trams and enjoy the atmosphere of a bygone era. Then stretch your legs on a short trail through native woodland to enjoy views across the Derwent Valley and discover the many sculptures displayed along the route. Dinner will be on your own this evening at the hotel restaurant or bar.

(Photo credit: Crich Tramway Village)

Day 13: Thursday, June 11th

For our grand finale we will be attending the **RHS Chatsworth Show**. This day is *only* open to members – which we will be! After a morning free to explore the show and eat lunch, we will meet for a self-guided tour of **Chatsworth House**, home of the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire (right). For the remainder of the afternoon you are welcome to join your hosts for an informal tour of the kitchen gardens and/or a stroll through the surrounding Chatsworth estate or to return to see more of the show.



(Photo credit: Le Jardinnet)

After time to freshen up at our hotel, we will share a **Farewell Dinner** at **The Fox and Goose Inn**, just a short drive away. This inn dates back over 600 years, its name derived from a Viking board game that the local monks used to play!

Day 14: Thursday, June 12th

Your coach leaves for Manchester airport after breakfast, where your hosts will assist you with check in before wishing you Bon Voyage!

ACCESSIBILITY STATEMENT

While no strenuous hikes are planned, prospective guests should be aware that each day we are likely to walk several miles. Some of this will be on firm paths or sidewalks, but there will be *many* instances where we will be walking on uneven, steep, and/or grassy footpaths through fields and gardens. Comfortable, lightweight walking shoes with good traction are therefore a must!

Likewise, some of the historical buildings we will visit date back to the 12th century and have uneven floors and worn stone steps, as well as flights of stairs (i.e. no elevators) between floors. Please consider your ability to manage these comfortably in order to fully enjoy this tour.

SMOKING

Please note that all our hotels are non-smoking establishments.

POTENTIAL CHANGES

Should any changes have to be made to hotels or tours for any reason, a suitable alternative will be found of equal standing, and finalized closer to departure.

MEET YOUR HOSTS



Both Karen and Andy grew up in northern England. In fact, they first met when Andy was just 9 and Karen was 14 (and she still hasn't forgiven him for not remembering her, even though she has the photographs to prove it!) Despite such inauspicious beginnings they married in 1987 and lived in the heart of the Peak District before moving to Seattle in 1996 with their two young children.

A love of the English countryside was a common bond even in those early days, which for Karen naturally led to an interest in gardening while both Karen and Andy enjoy photographing landscapes and wildlife.

Today, as a landscape designer, award-winning author, and international speaker Karen has the knowledge, enthusiasm, personal connections, and detailed, organizational skills that are needed to put together a tour of inspirational gardens, historical sites, and cultural experiences.

As always, Andy is an integral part of Karen's business, offering logistical support, attention to detail, and a reassuring pair of extra hands, ears, and eyes to make sure every guest feels cared for.

Together, we would love to share "our England" with you.

Karen Chapman, Le jardinet: <https://lejardinetdesigns.com/>

Andy Chapman, Stumpdust: <https://www.stumpdust.com/>

For questions or more information contact Karen: karen@lejardinetdesigns.com

What's included:

- 12 nights' accommodation (including all taxes) in 3-4-star hotels
- All ground transportation in England in air-conditioned coach
- Breakfast daily
- 6 lunches, 4 dinners
- 1 wine reception
- 3 traditional English refreshments (tea/coffee and cake)
- All entrance fees and private guided tours to gardens, historical sites, and RHS Chatsworth Show per itinerary
- Royal Horticultural Society membership
- All taxes
- Hosts, Andy and Karen Chapman traveling with group at all times

Land Cost:

Tour is priced in **Pounds Sterling (£)** and final payment will reflect the actual cost.

For 15-19 passengers:

£3189 per person based on double occupancy

Based on rate of exchange (2/7/19): ~\$4132

For 20-22 passengers (group is capped at 22 including two hosts):

£2959 per person based on double occupancy

Based on ROE (2/7/19): ~\$3834

Single supplement: **£719**

Based on ROE (2/7/19): ~\$932

Airfare:

Airfare and flight information will be available at the end of August 2019 and is anticipated to be **\$1200-\$1500** per person including taxes and fees.

Payment schedule and cancellation policy:

A \$1000 deposit is due at time of booking which is refundable until August 15th 2019.

Final payment is due March 1st 2020, and is non-refundable.

Check is the required form of payment for deposit and preferred for final payment. A 4% surcharge will be added for credit card use.

Please make **checks payable to Direct Travel, writing "Karen Chapman – UK Tour" on the memo line**, and mail along with your reservation form to the address below:

Ma Petite Tours
9614 180th St. SE
Snohomish, WA 98296

Insurance:

Insurance is highly recommended. To cover any pre-existing illness, please purchase as quickly as possible. [Full details here](#)

In order for the correct insurance premium price to be automatically filled into the purchase window, you need to add in the cost of your tour in **US dollars** at the top of the form.

Since the tour is priced in British pounds (GBP) and the airfare in US dollars I know this may seem tricky, but you just need to use the conversion provided above and assume we will have 20-22 guests i.e.

Land only (shared room) \$3834

Land only (with single supplement) $\$3834 + \$932 = \$4766$

Land + group air (shared room) $\$3834 + \$1100 = \$4934$

Land + group air (with single supplement) $\$3834 + \$932 + \$1100 = \5866

If you are making your own travel arrangements, substitute the cost of the group air (\$1100) with your air fare cost)

Documentation:

You will need a valid US Passport with at least 6 months validity from the return date to enter the UK. If you are not a US citizen, please let me know and I will advise you on the required documentation.

For more information contact:

Karen Chapman at **425-765-3574** or email: karen@lejardinetdesigns.com

RESERVATION FORM

May 30th-June 12th 2020 tour to Yorkshire & Derbyshire, England with Karen & Andy Chapman

Passenger One:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Best phone number: _____

Email: _____

Emergency contact person and phone: _____

Legal name as it appears on passport: _____

Country issuing passport: _____

Passport number: _____

Expiration date: _____

Date of birth: _____

Dietary restrictions: _____

Allergies: _____

Medical: _____

Other:

Are you interested in group air from Seattle? _____

Seat requests: _____

Frequent flyer company/number: _____

Do you wish to purchase insurance? _____

Special requests:

Single requesting share:

Passenger Two:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Best phone number: _____

Email: _____

Emergency contact person and phone: _____

Legal name as it appears on passport: _____

Country issuing passport: _____

Passport number: _____

Expiration date: _____

Date of birth: _____

Dietary restrictions: _____

Allergies: _____

Medical: _____

Other:

Are you interested in group air from Seattle? _____

Seat requests: _____

Frequent flyer company/number: _____

Do you wish to purchase insurance? _____