

RHS Wisley

Thursday 24 September 2026

Cost: 36.00 plus £5 parking (if required)



RHS Wisley is the flagship garden of the RHS. It was founded by George Ferguson Wilson who purchased Glebe Farm in 1878. There he established the "Oakwood Experimental Garden" where he attempted to "make difficult plants grow successfully". After Wilson died, Oakwood was purchased by Sir Thomas Hanbury who gave the site to the RHS in 1903, at which time it moved to Wisley.

From its beginnings, Wisley has been about plantsmanship and experimentation. It continues in that spirit today. Some 75 garden staff, 25 students, four apprentices and 100 volunteers help make a day at Wisley an amazing experience for visitors. The garden covers 240 acres. In addition to numerous formal and informal decorative gardens, several glasshouses and an extensive arboretum, it includes a trials field where new cultivars are assessed.

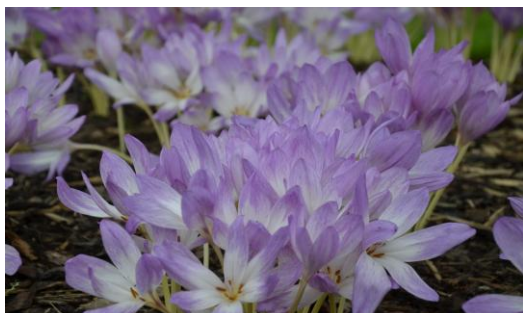
The cost of the trip includes:

- Entrance to the gardens.
- Tea/coffee and biscuits in a private room on arrival.
- a tour of the grounds.
- Coach hire.
- Driver's tip.
- Pickup points in Newbury.



Lunch is at your own expense. There are cafes and a restaurant on site or you may wish to take a picnic.

September is peak dahlia season and the massive double herbaceous borders should still be packed with late-season colour, mixing tall grasses with deep purple asters, rudbeckias and sedums.



The autumn flowering crocus should be making a glorious display and in addition to numerous formal and informal decorative gardens, the glasshouses and an extensive arboretum will be worth a visit. The late-summer heat makes the Exotic Garden and Glasshouse borders pop, featuring towering bananas, bold cannas, and vivid dahlias.

This trip is arranged as part of the Gardening Group's RHS membership. You do not have to be a member yourself.