

Somerset HPS Garden Visit

Tuesday, 12 May

Coach trip to Brockworth Court and Morton Hall Garden

Leave Taunton at 9.00 am

Pick up at Clevedon at 9.35 am

Brockworth Court and Gardens, Court Road, Brockworth, GL3 4QU

Tim and Bridget Wiltshire.

Brockworth Court was initially the residence for the Priors of Llanthony Priory. Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn visited the manor in 1535. Following the Dissolution of the Monasteries in 1540, Henry VIII granted it to the Guise family until the late 19th Century when it passed to the Wiltshires, the present generation of whom have lovingly restored the property and gardens.

An intense, informal tapestry-style garden which beautifully complements the period manor house it surrounds. The organic garden is naturalistic, with informal cottage-style planting areas that seamlessly blend. There is a natural fishpond, with a Monet bridge leading to small island with thatched Fiji house, and a kitchen garden which was once cultivated by the monks when it belonged to a local Priory. There is also an historic tithe barn dating back to 13th century. With view to Cooper's Hill where the annual cheese roll event takes place. Adjacent Norman Church.

We will have a guided tour of the house and then will explore the garden after refreshments of coffee and cake/biscuits. If you require gluten free refreshments please book this on the booking form.

Please bring a picnic lunch for the journey to our afternoon visit.

Morton Hall Garden, Morton Hall Lane, Redditch, B96 6SJ

Anne and Rene Olivieri

Seven acres of gardens and parkland designed by landscape architect Charles Chesshire as a circular journey through "garden rooms". The visit ties in with our talk from Charles Chesshire and our trip to his nursery in September 2026. Morton Hall Garden enjoys a dramatic position atop a steep escarpment. The garden and park combine both historic and modern features and provide the backdrop for a vast plant collection.

In the spring, magnificent bulb meadows and woodland gardens take centre stage, as well as sumptuous tulip displays in the herbaceous borders. The garden is well known for its tulip festival and featured in Gardens Illustrated magazine in April 2025. Later in the year, the focus is on the more formal gardens with their intricate blend of perennial and annual planting in elegant colour schemes.

From 2 pm we will have an introductory talk by the owner or Head Gardener, followed by refreshments of tea/coffee and a home-made muffin, and then we will be given a map to explore the garden at our leisure. If you require a gluten free refreshment, please book this on the booking form.

We will depart at 5 pm and have a short comfort break at Gloucestershire Services.

Drop off at Clevedon at 7.00pm approx.

Drop off at Taunton at 7.40pm approx.