

Key

Great for kids! Discover The Treehouse, Hilltop Adventures, Gunnera Board Walk, Sound Garden, Wobbly Bridge & more!

- Information & tickets
- Refreshments
- Shop
- Toilets
- Picnic Area
- Accessible toilets
- First aid
- Viewpoint
- Parking
- Accessible parking


- Accessible trails**
- Flat with little gradient
 - A slight gradient
- Terrain not suitable for wheelchairs or pushchairs**
- Mixed surface paths
 - Grass path
 - Gravel paths
 - Steps
 - Main road



Welcome to Sir Harold Hillier Gardens.

Explore one of the world's largest collections of hardy trees and shrubs, including Britain and Ireland's biggest collection of Champion Trees with over 600 specimens! Use the map to guide your walk—the ten highlighted plants are just a glimpse of what's waiting to be discovered.

We hope you enjoy your visit.

 = RHS Award of Garden Merit

4 *Kalmia latifolia* 'Myrtifolia' (KAL-mee-ah)
A beautiful shrub, native to the mountains of eastern North America. Not as well known or widely grown in the UK as it perhaps deserves to be! The Mountain Laurel, as it is known, has striking flowers in early summer. These begin by resembling an iced gem and then open to a broad, open, bell shape, often with dark spotting inside. Requiring similar conditions to rhododendrons.

8 *Cornus kousa* 'Beni Fuji' (KOR-nus)
This 'Flowering Dogwood', is related to the coloured-stem dogwoods but grown for its early summer flowers. Usually white in colour, this is a free-flowering variety with attractive pink blooms. Although the flowers are slightly smaller than usual, there are a profusion of them. The petal-like structures are actually bracts on a flowering dogwood, with the true flowers clustered at the centre.

1 *Cotinus coggygria* (koh-TYE-nus)
This is a striking deciduous shrub, native from southern Europe to west Asia, and the Himalayas. Known as the 'Smoke Bush', and admired for the airy, fluffy seed heads that cover the plant in early summer, giving it a smoke-like appearance. This is the true form; however, here in the Gardens we also showcase a number of cultivated varieties, bred by Hillier Nurseries over the years.

5 *Calycanthus x raulstonii* 'Aphrodite' (kal-ee-KAN-thus)
A very special variety of the 'Spice Bush', with ancient lineage, related to magnolias - among the first flowering plants to have appeared on earth. There are four recognised species, three in North America and one in China. Several were hybridised to create 'Aphrodite'. A reliable, easy-to-grow shrub in most soils, producing flowers over three months.

9 *Deutzia* 'Strawberry Fields' (DOY-tsee-ah)
A relative of the hydrangea, although quite distinct in appearance. They prefer similar growing conditions and are as easy to grow. Flowers come in colours such as white, pink, or a combination of both, and they are rarely fragrant. Some varieties, such as this one, are exceptionally floriferous over several weeks in late spring and early summer.

2 *Phlomis russeliana* (FLOH-mis)
This superb salvia relative is sometimes known as Turkish Sage! The flowers are salvia-like, but neatly arranged in a crown-like ring of blooms and in a candelabra pattern up the flower spike. An easy and rewarding ground cover for a sunny position. It can be found growing wild throughout the eastern Mediterranean and Southwest Asia.

6 *Trachelospermum jasminoides* (trak-ee-loh-SPIR-mum)
When it comes to evergreen climbers, this is one of the finest choices available. Known as 'Star Jasmine' and flowering over an extended period during summer, the flowers are among the most fragrant of the season. Due to its vigorous growth, it is the perfect choice for covering fences and walls. It is a self-twining climber and does, however, benefit from a trellis for support.

10 *Thalictrum rochebruneanum* (thaal-LIHK-trum)
Herbaceous perennial, native to Korea and Japan, known as 'Lavender Mist Meadow Rue'. An easy-to-grow, early-summer flowering plant for the middle to back of the border, where it adds lightness and height. It pairs well with grasses or grass-like perennials. Forming clumps gradually, it can be divided in spring as the new shoots are emerging.

3 *Magnolia virginiana* (mag-NOH-lee-ah)
This evergreen magnolia species is native to the lowlands, swamps, and coastal plains of the eastern and southern United States, and parts of Cuba. It was the first magnolia introduced to cultivation in the UK in 1688. However, more floriferous deciduous Chinese and Japanese species later became more popular.

7 *Magnolia ashei* (mag-NOH-lee-ah)
This beautiful, large-flowered magnolia, or cucumber tree as it is known in North America, is native to the Florida Panhandle. Sadly, the stunning flowers remain open for only a few days, but their fragrance and beauty more than justify growing it. These deciduous magnolias also have impressively large leaves.

Membership starts from **£52***

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* Just ask at the Ticket Desk

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