

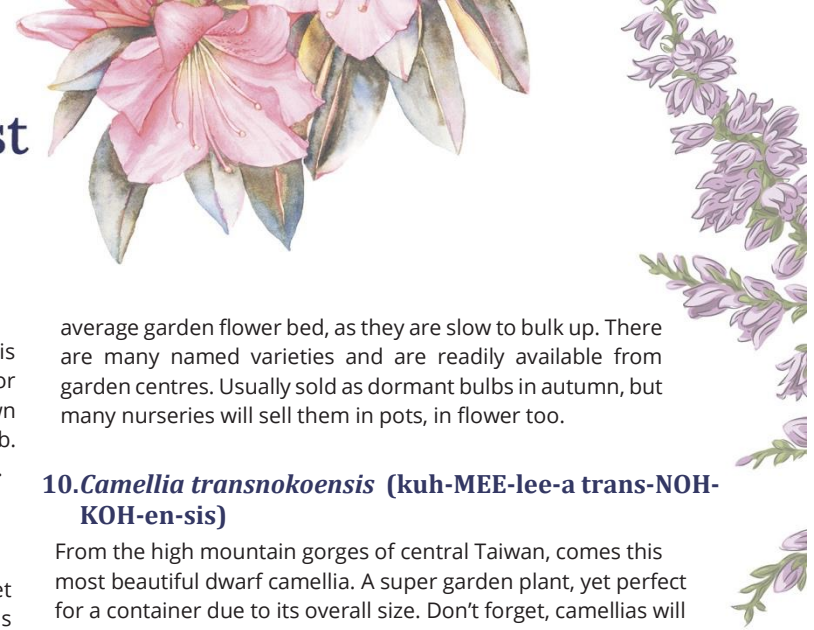


Key

- Great for kids!
- Pinetum Sculpture Trail
Find the giant botanical cone sculptures amongst the trees.
- Information & tickets
- Accessible Toilets
- Refreshments
- First aid
- Shop
- Viewpoint
- Toilets
- Parking
- Picnic Area
- Accessible parking

- Accessible trails**
- Flat with no gradient
 - A slight gradient

- Terrain not suitable for wheelchairs or pushchairs**
- Mixed surface paths
 - Grass path
 - Gravel paths
 - Steps



Welcome to Sir Harold Hillier Gardens, one of the largest collections of hardy trees and shrubs in the world. Also listed as having the biggest collection of Champion Trees in the whole of Britain and Ireland - with 611 Champions! You can use the map overleaf to help guide yourself around the Gardens. The ten plants highlighted here are just a taster of what can be seen on your walk. We hope you enjoy your visit.
🏆 = RHS Award of Garden Merit.

1. *Helleborus argutifolius* (hel-eh-BORE-us ar-gew-tih-FOH-lee-us)

This is a species of Hellebore native to Corsica. The green flowers may not be the showiest of blooms, but the whole plant makes a real statement on a dull winter's day! The toothed, evergreen foliage looking quite exotic and tolerant of a good amount of shade. Check out the many *Helleborus hybridus* varieties flowering around the Gardens.

2. *Oemleria cerasiformis* (oh-em-LER-ee-uh-ser-uh-si-FORM-iss)

This bushy, winter flowering shrub is known in its native North America as, Osoberry or Indian plum. These shrubs are dioecious, which means that male and female flowers are held on different plants. This is a male plant, which sadly means, no fruit. Even without a tasty treat, this is an attractive plant for late winter/spring interest.

3. *Leucojum vernum* (LOO-koh-jum VER-num)

Although sometimes mistakenly thought to be a giant Snowdrop, this is actually a bulbous, spring flowering perennial known as a Snowflake. Naturally occurring throughout southern Europe, but now naturalised in the UK, North America and Scandinavia. Flowering period is slightly longer than the Snowdrop.

4. *Forsythia x intermedia 'Goldrausch'* (for-SITH-ee-ah inter-MEE-dee-uh)

The golden flowers of the forsythia are a real indicator that spring is on the way. These relatives of the Olive and very easy shrubs to grow and tolerate most soil types. They make excellent hedging plants or specimen shrubs. There is an incredible range of varieties, including some very compact forms for smaller gardens.

5. *Cornus mas* 'Spring Glow' (KOR-nus mas)

This species of flowering dogwood is native to Europe and is commonly known as the Cornelian Cherry, as it is often grown for its edible fruits. This is a plant that is easily trained, so can be grown as a small tree, or coppiced and kept as a multi-stemmed shrub. They can also be fan trained as a wall shrub in place of a climber.

6. *Podocarpus nivalis* 'Chocolate Box' (pod-oh-KAR-pus niv-VAL-us)

The Podocarp is a tree or shrub, sometimes with broad leaves, yet they are botanically, conifers. The species *P. nivalis* is being used as an alternative to box, since the box blight crisis. It can easily be pruned and shaped just like box, but is significantly faster growing, so a hedge is established much quicker. This variety has the most sumptuous chocolate-brown leaves in winter and early spring, however these change to plain green in late spring through the rest of the year.

7. *Narcissus* 'Peeping Tom' (nar-SIS-us)

This is a wonderful, tall strong growing form of daffodil, with a narrow trumpet-like corolla and reflexed sepals. Like all daffodils, the bulbs are best planted in the autumn, giving the plant a good amount of time to establish some healthy roots before flowering.

8. *Prunus cerasifera* 'Hessei' (PROO-nus ke-ra-SEE-fer-uh)

The Cherry Plum is a cherry relative from Europe that has naturalised here in parts of southern England. They are one of the easiest cherries to grow and very early to come into flower. Small, dark purple plum-like fruits follow the flowers and can vary in flavour from very sweet to quite bitter. The variety 'Hessei' is a rare cultivar with variegated foliage and pink-purple bracts on the flowers.

9. *Iris reticulata* (EYE-ris reh-tick-yoo-LAY-tuh)

This is a wonderful dwarf bulb, a bulbous iris species native from Turkey through to Iran, yet perfectly hardy in the UK. Flowers can vary in colour from white and yellow to blues and purples. Because of their size, you will require a good amount for the

average garden flower bed, as they are slow to bulk up. There are many named varieties and are readily available from garden centres. Usually sold as dormant bulbs in autumn, but many nurseries will sell them in pots, in flower too.

10. *Camellia transnokoensis* (kuh-MEE-lee-a trans-NOH-KOH-en-sis)

From the high mountain gorges of central Taiwan, comes this most beautiful dwarf camellia. A super garden plant, yet perfect for a container due to its overall size. Don't forget, camellias will only flourish in ericaceous soil, those with an acid content, so check what soil you have before planting. The Gardens camellia collection is looking really good this year. See the main displays along Spring Walk

Membership starts from £38. Join today and claim back today's admission fee.

Help support the Sir Harold Hillier Garden charity and become a member visit <https://shop.hants.gov.uk/>

For the latest updates find us @HillierGardens

Don't miss!

**Rare Plants on your Doorstep - Guided Walk
Saturday 18 March, 9am**

With an expert member of the team we will look at endangered plants that this garden helps to protect. Booking is essential.

**Trees of the World: Japan
Friday 21 April, 9am**

Explore our unique tree collection from all around the world, with an expert member of the team
Booking is essential

Get your tickets online: <https://shop.hants.gov.uk/>