

Sir Harold Hillier Gardens
Walk • Relax • Explore • Discover

Find the giant botanical cones
Pinetum Sculpture Trail

The Treehouse

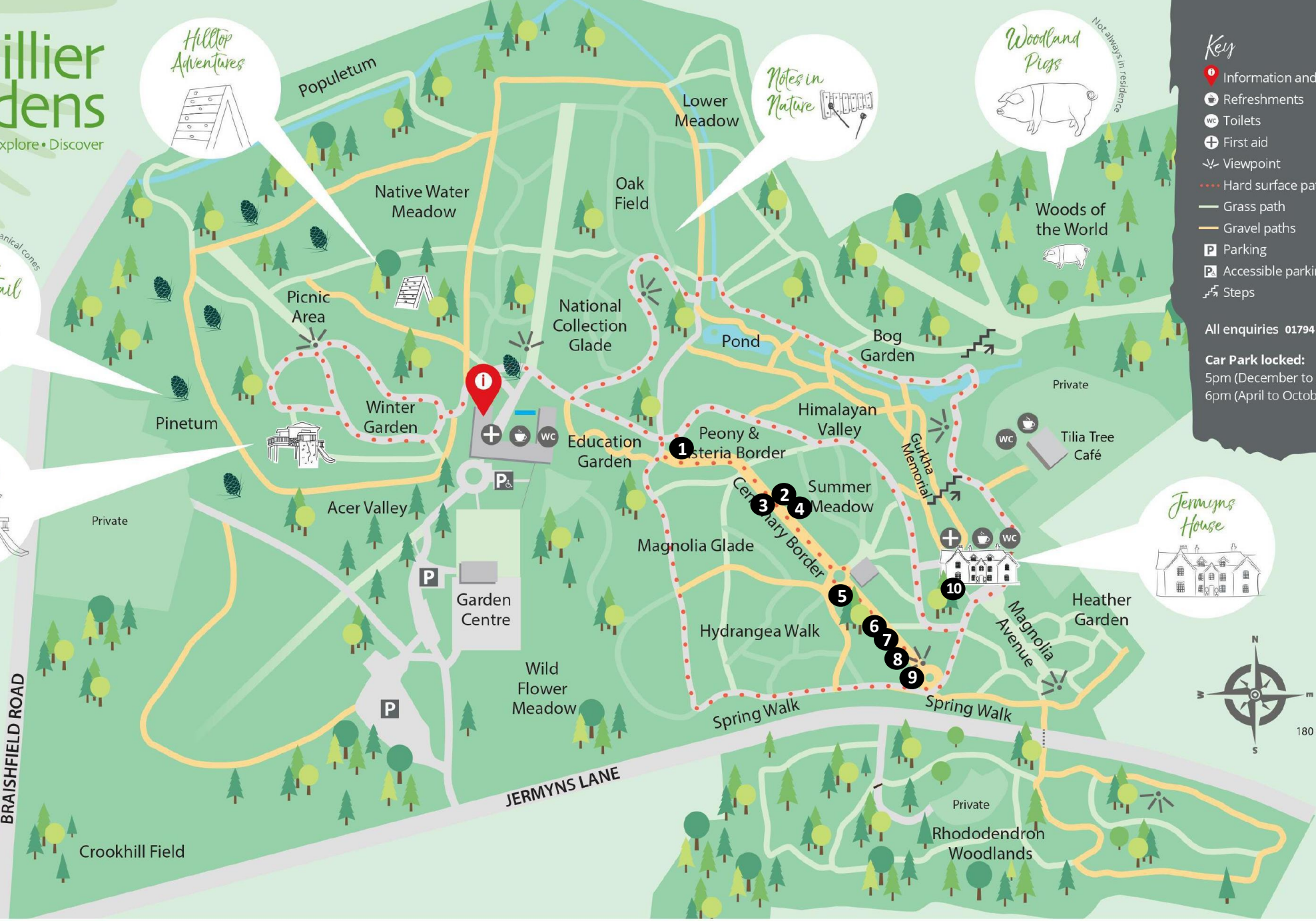
Hilltop Adventures

Notes in Nature

Woodland Pigs
Not always in residence

BRAISHFIELD ROAD

JERMYNS LANE

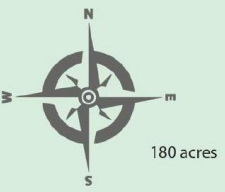


- Key**
- Information and tickets
 - Refreshments
 - Toilets
 - First aid
 - Viewpoint
 - Hard surface paths
 - Grass path
 - Gravel paths
 - Parking
 - Accessible parking
 - Steps

All enquiries 01794 368787

Car Park locked:
5pm (December to March)
6pm (April to October)

Jermyns House



September 2022

Plants of Current Interest

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. *Hibiscus syriacus* 'Mathilde' (hi-BIS-kus seer-ee-AK-us)

Hibiscus is a large genus of plants, mostly from the tropics, so sadly, not many are hardy in the UK. *H. syriacus* is the hardiest of the group and will survive even our coldest winters, as long as it doesn't get too wet at the roots. This is a stunning summer flowering shrub, some varieties getting big enough to make small trees. They come in a wide range of colours and also some have double flowers, like a rose. This variety is very floriferous and is just one of many varieties we have around the site. Easy in most soils in a sunny position. Relatively drought resistant.

2. *Canna* 'Durban' (KAN-uh) With a changing climate in recent years, the Canna Lily, a Banana relative from south and central America, it proving to be much more hardy than it was in the past. All our varieties in the border, stay outside all year round. They die back to a chunky rhizome in late autumn/winter and start to resprout in the late spring. We put a thin mulch of bark chip over the top of the clump in the winter and that's it. Durban is one of the most vibrant, colourful varieties. Not only in flower, but bright, exotic, colourful leaves too.

3. *Salvia uliginosa* 'Ballon Azul' (SAL-vee-uh ew-li-gi-NO-suh) This is a truly super form of the 'Bog Sage'. One of very few *Salvias* that can grow in wetter conditions. Despite it's exotic appearance, this species is totally hardy. The foliage has a pleasant

aroma when crushed. The variety 'Ballon Azul' is a more compact form than the species and is perfect for the small garden or pot cultivation.

4. *Verbena bonariensis* (ver-BEE-nuh bon-ar-ee-EN-sis)

This beautiful perennial from Brazil can be a little on the tender side. However, it tends to set a lot of seed which can freely germinate in our climate. It can spread itself around quite a bit and some say it is a bit of a weed. However, it is beautiful and generally easy to pull up where you don't want it.

5. *Abelia x grandiflora* (a-BEE-lee-uh gran-dih-FLOR-uh)

This beautiful, floriferous shrub is the perfect semi-evergreen plant for long season interest and particularly suited to the smaller garden. Flowering over several months and even when finished, the flower bracts turn pink and red and extend the season of interest. This hybrid is a cross between *A. chinensis* and *A. uniflora*, both native to China.

6. *Vitex agnus-castus* 'Silver Spire' (VY-teks AG-nus KAS-tus)

The Chaste Tree is native to the Mediterranean region and is a hardy deciduous shrub in this country. The long spikes of colourful flowers appear in August and have a delicate scent. Foliage is very fragrant and has a slight citrus smell. The natural flower colour is lilac, but this is the white flowered form. There is also a pink form and this can be seen flowering in the heather garden.

7. *Abutilon* 'Red Tiger' (a-BEW-tih-lon)

This exotic looking plant is actually related to our native 'Marshmallow' (*Althaea officinalis*). It is a semi-hardy exotic that gives a splash of colour to a border from late spring through to the first frosts. We take cuttings every year as a back up, just in case a harsh winter cuts them down. The last few years they have survived well out side in this, slightly sheltered spot.

8. *Ceratostigma plumbaginoides* (ser-uh-toh-STIG-muh plum-bah-gih-NOY-deez)

This small shrub, could be referred to as the 'Hardy Plumbago'. The true Plumbago being a tropical plant only suitable as a house plant. It has dark, true blue flowers, a colour rare in hardy shrubs. Considering its overall size, it is the perfect shrub for a small garden or pot cultivation. Not only does it produce its beautiful flowers in the summer, but come autumn, the foliage

turns wonderful tones of red and orange, before leaf fall. Native to Western China.

9. *Eucomis pallidiflorus pole-evansii* (YOO-com-iss pal-id-uh-FLOR-us)

This is another exotic looking plant that can give a tropical feel to your borders and yet is totally hardy here in the UK. This bulbous plant native to south Africa is sometime known as the Pineapple Plant, due to the strange crown of foliage on the top of the plump flower spike, making the whole inflorescence, look like a pineapple. The *Eucomis* was a favoured plant of the Victorians.

10. *Lagerstroemia indica* 'Red Rocket' (la-ger-STROO-mee-a IN-dih-kuh)

The Crape Myrtle is native to south eastern Asia, China, Japan and Korea, but is grown extensively in many other countries around the world. Although hardy, they need a hot summer to flower well. They are particularly good for a Mediterranean climate. Often used as street trees in the warmer states of north America. This variety is a good red, but they come in several other colours too including pink, white, lilac and all the shades in-between. Many have strong foliage colour too. When mature they can have very attractive, flaky bark

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

Membership includes:

Free or discounted entry to 5 partner gardens (including Kew, T & C's apply, please see our website for details) and complimentary guest passes. Entry for under 17's is free entry when accompanied by a member.

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

