


Key

	Great for kids!	Discover The Treehouse, Hilltop Adventures, Board Walk, Sound Garden, Wobbly Bridge and more!	Accessible trails - - - Flat with little gradient - - - A slight gradient
	Information & tickets		Terrain not suitable for wheelchairs or pushchairs
	Refreshments		
	Shop		
	Toilets		
	Picnic Area		





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! Use the map to 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 Acanthus spinosus

The spiny bear's breeches is flowering particularly well this year. Member of the Acanthaceae family, it originally comes from the Balkans and Turkey. It likes the hot dry sunny conditions we currently have however it needs plenty of moisture in spring to induce flowering. Moist but well drained, sun to part shade. Very good for bees.

2 Clematis 'Madam Julia Correvon' 

Vibrant claret red flowers are abundant from June till September. Easy to maintain with one pruning cut, 30 cm above ground in February. The first flowers will form on the growth from last year and the later flowers will be on the new shoots. Making this a real success story on the herbaceous border. Moist but well drained, fully hardy. Old variety from the late 1800s.

3 Rosa 'Rambling Rosie'

Often described as 'bomb proof', Rosie has a long, repeat flowering season. Generally healthy and disease resistant. Only one targeted pruning cut year (February) should give you plenty of flowers and structured growth for the following year. RHS Gold Standard Award 2007

4 Inula magnifica 'Sonnenstrahl' 

The giant fleabane won't get missed on this large border. Scale and proportion suits this plant well. Up to 2m in height, the architectural leaves and delightful flowers with their thread like petals make this a stand out contender for our plants of the week. Native to the eastern part of the Caucasus it likes moisture retentive soil and full sun. Perfectly hardy.

5 Fagus sylvatica 'Atropurpurea' & Geranium 'Rozanne' 

The common purple beech and the cranesbill make a perfect match in spring, summer and early autumn. Both are super easy to grow. As the backdrop to Centenary Border circle, it adds colour, contrast as well as an architectural element in winter which enhances the halfway point of the border. The Geranium is gently climbing up the low edge giving it a grown in feeling.

6 Salvia forsskaolei (syn. forsskaolii)

The Indigo Woodland Sage is home to Bulgaria and the Mediterranean. A great plant for bees and insects, it loves the dry heat. Perfect for well-drained soil in sun or part shade. Only one cut back a year in early spring will sort out all the maintenance required for this plant.

7 Summer bedding

'Mille-fleurs' style or 'thousand flowers' is a jolly mix and can be replicated in many different colours. We chose a low carpet of red and pink (both *Calibrachoa*) with a peppering of purple of the Mexican paintbrush (*Ageratum*). A little height is added with *Scabiosa* (pincushion flower) and *Catananche* (Cupid's dart). None of these flowers require dead heading and will take us through to the first frost.

8 Osteospermum 'Stardust'

The Cape or African Daisy is relatively hardy. A sunny position and good drainage will help this delightful plant to go through the winter. Being perennial, it starts flowering as soon as daylight hours get longer, and the temperature is picking up. Apart from cutting back the spent flowers, there is little else that needs doing.

9 Actinidia sp.

Likely to be the *A. deliciosa* species from China. Densely, reddish hairy shoots and long heart-shaped leaves are one of the identifying features. The Chinese Gooseberry was introduced to New Zealand in 1904 and has given rise to some of the most commercially grown kiwi ever since. The cultivar 'Hayward' is one of the largest and most popular ones since 1935.

10 Cotinus coggygria 'Candy Floss'

This Venetian Sumach or smoke tree has particularly large flower heads. The flower colour coordinates well with the purple foliage. Changing in late summer to rich autumn colours. Easy to grow on all soils apart from very wet. It does well in the summer heat. A hybrid raised by Alan Postill of Hillier Nurseries in 2003. The straight species is native to C +S Europe to China.

Membership starts from £44.50
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