




Key

- Great for kids!
- Discover
The Treehouse, Hilltop Adventures, Board Walk, Sound Garden, Wobbly Bridge and 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, 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

4 *Kerria japonica* var. *albescens*
(KER-ree-ah jap-ON-ik-ah)

This is a white to pale yellow form of a relatively common late winter flowering shrub. A smallish, deciduous shrub native to China and Japan and very easy to grow. There is also a popular double flowering form of this adaptable shrub. This pale form is seldom seen.

8 *Rhododendron lutescens*
(roh-doh-DEN-dron loot-TESS-senz)

Although quite a way from the Rhododendron Woodland's peak flowering time, various species and cultivars are starting to flower now. This is a variety of a beautiful yellow flowering species native to the woodlands of southern China.

1 *Corylopsis pauciflora* (kor-ree-LOP-sis POR-se-flor-rah)

Sometimes known as 'Winter Hazel', although its not at all related to true Hazel. This beautiful, late winter/early spring flowering shrub is a suitable size for a small garden. The small primrose-coloured flowers have a slight, sweet aroma. Red-purple leaves emerge in the spring, turning green eventually. Prefers acidic soils.

5 *Magnolia* 'Fairy White' (mag-NOH-lee-ah)

This lovely, small, evergreen magnolia makes a super garden plant and even can be grown as a fantastic, floral evergreen hedge. A hybrid of the dwarf Chinese species *Magnolia laevifolia*, which is also evergreen. Like any Magnolia, the flowers can be damaged by frost.

9 *Rhododendron montroseanum*-Hybrid
(roh-doh-DEN-dron mont-ROSE-ee-ah-num)

Unfortunately, the origins of this hybrid are unknown! The offspring of a large species (*montroseanum*) of Rhodo native to the Himalayas and Myanmar. A selection planted by Harold sometime in the 60's. These large species can make interesting trees and are certainly not for a small garden!!

2 *Rubus cockburnianus* 'Goldenvale'
(ROO-bus koh-BUR-nee-ah-nus)

This 'Ghost Bramble' is a superb plant for a winter garden and displays its brilliant white stems from autumn to the end of winter. Now, as it is just about to come back in to leaf with its bright yellow new growth, the white stems turn a vivid pink colour! An easy plant for any soil type.

6 *Magnolia campbellii* subsp. *mollicomata*
(mag-NOH-lee-ah kam-BELL-ee-eye)

A stunning form of the Giant Himalayan Tulip Tree. These very tall trees are some of the first magnolias to flower, but obviously, are too big for the average UK garden. At the Gardens we have a good selection of varieties, including a pure white one in the Rhododendron Woodland. **(Please be aware, harsh weather may damage the flowers)**

10 *Stachyurus praecox* (stak-ee-YOU-rus PRAY-koks)

This beautiful late winter flowering shrub has the common name of 'Spike Tail'. The lemon yellow, bell-like flowers on pendulous racemes, have a slight primrose scent and stand out against the chocolate brown stems. Traditionally trained as a wall shrub, they will flower well against the warm wall of a house. Frost can damage the flowers. The autumn colour is also spectacular in October/November.

3 *Rubus spectabilis* (ROO-bus spek-TAH-bill-liss)

This is perhaps, the first member of the Raspberry/ blackberry genus to flower and fruit. A wild species of raspberry from North America, known locally as the salmonberry. The fruits that follow the vibrant purple-pink flowers are a salmon orange in colour and have a light, sweet taste. They are edible when translucent.

7 *Staphylea holocarpa* 'Rosea'
(staff-FEE-lee-ah hol-low-KAR-pah)

This is a rather rare flowering shrub native to China. The group it belongs to are sometimes known as the Bladdernuts and produce an inflated fruit, after flowering, with a hard round seed inside. Most species have white flowers, this has an unusual pink bloom.

**Membership starts from £41.50
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