

Placement Gardens 2021-22



The HBGTP is managed by:



ENGLISH HERITAGE



Contents

Placement Garden Locations	4-5
About The HBGTP How Does It Work?	6
2021 Applications Garden Key	7
Aberglasney Aldourie Castle	8
Audley End Boughton House	9
Chatsworth House Holkham Hall	10

Ness Botanic Garden **11**
Newby Hall

Osborne **12**
Walmer Castle

Winterbourne Botanical Garden **13**
Wrest Park

Frequently Asked Questions **14-15**

Trainee Thoughts **16**
Trainee Stories **17-18**

What Should I Do Next? **19**

Placement Gardens 2021

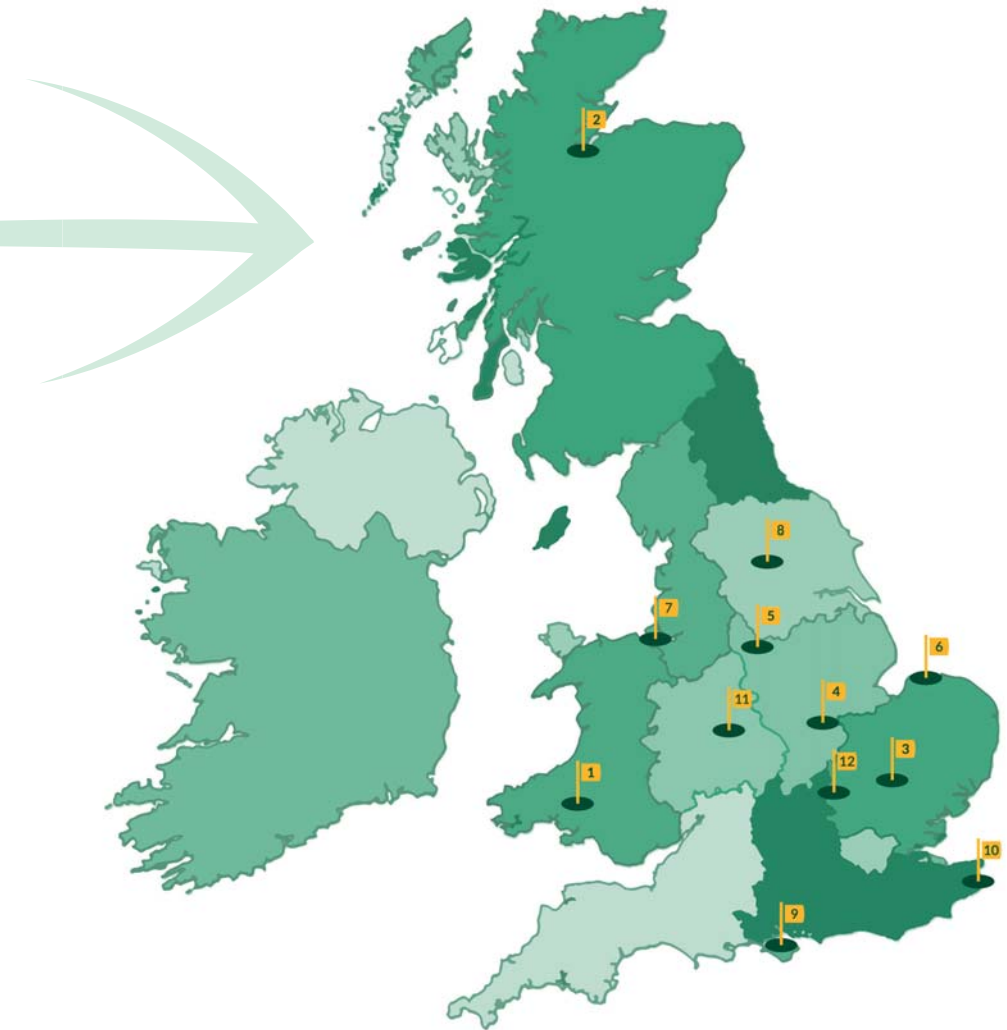
Garden Name:	Spaces Available:
1. Aberglasney	1
2. Aldourie Castle	1
3. Audley End	2
4. Boughton House	1
5. Chatsworth House	1
6. Holkham Hall	1
7. Ness Botanic Garden	1
8. Newby Hall	1
9. Osborne	2
10. Walmer Castle	1
11. Winterbourne Botanic Gardens	1
12. Wrest Park	3



The best thing about the HBGTP scheme is:

“Working with like-minded people in such an amazing garden. I’ve discovered so much about the garden through researching for my projects and really enjoyed seeing it transform through the seasons.”

– Rose Greves,
HBGTP Trainee at Osborne House



About the HBGTP

The Historic and Botanic Garden Training Programme (HBGTP) is managed by English Heritage and supported by partner organisations.

The HBGTP is an unrivalled opportunity for passionate individuals committed to establishing a career in horticulture. You can earn a salary while developing your professional skills in some of the best historic and botanic gardens that the UK has to offer!

The scheme has benefited over 280 trainees to date. Prestigious historic gardens such as Boughton House and Newby Hall join us for 2021, alongside notable 2019 placement gardens such as Aberglasney and Osborne.

How does it work?

- 1 year full-time, paid practical placement in an historic or botanic garden.
- Work alongside the gardening team throughout the seasons.
- Learn about the key aspects of managing an historic garden.
- Develop practical skills and increase plant knowledge.
- Complete 3 projects, a daily technical journal and weekly plant identents.

Former Trainees Anna and Fred getting stuck in at Audley End!



2021 Applications

When applying, you will be asked to select your 1st, 2nd and 3rd choice of placement garden. Or for those who fancy an adventure, why not leave your choices open and select 'any'? With such a variety of prestigious gardens to choose from, we have keyed out some crucial information (below) to help guide you in the selection process.

Further information on the scheme, application and selection process can be found by going to our website:

www.hbgtp.org.uk

Placement Garden Key



– Nearest Public Transport (miles)



– Accommodation



– Glasshouse



– National Plant Collection



– Woodland



– Productive Garden



– Walled Garden



Aberglasney Gardens



Aberglasney Gardens are a renowned plantsman's paradise with a unique Elizabethan cloister garden at their heart.

The gardens are a great place to train. Although compact (about 11 acres) they are extremely diverse, boasting about twenty different gardening styles and methods including formal, woodland, kitchen, rose, meadow and herbaceous. The gardens are also packed with all sorts of rarities and plant collections.



Aldourie Castle



Aldourie Castle garden has been redesigned by Tom Stuart-Smith, but contains historic elements such as the arboretum and glasshouses. The garden is surrounded by parkland and contains formal and productive areas.

A trainee at Aldourie would gain experience working with fruit and vegetables, as well as ornamental plants and trees. They would be involved in regenerating the arboretum and creating wildflower meadows in the parkland.



Audley End



Audley End is an historic 100 acre site which comprises a wonderful selection of garden areas, including a beautifully restored parterre and a 2 acre organic Victorian walled kitchen garden.

Rotating around the different areas of the garden, working in the Pleasure Gardens, Kitchen Garden, Vinery, Peach Houses, and Orchard House, trainees will be given the opportunity to learn in an environment that offers a hugely varied range of skills and techniques.

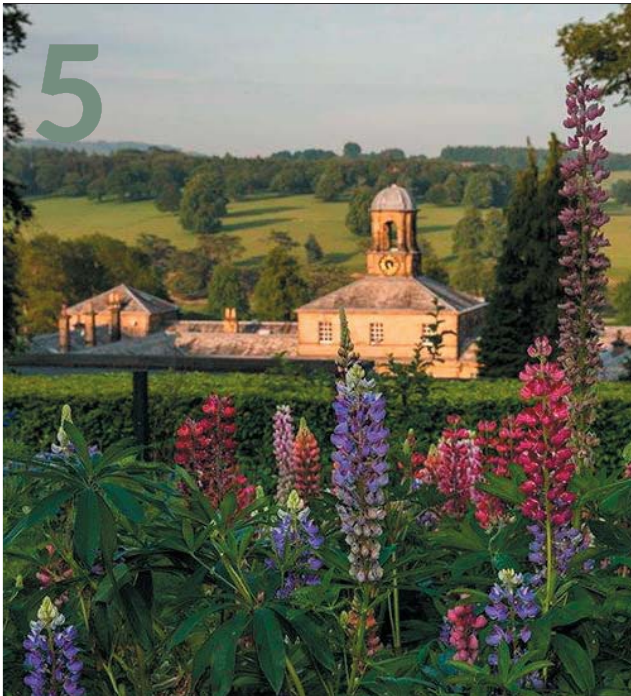


Boughton House



Boughton is primarily an 18th-century garden and landscape, containing ornamental and productive walled gardens, a rose garden, an orchard, and various glasshouses. The Grade I formal landscape consists of avenues, lawns, canalised water features, formal woodland and an historic deer park.

A trainee will have the opportunity to gain expertise in propagation and plant knowledge, as well as experience of managing an historic landscape.



Chatsworth House



The amazing 105 acre garden at Chatsworth has evolved over 450 years, whilst preserving its many layers of history. Famous features include the 17th century Cascade, impressive gravity-fed Emperor Fountain and Joseph Paxton's Rockery, which is currently being re-planted.

As a trainee you, will work as part of a large established garden team. Your training will be varied, working in the Kitchen and Cutting Garden, Glasshouses and Pleasure grounds on a two weekly rota. You will be involved in development projects, including work on the woodland garden.



Holkham Hall



Holkham sits in a landscape designed by Humphry Repton and influenced by William Kent. Key elements include William Nesfield's parterres, an arboretum, and the 6 acre walled garden. The garden at Holkham is currently undergoing restoration, which the trainee will be involved in.

The trainee will also take part in the annual food festival and plant fair, and should finish the placement with knowledge of pruning, propagation, composting, and productive gardening. The trainee will work with volunteers and will gain experience of a range of garden machinery.



Ness Botanic Garden



Ness Botanic Gardens were founded in 1898. Today, they are university botanic gardens with a focus on education, research and conservation. The gardens feature a rock garden, kitchen garden, Mediterranean garden and herbaceous borders, as well as Alpine and Arid Plant glasshouses.

Trainees will learn about plant record management, gain experience with garden machinery, and will have the opportunity to study towards an RHS Level 2 or 3 qualification.



Newby Hall



Newby Hall has 40 acres of formal gardens, dating back to the 18th century. The estate was voted the Historic Houses' Garden of the Year in 2019. Highlights of the garden include the longest double herbaceous border in the UK and a national collection of Cornus. There are ten compartmented areas, including a water garden, a tropical garden, and a rose garden. The estate also includes ornamental woodland and orchards.

A trainee at Newby will work alongside an experienced team, gaining experience with hand tools and powered equipment, and interacting with visitors.



Osborne



The garden at Osborne has been restored to its Victorian appearance. It is made up of formal terraces, woodland, wildflower meadows, an ornamental walled garden, as well as the Swiss Garden with its small productive plots.

Osborne offers trainees a bit of everything, from formal bedding and lawn care to fruit training and glasshouse work, all set in a magnificent landscape overlooking the Solent.



Walmer Castle



The gardens at Walmer date back to the 18th century, and include decorative shrub borders, a wildflower meadow, formal bedding, a kitchen, orchard and cutting garden, decorative glasshouses and a double herbaceous border flanked by a mature cloud hedge. There is also the modern Queen Mother's Garden, and the newly re-opened quarry garden in the glen.

A trainee will be supported by an established team, and will work across all areas of the garden, gaining a wide variety of skills.



Winterbourne Botanical Garden



Winterbourne is primarily an Arts & Crafts garden, with later additions such as a Japanese bridge and scree garden. The garden is part of the University of Birmingham and contains rare plants from around the world, housed in a range of glasshouses.

Winterbourne offers trainees the opportunity to train on a wide variety of garden machinery. They will also acquire skills in glasshouse management, lawn care, fruit and vegetable production, propagation, and the use of a plant records system.



Wrest Park



The gardens of Wrest Park are unique, with a range of surviving garden layouts dating back to the late 17th century.

Wrest Park is able to offer trainees the opportunity to work in a public garden that is undergoing a major programme of restoration. The site includes a wide range of features including woodland, waterways, a walled garden and French and Italian parterres.

Frequently Asked Questions

Am I eligible to apply?

Anyone over the age of 18 is eligible to apply, but must be able to demonstrate some prior paid or voluntary experience working in the horticulture sector.

How many places are available in 2021?

There are 16 traineeships available in 2021, with some gardens hosting more than one placement.

How do I apply?

Application is done online. From the start of March 2021 an 'apply now' button will appear on our website homepage. Click this button and you will be taken to an external job application page to complete an application form.

How do you select candidates?

Given the opportunities that the HBGTP offers, there is strong competition for the limited number of placements. Applications will be reviewed by HBGTP staff and gardeners at the chosen placement gardens. Shortlisted candidates will be interviewed via Zoom during May and June. The interviews will include a plant identification test.

What do I get for completing a traineeship?

You will get an 'HBGTP Certificate of Completion' along with 12 months' experience in a prestigious garden, providing that first crucial step towards a career in horticulture.

What does a traineeship involve?

You will experience a 12 month traineeship in an historic or botanic placement garden. You will be expected to work a standard working week alongside the garden team. You will also be given a half day per week for study. You will complete 3 projects, maintain a daily technical journal and undertake weekly plant idents which you will submit to the scheme for feedback.

As a trainee you will also be fully funded to attend an autumn trainee seminar and spring study tour. Further details can be found in the trainee handbook at:

<http://hbgtp.org.uk/placements/trainee-handbook/>

When does the placement start?

Trainees are usually required to commence work in the first working week of September 2021.

What about funding?

Candidates are paid a salary of at least the National Living Wage.

Does the HBGTP offer accommodation?

Some gardens offer accommodation (please see garden listings on pages 8-13). However, you must be prepared to meet the costs of your accommodation from your own salary.

Trainee Thoughts



“I thoroughly enjoyed my training as every day was different and I got to work with a huge variety of plants in stunning surroundings.”

– Rose Nash,
Senior Horticulturist & Trainer at Aberglasney

“Having full time practical experience side-by-side to experienced gardeners and expert horticulturalists every day, coupled with the obligation of fortnightly plant identification tests and the three research projects, collectively made for a highly productive year of immersion to kick start a career in horticulture.”

– Thomas Wright,
Trainee at Osborne House



“It was exactly the kind of training I needed in order to gain entry into the industry. No garden would have given me a job with the limited experience I had prior to the placement, but with the HBGTP I got an immersive ‘on-the-tools’ experience which really improved my prospects.”

– Mike Roberts,
Trainee at Ness Botanic Gardens



Trainee Stories

Mike King Trainee at Trentham Gardens



Mike's interest in horticulture was ignited by weekends spent working on a farm whilst he was still at school. He persuaded his dad to apply for a local allotment. Ten years later, Mike was still growing vegetables, fruit and wildflowers, and was even keeping bees, despite also spending five years in the army as an avionics technician.

“I would travel home at weekends just to go to the allotment.”

A friend told him about the HBGTP scheme at Trentham Gardens (near Stoke-on-Trent) and he thought it would be the perfect opportunity to gain experience in an historic garden, and to learn more about plant science, botany and growing decorative plant displays.

“The best thing about the scheme is that it gives you the opportunity to learn from expert gardeners in awesome gardens.”

Rose Greves Trainee at Osborne House



Rose became interested in horticulture after working in a local plant nursery for a week whilst still at school. She then went on to pursue her new-found interest by enrolling upon the RHS Level 2 Certificate in Horticulture at Pershore College.

Keen to get as much experience as possible, she volunteered at The National Trust's Croome Court Walled Garden in Worcestershire for one day a week during her studies. Here she helped out with general maintenance activities in the garden.

Rose was accepted onto the one year HBGTP scheme at English Heritage's Osborne House on the Isle of Wight.

- Do these stories feel familiar?
- Do you love being outdoors?
- Do you love heritage gardens?
- Do you love growing, tending and managing plants?
- Do you have passion and dedication?

**If so, now you need first-class training
from the best in the industry!**

What should I do next?

Apply online at:

www.hbgtp.org.uk

Apply from 1st March for a September 2021 start!

If you would like to discuss a placement on the scheme, please contact the Scheme Manager, Elinor Davies, during working hours on:

Tel: 07979 401784

Email: Elinor.Davies@english-heritage.org.uk

The HBGTP is in partnership with:



Previous HBGTP graduates celebrate their success!



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