Thursday 23 June
After breakfast we have a long but rewarding day as we drive across the north of Scotland to visit Dundonnell House Garden, the current owner of which has added delightful new borders for year-round colour, centred on an enormous and ancient yew tree over 300 years old. The main part of the garden lies within very old walls and is divided into distinctive compartments, adding greatly to the interest here; other highlights include riverside walks in the fine arboretum and a restored Victorian glasshouse.
Our final visit of the day is to Inverewe Gardens. The Gulf Stream promotes luxuriant growth and today it is a jungle of mature exotic trees and shrubs laced with winding walks, rising and falling, giving sudden glimpses of shimmering water through the foliage.
We will return to Inverness via Loch Maree and Achnasheen, another spectacularly scenic journey.
Dinner will be served on our return to the hotel.

Friday 24 June
This morning, following breakfast, we visit Culloden House Gardens. Culloden's four-acre walled garden was built by the Forbes family in the 18th century to provide food and flowers for the house. In more recent decades it was used for sheep and Highland cattle grazing. Six years ago it was decided to restore the gardens and Michael Innes, the former Garden Advisor for the National Trust of Scotland, was commissioned to give the garden a stylish new look. It has been designed to give enjoyment from early spring with flowering bulbs through to the autumn with orchard fruits.
This afternoon we visit Inverness Botanic Garden, a sub-tropical oasis in the heart of the Highlands with greenhouses, cactus house, landscaped gardens, tropical fish pond, sensory raised flower beds and cafe. The floral hall, gardens and cafe create a unique visitor attraction offering a tranquil break amidst beautiful floral displays. It was opened in 1993 by Prince Edward and has been inspiring local gardeners and visitors from every continent since.
Dinner is served at our hotel this evening.

Saturday 25 June
This morning, following breakfast, we will return to Inverness airport in time for our flight back to Luton. On arrival we will be met and transferred to our original departure point.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS MAY NOT BE THE FINAL ITINERARY AND IS SUBJECT TO AMENDMENT

Information and Registration Form
Friends’ Holiday to the Gardens of the Far North
Sunday 19 - Saturday 25 June 2022

From £1475.00 per person
(Single Room supplement £360.00)

For Friends preferring to make their own travel arrangements between Cambridge and Inverness the cost would be reduced by £100.00

For our 2022 annual holiday we invite our Friends to explore the gardens of the Far North. We will be staying for six nights at Lochardil House, Inverness. Our varied itinerary includes visits to the gardens of Cawdor Castle, Dunrobin Castle, the Castle of Mey, the House of Aigas, Abriachan, Dunbeath Castle, Langwell, Dunonnell House, Inverewe, Culloden House and Inverness Botanic Garden.

Included in the price
♦ Six nights’ dinner, bed and breakfast at Lochardil House, Inverness
♦ Lunch at the House of Aigas
♦ Return flights from London Luton to Inverness
♦ Return transfers from our local pick-up point to Luton Airport
♦ Comfortable coaching in Scotland
♦ Visits to the gardens of Cawdor Castle, Dunonnell House, Inverewe, Dunrobin, the Castle of Mey, Dunbeath Castle, Langwell, the House of Aigas, Inverness Botanic Garden, Culloden House and Abriachan.
♦ Services of a Brightwater Holidays tour manager

Not included (per person)
♦ Single room supplement £360.00 per person
♦ Insurance (price from Brightwater on request)
REGISTRATION FORM

Gardens of the Far North Sunday 19 - Saturday 25 June 2022

Please return completed form by 31 October 2021 to:
Friends’ Office, Cambridge University Botanic Garden,
1 Brookside, Cambridge CB2 1JE
or friends@botanic.cam.ac.uk

Please note, this form registers your interest but it is not a booking form

I should like to register ........... (no.) place(s) (if travelling with a friend please provide their details).

PLEASE PRINT (excepting email details)

1st Name: .................................................................
Membership No: .................................................................
Address: .................................................................

Email: .................................................................
2nd Name: .................................................................

Accommodation: Double/Twin/Single (delete as appropriate)

☐ I wish to share a twin room if required: Yes/No (delete as appropriate)

☐ I agree not to contact Brightwater Holidays until I receive confirmation of a place from the Botanic Garden

☐ I understand that this holiday may be physically demanding and that I am responsible for my own luggage

Signed: ................................................................. Date: .................................................................

Please do not send any money with this form.

The closing date for registration of interest is 31 October 2021. Prices are based on a minimum of 30 paying guests.

Places are limited and may be allocated by ballot if oversubscribed. Please do not contact Brightwater Holidays until your registration has been confirmed by the Botanic Garden Friends’ Office which will be after 31 October. After confirmation of your reservation, all bookings will be handled by Brightwater Holidays, Eden Park House, Cupar, Fife KY15 4HS, 01334 657155, www.brightwaterholidays.com

Proposed Itinerary

Friends’ Holiday to the Gardens of the Far North
Sunday 19 - Saturday 25 June 2022

Sunday 19 June

We depart Cambridge and travel to Luton airport for a morning flight to Inverness. On arrival we will visit Cawdor Castle gardens. A turreted 14th-century tower rises majestically from the woods of the Nairn Valley with magnificent gardens including vast herbaceous borders, a rose garden, a peony walk, a kitchen garden and a holly maze. Later we will continue to our hotel where dinner will be served in the evening.

Monday 20 June

Following a full Scottish breakfast we will visit Dunrobin Castle, a wonderful early 19th-century fantasy castle with gardens laid out on terraces which descend to the sea.

We later continue to John O’Groats before having an afternoon visit to the private gardens and former home of Her (Late) Majesty the Queen Mother, at the Castle and Gardens of Mey.

Dinner is served in the evening.

Tuesday 21 June

Following breakfast we visit the House of Aigas, just west of Inverness. Around the Victorian country house lies an arboretum and woodland walk with a sizable collection of specimen trees and also an extended garden of rockeries, shrubberies and herbaceous borders. Here we will enjoy lunch using produce from the estate (included).

Our final visit of the day is to Abriachan Gardens, near Drumnadrochit.

We return to the hotel for dinner.

Wednesday 22 June

This morning, after breakfast, we visit Dunbeath Castle. These private gardens feature mature and new plantings, with a landscaped lake, water and bog gardens, a formal garden, rhododendrons and a woodland walk.

This afternoon we will visit the private garden of Langwell, a beautiful old walled garden with spectacular borders situated in the secluded Langwell Strath.

Following our visit, we will return to our hotel for dinner.