

## SHORT COURSE DETAILS

ID6796 MAKING A LOW MAINTENANCE GARDEN

Tutor: ROSIE YEOMANS

Date: 1 DAY SATURDAY 11 MARCH

### ABOUT YOUR COURSE:

This course will introduce students to design and gardening principles that reduce maintenance requirements. We will look at a selection of tried and tested trees, shrubs and flowering plants that perform well through the seasons and require a minimum of care.

You will learn about the principles of planning a garden in order to reduce maintenance, review labour saving tools and gardening techniques that help to keep plants healthy with a minimum of work and a selection of plants that perform well with a minimum of fuss.

There will be illustrated talks, group discussions, group exercises, individual guided exercises and a guided walk through the West Dean Gardens.

### MAIN TOPICS COVERED:

- Planning the garden for low maintenance
- Low maintenance planting design
- Water conservation
- Mulching
- Weed control
- 'Care-free' plants for your garden

### LEVEL: SUITABLE FOR ALL

A subject focused course that is delivered to suit any level of experience from beginner to advanced practitioner. A structured start is followed by guided independent practice.

### ABOUT YOUR TUTOR:

Rosie has been teaching horticulture and garden design for many years and works freelance writing for Gardeners' World Magazine, has looked after the Radio 4's Gardeners' Question Time Garden and is a regular expert on the BBC Radio Solent 'The Good Life Programme'. Rosie is a keen allotment gardener and a National Collections Coordinator for the conservation charity Plant Heritage.

### TIMETABLE:

9 – 9.15am	Registration at Reception and meet in the Steward's Bar.
9.15am	Morning classes begin with planning the garden for low maintenance and low maintenance planting design. Illustrated talk with design ideas and advice about materials.
10.30am	Coffee.
11.00 – 12.30	If the weather permits there will be a guided walk around the gardens at West Dean followed by some garden planning focussed on individuals gardens.
12.45pm	Lunch.
2.00pm	Water conservation, mulching and weed control.
3.30pm	Tea.

**TIMETABLE continued:**

4.00 – 5pm 'Care-free' plants for your garden.

5.00pm Classes finish.

**REQUIRED PREPARATION:**

If you wish to learn about plants with reference to a particular planting area, it is useful, but not essential to know in advance:

1. What is the soil like eg sandy, chalky, clay or peat?
2. What is the acidity or alkalinity of the soil?
3. Is the planting bed sunny or shady?

**MATERIALS FOR YOUR COURSE:**

We have a generously stocked craft shop, which opens daily from 8.30am–2pm.

**Available from the Shop but please bring, if you have them:**

Plain paper or sketch book to draw on  
Basic drawing equipment  
Basic colouring pencils

**HEALTH AND SAFETY:**

The tutor instructs students in health and safety issues relevant to this course. There are no health and safety restrictions on access to this studio/teaching space in the absence of the tutor. All Personal Protection Equipment, apart from footwear, is provided by the College.