



6 THE SUNKEN GARDEN

The restored Sunken Garden now makes a fitting spatial and visual "full stop" to the splendour of the adjacent Pergola. Richly planted with a wide variety of low growing plants and bulbs, it is a joy throughout the growing season. Winner of the Sussex Heritage Trust's Gardens and Landscape Award 2014.



7 THE PERGOLA

Designed by Harold Peto in 1911 this marvellous structure was fully restored after the 1987 storm. At 300ft long, it is one of the largest in the country.



8 WEST DEAN COLLEGE OF ARTS AND CONSERVATION

An independent College with an international reputation, providing degrees and diplomas in conservation and arts and over 800 short courses. It also offers a unique venue for events and conferences.

10 THE WILD GARDENS

The furthestmost part of the grounds, but with lots to offer, including wild flower meadows, a naturalistic pond, woodland and dry gardens with lovely parkland views.

9 THE SPRING GARDEN

The Spring Garden features plants with strong form, distinctive leaf shape and exotic character. The "Bognor rock" and flintwork bridges, surreal fibreglass trees, rustic summerhouses and laburnum arch all add interesting architectural delights to the gardens.



12 EDWARD JAMES

In 1964, Edward James, poet and patron of the Surrealist movement conveyed his family mansion, art collection and estate to The Edward James Foundation, the trust behind West Dean College of Arts and Conservation. Edward James is buried here beneath a slab bearing the inscription "Edward James 1907 – 1984 Poet".

Fibreglass Trees: These trees suffered disease and old age so Edward James asked sculptor Ralph Burton to 'encapsulate' the trunks (1972-1974), creating these surrealist sculptures.

ONE OF THE GREATEST RESTORED GARDENS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC IN ENGLAND

The gardens are a beautiful but working environment, please be aware of machinery and other hazards such as ponds etc. Please supervise young children at all times, in particular within the Walled Garden and Glasshouses. Thank you for your co-operation.

In an emergency please call 01243 818206



WEST DEAN GARDENS ENTRANCE



2 THE WALLED FRUIT GARDEN

The fruit collection is housed within the restored Victorian Walled Kitchen Garden.



I GARDENS SHOP AND RESTAURANT

The Shop sells an exciting range of gifts and plants. The Restaurant offers delicious home cooked lunches and afternoon tea, and is open for breakfast at weekends and Bank Holidays.

4 PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION

Celebrating 25 years of glorious gardening this exhibition shows the gardens in the early 1990s when our head gardeners Jim Buckland and Sarah Wain started at West Dean.

3 VICTORIAN GLASSHOUSES

These superbly restored 13 glasshouses were built between 1890 – 1900 and offer year-round colour from the large collections including tropical and temperate plants, orchids, pelargoniums and fuchsias, figs, vines, melons, cucumbers, chillies, tomatoes, aubergines and ornamental gourds.



5 THE KITCHEN GARDENS

This was the original "Top Ground" or upper kitchen garden. The area is laid out using the classic Victorian design of two cross paths bounded by a perimeter path, producing four central beds and a series of borders at the base of the surrounding walls.



13 ST ROCHE'S ARBORETUM

A beautiful 50-acre collection of trees and shrubs surrounded by native woodland. To explore the hidden delights of the arboretum follow the blue posts which mark the secondary paths. These will always lead back to the main tracks. In spring and early summer there are extensive wild flower meadow displays and a colourful collection of rhododendrons and azaleas.

14 THE PARKLAND WALK

The 2 ½ mile Parkland Walk climbs gently to St Roche's Arboretum and is clearly marked with orange posts; take time to turn around and admire the views of the house. Having passed through the arboretum you emerge on the upper slopes of the park with panoramic views across the rolling South Downs. Follow the orange marker posts to return to the Gardens Shop and Restaurant.