



## 10 Gardens in England's South West to visit this Autumn

*The South West of England is home to some of the most famous green spaces in the world and Autumn is the perfect time to explore them. In anticipation of 2016, The Year of the English Garden, here are ten must see Gardens to visit this Season.*

### **Period Drama – Stourhead**

*Wiltshire*

The centrepiece of this world-famous landscape garden is a magnificent lake reflecting classical temples, mystical grottoes, and rare and exotic trees. Close your eyes and imagine any English period drama and Stourhead could be the setting.

[www.nationaltrust.org.uk/stourhead](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/stourhead)



### **A Blaze of Colours - Westonbirt Arboretum**

*Gloucestershire*

Westonbirt is known internationally for its spectacular autumn colour display, the natural firework display of colours is superb. Pick up your autumn trail map from the Welcome Building and relax, escape or have an adventure amongst nature's giants. [www.forestry.gov.uk/westonbirt](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/westonbirt)

### **Sweeping Vistas - Prior Park**

*Bath*

Lose yourself in the sweeping vista of the garden, inspired by Capability Brown, with dreamy views of the Georgian city of Bath. Walk through history to an Iron Age hill fort, Roman settlements, and 18th-century follies then cross the magnificent Palladian bridge, one of only four of this design in the world.

[www.nationaltrust.org.uk/prior-park](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/prior-park)

### **Set Jetting – Puzzlewood**

*Forest of Dean*

A new Film and TV trail **Forest on Film** will launch in 2016 following Forest of Dean locations from international productions like Star Wars VII and The Huntsman. Encompassing an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, spectacular castles and acres of ancient woodland, the Forest of Dean has become a huge draw for film makers, hosting multi-million pound international motion-pictures. [www.puzzlewood.net](http://www.puzzlewood.net)

### **Magical - The Lost Gardens of Heligan**

*Cornwall*

Immerse yourself in Europe's largest garden restoration where a world of romance, nostalgia and discovery awaits. Discover the intriguing story of how a thousand acres of beautiful manicured and productive gardens were lost under a sea of brambles and Ivy after the outbreak of WW1. [www.heligan.com](http://www.heligan.com)



## **Far From the Madding Crowd - The Thomas Hardy Garden**

*Dorset*

Experience a real English country cottage garden little changed from Hardy's time here in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. Escape further afield and walk into wild woodland landscapes where Hardy drew inspiration for his early novels and poems. [www.nationaltrust.org.uk/hardys-cottage](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/hardys-cottage)

## **The Queen of Crime - Agatha Christie's Greenway Garden**

*Devon*

Walk in the favourite gardens of England's world-famous Queen of Crime, Agatha Christie. Discover the walled gardens, home to the restored peach house and vinery, then see Greenway Boathouse, scene of the crime in Dead Man's Folly.

[www.nationaltrust.org.uk/greenway](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/greenway)



## **An English Estate - Killerton Gardens**

*Exeter*

Autumn sets the countryside ablaze with colour as the leaves burn bright in this stunning 6,000 acre estate, with 20 farms and over 200 cottages, one of the largest ever bequeathed to the National Trust. Wander off the beaten track and find Killerton's smaller properties for a true taste of country life. Explore the Old Post Office, Medieval hall house and working watermill that grinds flour for Killerton's restaurant.

[www.nationaltrust.org.uk/killerton](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/killerton)

## **A Garden for Gardeners - RHS Rosemoor**

*Devon*

Autumn beauty awaits around every corner at Rosemoor, Devon's showpiece Royal Horticultural Society garden. Taste delicious handmade cakes or a Devon cream tea all sourced from local ingredients and the garden itself. Wander at your own pace or take a group tour.

[www.rhs.org.uk/gardens/rosemoor](http://www.rhs.org.uk/gardens/rosemoor)

## **Subtropical Island Discovery – Tresco**

*Isles of Scilly*

Tresco Abbey Garden is internationally renowned as one of the finest sub-tropical flora and fauna collections in the Northern Hemisphere. Follow the terraced gardens down to the sparkling clear waters and gaze out over the hundreds of islets and rocks that make up the Isles of Scilly. [www.tresco.co.uk](http://www.tresco.co.uk)