

Hampshire Gardens

Friday 23rd - Monday 26th April 2010

Friday Depart Bradford 09.00am, with a stop en route to our lunchtime stopover in [Royal Leamington Spa](#). Here you will have time to admire the **Jephson Gardens**, located opposite the Royal Pump Rooms and bordering the River Leam, with its new contemporary lakeside pavilion housing a Temperate House and restaurant, and to wander round the town to view the delightful Georgian architecture and many shops.



Saturday With a morning visit to the historic city of [Winchester](#), with its Cathedral dating from 1079, links with William the Conqueror, who built one of his first castles here, and Arthurian Legend there is much to see and do. The afternoon will be spent at [Mottisfont Abbey and Garden](#). Built on the site of a former priory next to the River Test, its walled garden houses the National Collection of Old Fashioned Roses and features Tulip and species Narcissi meadows in April–May. The house contains a stunning drawing room decorated by the artist Rex Whistler.

Sunday Today begins with a call at the town of [Alton](#); a thriving friendly market town with a delightful mix of historic and modern shops and arcades. We spend the afternoon in the surroundings of an elegant country house - [Hinton Ampner](#). The vision of the house and gardens are attributed to one man Ralph Dutton, and the gardens are widely acknowledged to be a masterpiece of 20th century

garden design, with manicured lawns, and clever combination of formal and informal planting.

Monday On the journey home we call at [St Albans](#), Hertfordshire's oldest town, with magnificent Abbey Church, Roman museum and excellent shopping centre. Return for early evening.



The Hotel

The [Barceló Basingstoke](#) Country Hotel is a delightful woodland hotel, which is perfect for exploring the South of England. It has a restaurant, bar and coffee shop as well as a Leisure Club with swimming pool, sauna, steam room, spa pool, Beauty treatments and work out facilities. All rooms include en-suite bathrooms, hairdryer, tea and coffee making facilities, TV with satellite channels, trouser press and in many cases iron and ironing board.



Hotel: Barceló Basingstoke, Scares Hill, Nately Scares, Nr. Hook. RG27 9JS. Tel: 01256 764161

This 4 day Tour Includes

- ☞ Visits to Leamington Spa, Winchester, Alton & St Albans
- ☞ Visits to Mottisfont Abbey & Hinton Ampner
- ☞ A luxury, leisure hotel
- ☞ 3 nights dinner, bed & English breakfast

Prices

Per person in twin/double	£195.00
Per person in single	£250.00
Insurance	£18.85
National Trust Discount	-£15.00

Depart code B