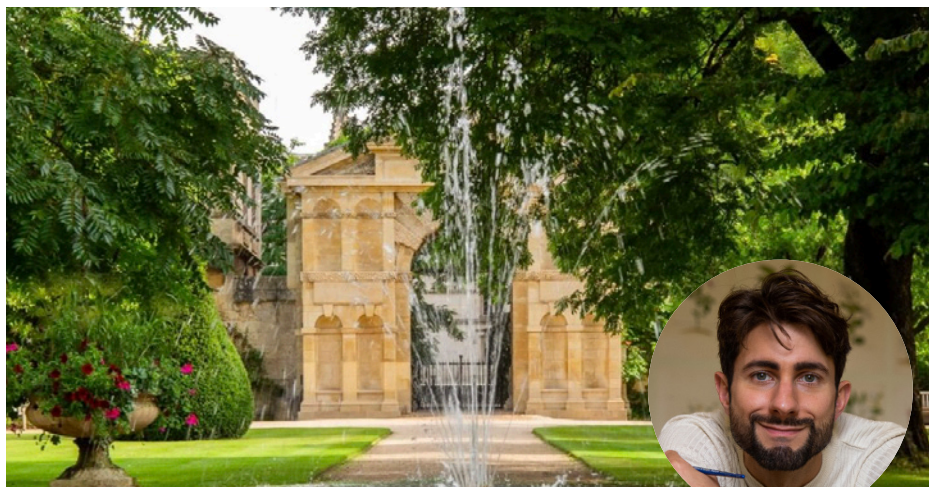


WHAT'S ON

OXFORD BOTANIC GARDEN & ARBORETUM

SHORT COURSES

2020-2021



Oxford Botanic Garden and Chris Thorogood, Deputy Director

Welcome to our new programme of talks, tours and practical courses. We're pleased to offer a programme packed full of new and exciting events in 2021, our 400th year. This year, all the talks and some of the courses are taking place online. Whether physically or virtually, do come along to our beautiful Garden and Arboretum and be inspired. At this time of uncertainty, please continue to check www.obga.ox.ac.uk/whats-on for further information. We look forward to seeing you.

Oxford Botanic Garden is the UK's oldest botanic garden, founded in 1621, and is an oasis in the city centre. **Harcourt Arboretum** – a short drive from the city – contains some of the finest conifer collections in the UK, set within 130 acres of historic Picturesque landscape.

Together, the Garden and Arboretum are an incredible resource for research, education, conservation and inspiration for a new generation of botanists.

Botanic Garden opening times

November to February

Daily, 9am–4pm

March and April

Daily, 9am–5pm

May to August

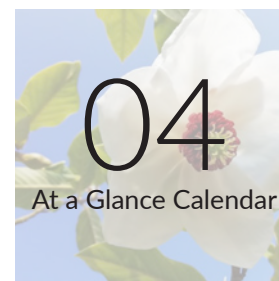
Daily, 9am–6pm

September and October

Daily, 9am–5pm

Last admission is 45 minutes before closing time

For the Arboretum opening times please see www.obga.ox.ac.uk/visit-arboretum



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At a Glance Calendar



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Practical Courses
at the Arboretum



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the Botanic Garden



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Art Classes



22
Wellbeing Events



28
Family Friendly
Events



30
Walks and Tours

Accessibility

Full information about the accessibility of our venue is available on our website. There is a wheelchair available to borrow. To reserve, please call the ticket office ahead of your visit (01865 610 300). Please call the Arboretum (01865 610 305 Mon-Fri) if you have any special requirements.

Follow us

Stay up to date with the latest stories, photos and events:



At a glance calendar 2020-2021

Calendar

Nov	19	2020	Autumn Science Lecture: Urban Plants and Environmental Benefits: The Devil in the Details
Nov	26	2020	Autumn Science Lecture: Collections-based research at Oxford Botanic Garden and Arboretum
Dec	03	2020	Autumn Science Lecture: Life under the Lens: Using Microscopes to Discover the Inner Workings of Plants
Dec	05	2020	Ornamental Tree-planting
Dec	08	2020	Christmas Wreath Making
Dec	09	2020	Festive Christmas Door Hanger
Dec	10	2020	Autumn Science Lecture: Rapid Evolution in Whitebeams, Rowans and Service Trees (<i>Sorbus</i>): Implications for Their Conservation
Jan	21	2021	Winter Lecture: Adam's 7 Gold-medal Winning Chelsea Gardens
Jan	23	2020	Native Tree Identification
Jan	30	2021	Coppicing
Feb	04	2021	Winter Lecture: Creating RHS Bridgewater: A Garden from the Past for the Future
Feb	11	2021	Snowdrop and Bulb Walk
Feb	13	2021	Coppicing
Feb	18	2021	Winter Lecture: From Renaissance Italy to Mexico, Japan, Switzerland and the UK
Feb	20	2021	Ornamental Tree Planting
Mar	04	2021	The Well Gardened Mind
Mar	06	2021	Hedgelaying
Mar	17	2021	Sustainable Staking
Mar	18	2021	Extreme Mediterranean Landscapes with Case Studies of Etna and Malta
Apr	20	2021	Survive and Thrive: Orchids
Apr	24	2021	Arboretum Spring Awakening
Apr	25	2021	Forest Bathing
Apr	29	2021	Watercolour Class Week 1
May	06	2021	Watercolour Class Week 2
May	12	2021	Insight Tour

May	13	2021	Watercolour Class Week 3
May	27	2021	Twilight Tour
May	30	2021	Families in the Forest
Jun	06	2021	Meditation in the Garden
Jun	13	2021	Aromatherapy Meditation
Jun	20	2021	Meditation in the Garden
Jun	24	2021	Twilight Tour
Jun	27	2021	Aromatherapy Meditation
Jul	03	2021	Alice's Day at the Botanic Garden
Jul	04	2021	Yin Yoga
Jul	07	2021	Meditation in the Garden
Jul	07	2021	Survive and Thrive: Houseplants for Beginners
Jul	11	2021	Yin Yoga
Jul	18	2021	Yin Yoga
Jul	26	2021	Survive and Thrive: Orchids
Jul	27	2021	Insight Tour
Jul	28	2021	Survive and Thrive: House Plants for Beginners
Jul	29	2021	Family Friendly Art
Jul	29	2021	Survive and Thrive: Succulents
Jul	30	2021	The Origin of Alcoholic Drinks
Jul	30	2021	Chakra Meditation with Yin Yoga
Jul	31	2021	Botanic Garden Birthday Party
Aug	01	2021	Yin Yoga
Aug	08	2021	Forest Bathing
Aug	15	2021	Chakra Meditation with Yin Yoga
Aug	28	2021	Charcoal Making

Due to COVID 19, events may vary at short notice.

For updates and to book your ticket, visit www.obga.ox.ac.uk/whats-on

Autumn Science Lectures

19 Nov 2020 | 7pm | Online

Urban plants and environmental benefits -
the devil in the detail

Dr Tijana Blanus

RHS Principal Horticultural Scientist and RHS Research Fellow,
School of Agriculture, Policy and Development, University of Reading



26 Nov 2020 | 7pm | Online

Collections-based research at Oxford
Botanic Garden and Arboretum

Dr Chris Thorogood

Deputy Director and Head of Science, University of Oxford
Botanic Garden & Arboretum



3 Dec 2020 | 7pm | Online

Life under the lens: Using microscopes
to discover the inner workings of plants

Dr Joseph McKenna

Research fellow in cell biology at Oxford Brookes University



10 Dec 2020 | 7pm | Online

Rapid evolution in whitebeams, rowans
and service trees (*Sorbus*): Implications
for their conservation

Prof Simon Hiscock

Director, University of Oxford Botanic Garden & Arboretum



Winter Lectures 2021

21 Jan | 7pm | Online

Adam's 7 gold-medal winning
Chelsea gardens

Adam Frost



4 Feb | 7pm | Online

Creating RHS Bridgewater -
A garden from the past for the future

Tim Upson



18 Feb | 7pm | Online

From renaissance Italy to Mexico,
Japan, Switzerland and the UK

Jane Owen



4 Mar | 7pm | Online

The well gardened mind

Sue Stuart-Smith



18 Mar | 7pm | Online

Extreme Mediterranean landscapes
with case studies of Etna and Malta

James Basson



All lectures are online and cost £5 each.

For details and to book visit www.obga.ox.ac.uk/whats-on

Sponsored by *Plants, People, Planet* (New Phytologist Trust)

All lectures are online and cost £5 each.

For details and to book visit www.obga.ox.ac.uk/whats-on

Practical courses at Harcourt Arboretum



The Arboretum is a beautiful setting in which to do practical courses, a 10 minute drive from Oxford in Nuneham Courtenay, OX44 9PX.

Ornamental tree-planting | 18+ only

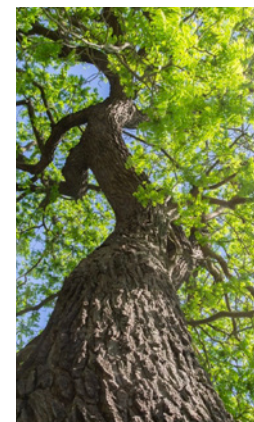
5 Dec 2020 | 10.30am–2pm | £30

Our arborists will teach you how to plant and grow a specimen tree. This course will cover specialist techniques such as staking, caging and watering that will enable you to nurture your tree. *Please bring a packed lunch.*

Native tree identification

23 Jan 2021 | 10.30am–2pm | £25 | 18+ only

During this practical workshop led by Ben Jones, Curator of the Arboretum, you will be using twigs, bark, growth habits and form of trees as an aid to identify specific native trees. *Please bring a packed lunch.*



Coppicing

30 Jan 2021 | 9.30am–12.30pm and 1.30pm–4.30pm | £30 | 18+ only

13 Feb 2021 | 9.30–12.30pm and 1.30pm–4.30pm | £30 | 18+ only

Find out about the traditional management approach of coppicing under the expert guidance of our arborists. This is an excellent opportunity to get advice and inspiration in our beautiful coppice woodland, which feels a world away from the city of Oxford.

Please bring a packed lunch.

Due to COVID 19, events may vary at short notice.

For updates and to book your ticket, visit www.obga.ox.ac.uk/whats-on



Ornamental tree-planting

20 Feb 2021 | 10.30am–2pm | £30 | 18+ only

Our arborists will teach you how to plant and grow a specimen tree. This course will cover specialist techniques such as staking, caging and watering that will enable you to nurture your tree. *Please bring a packed lunch.*

Hedgelaying

6 Mar 2021 | 9am–4pm | £50 | 18+ only

Join our expert arborists to discover the traditional art of hedge-laying in the stunning setting of the Arboretum. *Please bring a packed lunch.*

Making charcoal

28 Aug 2021 | 9am–4pm | £50 | 18+ only

Spend a day with our expert arborists and discover the ancient craft of charcoal burning. Learn how to unload a traditional charcoal kiln, select, split and stack different types of timber for another burn and light. At the end of the day you will be able to fill a bag with charcoal to take home. *Please bring a packed lunch.*

Due to COVID 19, events may vary at short notice.

For updates and to book your ticket, visit www.obga.ox.ac.uk/whats-on



Photo © Ian Wallman

30 November
-
13 December



Oxford Botanic Garden
*Virtual
Christmas Fair*

10% of every pound you spend goes to the Friends
of Oxford Botanic Garden and Arboretum

www.brilliantlittlebrands.com/obg



Botanic Garden Boutique

Offering a unique
range of seasonal
gifts and books



Visit the newly stocked shop
or buy our bestsellers online
www.obga.ox.ac.uk

Practical courses at Oxford Botanic Garden



Learn new techniques from horticultural experts in the lush setting of Britain's oldest botanic garden.

Christmas wreath making

8 Dec 2020 | 10am–12pm and 1pm–3pm | £40

Make your front door sparkle this Christmas with a traditional and hand-made wreath. Experts from the Garden will show you how to create an evergreen base to which you will add seed pods, dried flowers and foliage for your wreath, all harvested from the Botanic Garden. Your wreath will be quite different from anything available to buy on the high street.

Festive Christmas door hanger

9 Dec 2020 | 10am–11.30am and 1pm–2.30pm | £35

A botanical Christmas 'door hanger' is a beautiful and unusual alternative to the traditional Christmas wreath. Nienke Abbing will show you some new wrapping techniques to make your floral display long-lasting. With foliage and berries harvested from the Botanic Garden, your door will sparkle this Christmas.

Sustainable staking

17 Mar 2021 | 10am–11.30am and 1pm–2.30pm | £25

Learn how to stake successfully with our horticulturalists here at the Botanic Garden. You will stake a range of perennials, get top tips and advice, and be inspired to try out new techniques in your own garden.

Due to COVID 19, events may vary at short notice.

For updates and to book your ticket, visit www.obga.ox.ac.uk/whats-on



Survive and thrive: houseplants for beginners

7 Jul 2021 | 2pm–3.30pm | £30

Learn how to care for your foliage plants and watch as our expert horticulturalists demonstrate how to look after these very special plants. The session will start with a short introduction to the glasshouses collections, their history and purpose, and end with a chance to ask your questions.



Survive and thrive: orchids

26 Jul 2021 | 2pm–3.30pm | £30

Our horticulturalists will teach you how to care for your orchids. The session will start with a short introduction to the glasshouses collections, their history and purpose, and end with a chance to ask your questions.



Survive and thrive: houseplants for beginners

28 Jul 2021 | 2pm–3.30pm | £30

Learn how to care for your foliage plants and watch as our expert horticulturalists demonstrate how to look after these very special plants. The session will start with a short introduction to the glasshouses collections, their history and purpose, and end with a chance to ask your questions.



Survive and thrive: succulents

29 Jul 2021 | 2pm–3.30pm | £30

Learn how to care for your succulents with our expert horticulturalists demonstrate. You will learn top tips that see your house plant 'pets' flourish. The session will start with a short introduction to the glasshouses collections, their history and purpose, and end with a chance to ask your questions.



Due to COVID 19, events may vary at short notice.

For updates and to book your ticket, visit www.obga.ox.ac.uk/whats-on



Celebrate with us

2021 is the 400th anniversary of Oxford Botanic Garden, the oldest botanic garden in the UK, founded on 25th July 1621.

We will be celebrating throughout the year with exhibitions, lectures, and celebratory botanical displays. From **25th to 31st July, a week of events and sessions** will take place at the Botanic Garden including **bookable courses and drop-in activities**. Please check the website for further information.



Photo © Ian Wallman



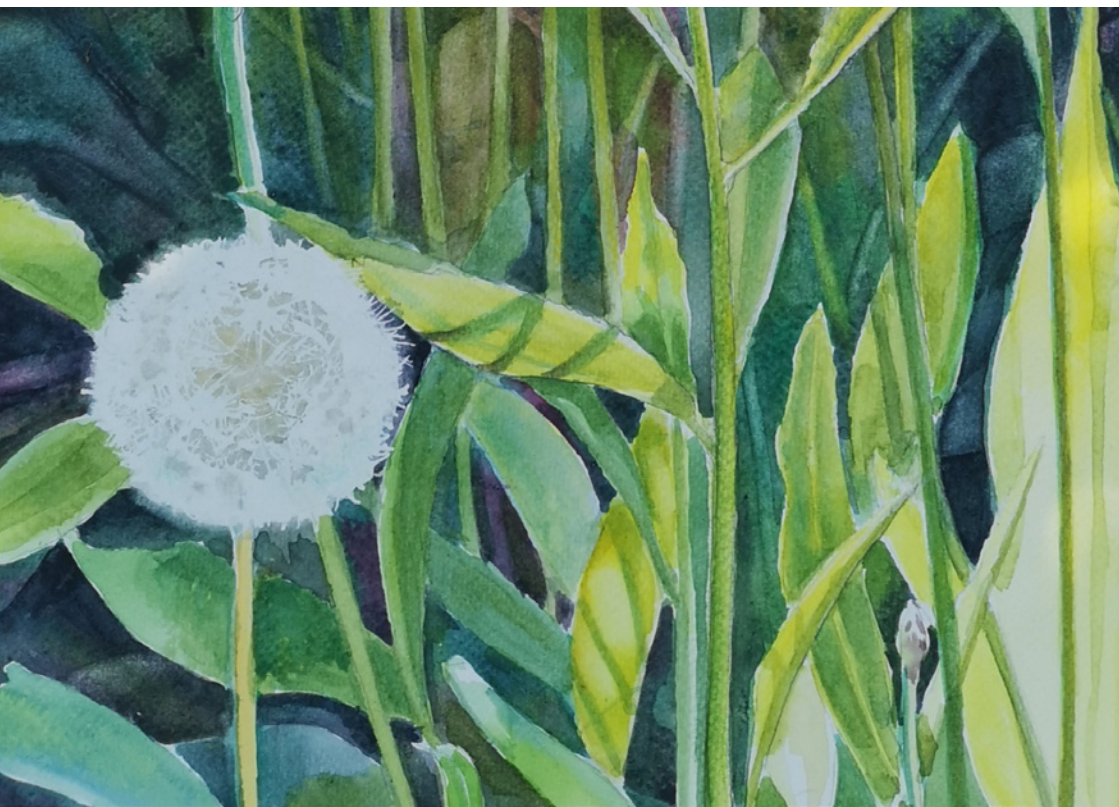
Hold your special event at Britain's oldest botanic garden or escape the city for a peaceful woodland setting at the arboretum

Oxford Botanic Garden & Arboretum
events@obg.ox.ac.uk | 01865 286 690
www.obg.ox.ac.uk/hire-our-spaces

Art classes at the Botanic Garden

Soak up the beauty of the Garden and explore a different art medium each week. Suitable for absolute beginners, or those who struggle to find time to get creative!

Sessions take place out in the Garden if sunny, or under cover if the weather is not so kind. All materials supplied. Can be purchased as a series or as individual sessions. For details and to find out more and book online at www.obga.ox.ac.uk/whats-on



Three sessions on watercolours

Experiment and learn how to capture the most beautiful species, using watercolours in various ways. The watercolour sessions displayed can be attended as individual sessions or, if you want to start and improve, they can be purchased as a set.

Jo Acty is an artist and teacher, and director of ArtWorks. With over 30 years' experience, she has taught in a multitude of settings, each time relishing the opportunity to share her love and knowledge of the art process. Jo has exhibited in Oxford, Devon and London.



Watercolour class week 1

29 Apr 2021 | 12pm-3pm | £40 | Conservatory

Botanical illustration is an accurate way of depicting plants but can also give artists the opportunity to look at a flower, leaf or stem in exquisite detail. Select a beautiful specimen then learn the process of using pencil and watercolours to capture its beauty.



Watercolour class week 2

6 May 2021 | 12pm-3pm | £40 | Conservatory

Capture the striking structure of plants in monochrome using ink. Experiment with line and tone with dip pen and wash creating a dramatic composition. Coloured inks are also available if you crave a splash of colour!

Watercolour class week 3

13 May 2021 | 12pm-3pm | £40 | Conservatory

Show the vibrancy of the Garden's borders and vistas with oil pastels and ink washes. Work with unpredictable water media mixed with direct spontaneous mark-making to ensure the liveliness and energy captured from direct observation. A joyous celebration of colour and pattern.

Due to COVID 19, events may vary at short notice.
For updates and to book your ticket, visit www.obga.ox.ac.uk/whats-on

Wellbeing events

at the Garden & Arboretum



Sophie



Nadia

We are happy to welcome back Sophie and Nadia to lead the next series of wellbeing events at both the Botanic Garden and Arboretum.

Sophie will be leading a series of meditation events through late spring and summer. Sophie brings her special interest in nature-based practice, using meditation and mindfulness techniques from across all cultures, to deliver some much-needed calm – encouraging and supporting you to find your inner stillness amongst the many demands of today's hectic lifestyle.

Nadia will be leading a series of yin style yoga classes at the Garden. Nadia has been a dedicated student of yoga for 17 years and has been teaching for 7 years. Her classes are open and inclusive to all bodies, ages and abilities and she hopes to make everyone feel relaxed and comfortable and wanting to learn more!

Find out more and book online at www.obga.ox.ac.uk/whats-on

For meditation: although it is a generally safe and enjoyable practice, we ask that you check with your GP concerning any mental health conditions before booking.

Due to COVID 19, events may vary at short notice.

For updates and to book your ticket, visit www.obga.ox.ac.uk/whats-on

Forest bathing at the Arboretum

25 Apr 2021 | 8 Aug 2021 | 11am–2pm | £35 | Harcourt Arboretum

A three-hour event, giving you the chance to connect with the unique environment at the Arboretum in a new and mindful way. Forest Bathing or Shinrin-Yoku is a Japanese tradition encompassing meditation, yoga, periods of rest and relaxation, mindful walking and contemplation. Invitations to guided meditations, contemplation and yoga (with Nadia) will be offered throughout; the rest of the time is yours. *Please bring a firm cushion/yoga block, yoga mat and a blanket, a bottle of water and a picnic.*

Meditation in the Garden with Sophie

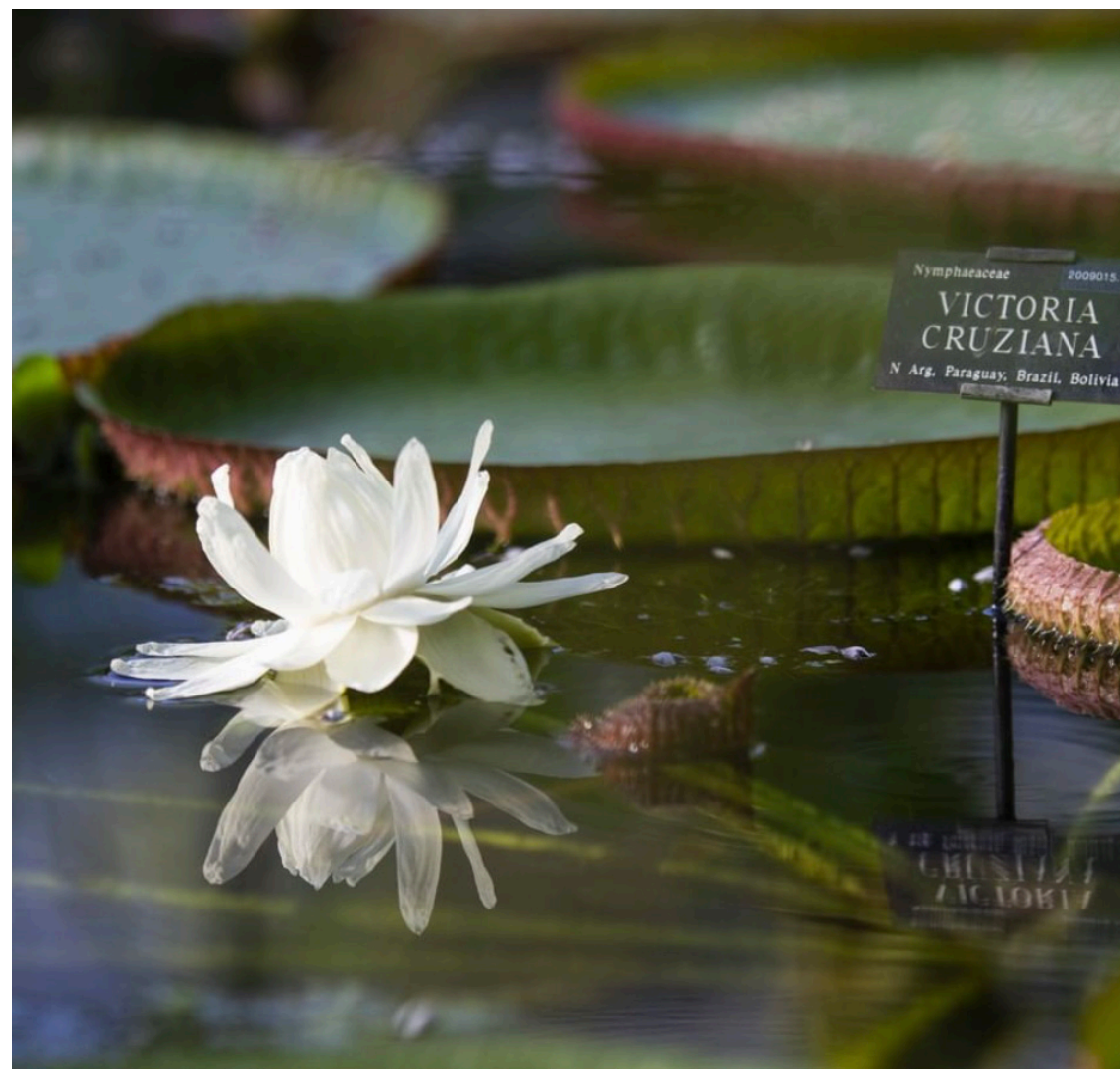
6 Jun 2021 | 20 Jun 2021 | 10am–11.30am | £20 | Oxford Botanic Garden

An hour and a half of combined breathing meditation and contemplation among the plants in the Botanic Garden. You will be led through a series of accessible mindfulness meditations using the breath, to foster focus and awareness while calming the mind. You will also be guided in exploring the Garden in a contemplative way, connecting with a particular plant, tree or feature to enhance your appreciation of nature and your surroundings in the present moment. *Please bring a firm cushion/yoga block and a blanket, and a bottle of water.*

Aromatherapy meditation

13 Jun 2021 | 27 Jun 2021 | 10am–11.30am | £20 | Oxford Botanic Garden

An hour and a half of meditation and discovery in the Garden, using the power of plants and their essential oils to enhance your experience and connect more deeply with nature. The plants themselves will be celebrated, with some discussion of their known effect on mind and body. We will move gently through the mood spectrum: citrus for invigoration, rose and geranium for self-love and nurture, finishing with lavender for relaxation; meditating on each in turn. Essential oils will play a part through self-anointing (applying on pulse points) and diffusion. *Please bring a firm cushion/yoga block and a blanket, and a bottle of water. Please advise in advance of any allergies. Citrus oils in particular can be photo-sensitive. Application of (diluted) oils to the skin is optional.*



Due to COVID 19, events may vary at short notice.
For updates and to book your ticket, visit www.obga.ox.ac.uk/whats-on

Yoga in the Garden



Yin yoga led by Nadia

4 Jul 2021 | 11 Jul 2021 | 18 Jul 2021 | 1 Aug 2021 | 10am–11.30am | £15 | Oxford Botanic Garden

Yin Yoga is a gentle and passive practice, holding postures between 2-5 minutes enabling it to work deep into the connective tissues and fascia making it a popular choice for many athletes and those who enjoy deep stretches. On another level, practising yin yoga helps calm the mind, because maintaining one position allows time and space for inner reflection and meditation. This class is perfect for beginners and those with injuries, and is a perfect complement for more advanced or energetic styles of yoga. *Attendees will need to bring their own mats.*



Chakra meditation with yin yoga

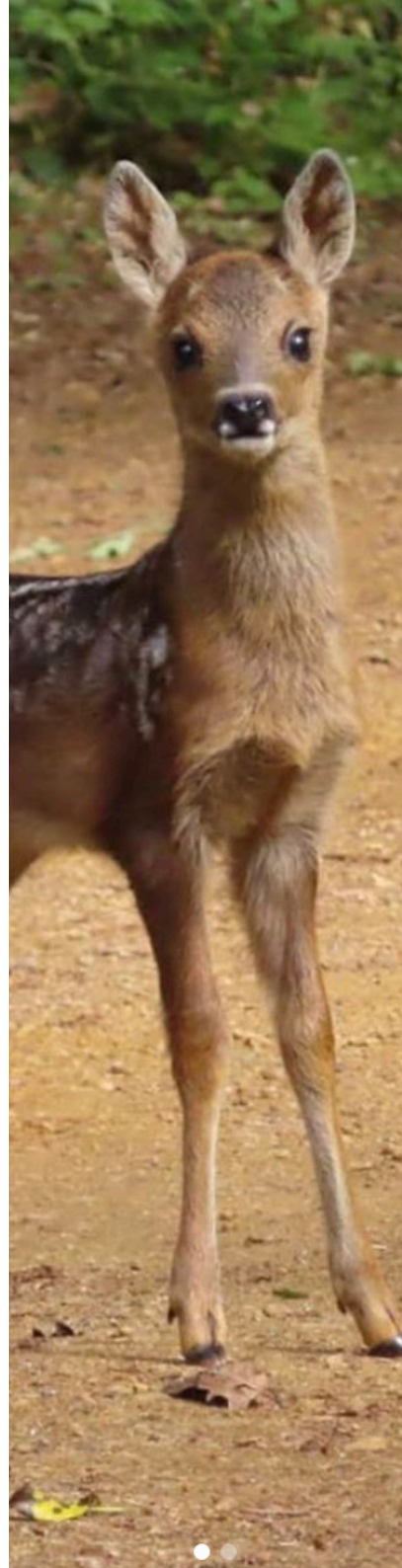
30 Jul 2021* | 15 Aug 2021 | 10am–3.30pm | £60 | Oxford Botanic Garden

Join us for Chakra meditation in the Garden where Nadia from East Oxford Yoga and Sophie from Linden Tree Meditation will be leading a yoga and meditation mini-retreat.

The retreat will be a combination of yin and yang asana (yoga postures) and themed meditations, aligning with the seven major chakras (mind/body energy centres) and working gently up the body from root to crown. Each meditation will incorporate plants and essential oils as well as colours and natural elements for a beautifully balancing multi-sensory experience. *Please bring a picnic lunch, a bottle of water and a blanket.*

Due to COVID 19, events may vary at short notice.

For updates and to book your ticket, visit www.obga.ox.ac.uk/whats-on



SPRING AWAKENING

24 APRIL 2021, 10AM–4PM

Celebrate the arrival of spring with bluebells, farmyard animals and fun activities for the family at Harcourt Arboretum



www.obga.ox.ac.uk/whats-on

FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENTS



Photo © Ian Wallman

Due to COVID 19, events may vary at short notice.

For updates and to book your ticket, visit www.obga.ox.ac.uk/whats-on

Arboretum spring awakening

24 Apr 2021 | 11am–4pm | Standard entry

Celebrate the arrival of spring with bluebells, farmyard animals and fun activities for the family.

Families in the forest

30 May 2021 | 11am–2pm | £5 | Children welcome

Join us for outdoor adventures and wild discovery. Families can take part in hands-on, playful learning experiences in a beautiful woodland setting. Try your hand at den-building, forest skills and fun craft activities whilst discovering more about the animals, plants and trees around you. *Designed especially for 6+ but all ages welcome (children must be accompanied by a paying adult). Siblings under 1-year-old are free of charge. Bring a packed lunch.*

Alice's day at the Botanic Garden

3 Jul 2021 | 11am–4pm | Standard entry

An afternoon of live music, entertainment and family activities in the Garden to celebrate Oxford's annual Alice's Day.



400th Family friendly art

29 Jul 2021 | 11am–12pm (age 4-7 yrs) and 1.30pm–2.45pm (age 7+) | £20 | Oxford Botanic Garden

Explore explosive colours in the garden under the expert guidance of Jo Acty. You will be working with powdered water colour and resists. Learn about colour mixing and use a fine mist water spray to soften or explode the brush powders creating clouds of colour. Produce exciting plant portraits by mixing expressionistic colour with direct observation.



Botanic Garden birthday party

31 Jul 2021 | 1pm–4pm | Standard entry

An afternoon of live music, entertainment and family activities to celebrate the Garden's 400th anniversary.

Walks and talks



Snowdrop and bulb walk

11 Feb 2021 | 11am–12pm and 1pm–2pm | £15 | Oxford Botanic Garden

Join our expert horticulturalists on a stroll among swathes of unique snowdrops and other winter and spring bulbs in the Garden's collection.

Insight tour

12 May 2021 | 11am–1pm | £25 | Oxford Botanic Garden

Join our horticultural experts on a guided walk through the Garden. Learn about unique plants we grow from around the world and their connection with authors associated with the Botanic Garden.

Twilight tour

27 May 2021 | 24 Jun 2021 | 6.30pm–8.30pm | £15 | Arboretum

Ever wanted to wander through the Arboretum when all the other visitors have gone home? Join our Curator, Ben Jones, for an exclusive twilight tour and discover rare trees in our unique conservation collection. The tour will finish with a glass of wine.



Insight tour

27 Jul 2021 | 11am–1pm | £25 | Oxford Botanic Garden

Join our horticultural experts on a guided walk through the Garden. Learn about unique plants we grow from around the world and their connection with authors associated with the Botanic Garden.



The origin of alcoholic drinks

30 Jul 2021 | 4pm–5.45pm | £20 | Oxford Botanic Garden

Join Dr Lauren Baker on a tour that examines the botanicals we grow that are used around the world to produce alcoholic beverages. Learn about the plants used to create tequila, rum, beer and more, then top off your evening with a drink tasting after hours in our Conservatory.

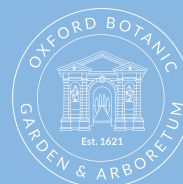
Due to COVID 19, events may vary at short notice.

For updates and to book your ticket, visit www.obga.ox.ac.uk/whats-on



Photo © Ian Wallman

Education visits



We welcome nurseries, primary and secondary schools, colleges and any adult education institutions to visit the Garden and Arboretum. We offer a range of high quality sessions that are in line with the latest UK National Curriculum, which engages students with the world of plants. Bespoke sessions are also available on request via email enquiry.

Each session lasts for 90 to 120 minutes and are led by experienced Education Officers. The sessions come with pre and post visit cross-curricular activities that you can choose to include in your lesson planning to make the most of your chosen session.

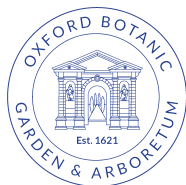
To see which sessions are running, visit www.obga.ox.ac.uk/schools

We also run School Outreach sessions in which our Education Officers deliver sessions in schools, for details please visit www.obga.ox.ac.uk/education-visits

Pre-booking is essential. Book early to avoid disappointment.

Phone: 01865 286693

Email: primaryeducation@obg.ox.ac.uk
secondaryeducation@obg.ox.ac.uk



Due to COVID 19, events may vary at short notice. For updates and to book your ticket, visit www.obga.ox.ac.uk/whats-on

If you experience any problems when trying to book online, please call 01865 610305

Please note that a minimum number of attendees is required to run all courses. Friends and alumni are eligible for a concessionary 10% off. Please bring your card on arrival. All information is correct at the time of going to print and is subject to change without notice.

Oxford Botanic Garden Rose Lane, Oxford OX1 4AZ Tel. 01865 286 690
Harcourt Arboretum Peacock Gate, Nuneham Courtenay OX44 9PX Tel. 01865 610 305