



Wroxton College



COUNTRY HOUSES & GARDENS PROGRAM

Thursday 9th April – Wednesday 22nd April 2026

Classroom Venue: Lecture Hall, Carriage House

Wednesday 8th April

Depart USA

Thursday 9th April

am Group Flight – scheduled to arrive at Heathrow Airport

am Group met at Café Nero (near Boots Pharmacy Store)
Arrivals Lounge, Terminal 2 by a Wroxton College Representative
& then transported to Wroxton College

pm ETA Wroxton College

Settle into rooms

Lunch served in the Dining Room, Carriage House

2.30-4.00pm ***Welcome Introductory Briefing*** - Regency Room
- Dr Nicholas DJ Baldwin,
Dean and Director of Operations, Wroxton College
Tour of College

4.00-4.30pm Afternoon Tea served in the Buttery, Carriage House

7.00pm ***Welcome Buffet Reception*** served in the Dining Room, Carriage
House

Friday 10th April

8.00-8.50am Breakfast served in the Dining Room, Carriage House

10.00-11.30am. ***Lecture : Country Houses & Their Gardens – An Introduction***
- Mrs. Wendy Muir Hart,
Prof. Art History, Wroxton College
(Open to after-dinner discussions on any property throughout the course.)

11.30-12.00noon	Morning Coffee served in the Buttery, Carriage House
12.15pm	Group Photograph – assemble on the Abbey front steps
1.00pm	Lunch served in the Dining Room, Carriage House
2.00pm	Transport departs for afternoon trip to Stratford upon Avon – Shakespeare Properties & Gardens Free time in Stratford
5.30pm	Transport departs Stratford upon Avon to return to Wroxton
6.00pm	Arrive at Wroxton
7.00pm	Dinner served in the Dining Room, Carriage House

Saturday 11th April

7.00-7.50am	Breakfast served in the Dining Room, Carriage House
8.00am	Transport departs Wroxton College for Hampton Court Palace
10.00 am	ETA Hampton Court Palace <i>(Hampton Court Palace, the Tudor palace of King Henry VIII. The gardens include the 'famous' maze.)</i>
1.00-2.00pm	<i>Participants are responsible for their own lunch arrangements</i>
3.00pm	Leave Hampton Court for Kew Gardens
3.30pm	ETA Kew Gardens <i>(Kew gardens, originally the private garden of Queen Charlotte, wife of George III, is now noted for unusual plants from around the world.)</i>
5.30pm	Leave Kew Gardens for dinner in Oxford – Ashmolean Roof-top restaurant (TBC) <i>(An alternative could be The Feathers, Woodstock?)</i>
7.00pm	Arrive in Oxford /Woodstock for dinner (TBC)
9.30-9.45pm	Departure for Wroxton
10.15 pm	Arrival at Wroxton
10.30 pm	Tea, Coffee & Light Refreshments served in the Buttery, Carriage House

Sunday 12th April

NO BREAKFAST SERVED TODAY

- 10.00am House Tea, Coffee & Danish Pastries served in the Buttery, Carriage House
- 10.30am-12.30pm Tour of **Wroxton College Grounds**
- 12.30pm Brunch served in the Dining Room, Carriage House
- 2.00pm Transport departs for afternoon visit to **Broughton Castle**
(Broughton Castle, a medieval moated house has been home to the Lords Saye & Sele for over 600 yrs.. It is often seen in films i.e. 'Wolfe Hall' & 'Shakespeare in Love'.)
- 4.00-4.30pm House Return to Wroxton for afternoon Tea served in the Buttery, Carriage House
- 7.00pm Dinner served in the Dining Room, Carriage House

Monday 13th April

- 8.00-8.50am Breakfast served in the Dining Room, Carriage House
- 10.00-11.00am **Lecture: History and Architecture of the City of Bath**
- Mrs. Wendy Muir Hart
- 11.00-11.30am Morning Coffee served in the Buttery, Carriage House
- 11.30am-12.30pm **Lecture: 18thc. Society & Artists associated with City of Bath**
- Mrs. Wendy Muir Hart
- 1.00pm Lunch served in the Dining Room, Carriage House
- 1.45pm Transport departs for **Upton House and Gardens**
(Upton House, an 18thc. lodge expanded in the 1920s, the country seat of Lord Bearstead houses a fine collection of art. The gardens are laid in the original 18thc. design.)
- 4.00pm Transport departs for **Wroxton**
- 4.15-4.45pm Cream Tea served on the Abbey Back Terrace - Weather Permitting!
(In the Buttery, Carriage House if it is raining)
- 7.00pm Dinner served in the Dining Room, Carriage House

Tuesday 14th April

- 8.00-8.50am Breakfast served in the Dining Room, Carriage House
- 9.00am Transport departs for **Dyrham Park & the Georgian city of Bath**
- 11.00am-1pm **Dyrham Park**
(A Baroque 17thc. house in 270 acres with views towards the Welsh Hills. The house and its' contents reflects the style of 1690s – King William III.)
- 1.30pm **City of Bath – Free Time**
Participants are responsible for their own lunch arrangements
- 5.00pm Depart **Bath** for **Wroxton College**

7.30pm

ETA **Wroxton College**

8.00pm

Late Dinner served in the Dining Room, Carriage House

Wednesday 15th April

- 8.00-8.50am Breakfast served in the Dining Room, Carriage House
- 9.15am Transport departs for **Hidcote Gardens**
- 10.00-12noon **Hidcote Gardens**
(Arts & Crafts inspired garden created by Major Lawrence Johnson.)
- 12.00noon Transport departs for **Stow on the Wold**
- 1.00-2.30pm *Participants are responsible for their own lunch arrangements*
- 2.30pm Transport departs for afternoon visit to **Chastleton House**
- 2.45-5.00pm **Chastleton House & Gardens**
(Chastleton, a 17thc wool merchants house holds a 'time capsule' of 400 yrs. of occupants.)
- 5.00pm Transport departs for **Wroxton College**
5.45pm ETA at Wroxton
- 7.00pm Dinner served in the Dining Room, Carriage House

Thursday 16th April

- 8.00-8.50am Breakfast served in the Dining Room, Carriage House
- 9.30am Transport departs for **Kelmscot Manor**
(A farmhouse built in 1600 that has evolved through to 1890s. The Arts & Crafts designer William Morris moved to Kelmscot in 1871, along with the Pre-Raphaelite painter, Dante Gabriel Rossetti, who left in 1874. The gardens are designed by Morris.)
- 10.30am ETA at **Kelmscot Manor & entry to house**

Participants are responsible for their own lunch arrangements from the Kelmscot Manor café.
- 2.00pm Transport departs Kelmscot for **Oxford**
2.45pm ETA Oxford
- FREE TIME – option for **Botanic Gardens, Oxford** *(open until 6pm)*

6.00pm Transport leaves Oxford for **Wroxton College**
7.00pm ETA Wroxton

7.30pm Dinner served in the Dining Room, Carriage House

Friday 17th April

8.00-8.50am Breakfast served in the Dining Room, Carriage House

9.00-10.30am *Lecture: Four Country Houses – A Symbol of Status*
- Mrs. Wendy M. Hart

10.30-11.00am Morning Coffee served in the Buttery, Carriage House

11.00am Transport departs for **Waddesdon Manor**
12.00noon ETA **Waddesdon Manor**

Participants are responsible for their own lunch arrangements

2.00pm Tour of **Waddesdon Manor & Gardens**
(Waddesdon, built in the style of a French chateau by Baron Ferdinand Rothschild in 1874, contains a vast collection of paintings and decorative 18thc French art, as well as Dutch old masters. The 18thc French-style gardens include an aviary – and a Rothschild wine cellar!)

5.00pm Transport departs **Waddesdon Manor** to return to Wroxton College
6.00pm ETA **Wroxton College**

7.00pm Dinner served in the Dining Room, Carriage House

Saturday 18th April

7.00-7.50am Breakfast served in the Dining Room, Carriage House

8.00am Transport departs Wroxton College for central London via
Chiswick House

10.00-12.00noon **Chiswick House**
(Chiswick House is an 18thc. Neo-Palladian villa designed by the

*Architect, William Kent, and Richard Boyle, 3rd Earl of Burlington.
Chiswick boasts the 1st ever English landscape garden.)*

- 12.30pm **ETA - Drop off location:** *Waterloo Place*
- Participants are responsible for their own Lunch & Dinner arrangements*
- FREE TIME TO EXPLORE LONDON
- 7.00pm Meet at St. Martin's Theatre to see *The Mouse Trap* by *Agatha Christie*
(Running time 2 hrs. 20 mins.) - TBC
- 11.00pm
College Transport departs London from drop off point to return to Wroxton
- 12.45am **ETA Wroxton College**
- House Tea, Coffee & Light Refreshments served in the Buttery, Carriage

Sunday 19th April

NO BREAKFAST SERVED TODAY

- 10.00am Tea, Coffee & Danish Pastries served in the Buttery, Carriage House
- 11.00am Transport departs for **Blenheim Palace, Woodstock**
*(Blenheim Palace, a gift to the Duke of Marlborough from Queen Anne, was
built between 1705-1722. The present duke still lives there. The grounds were
designed by one of England's foremost landscape gardener, 'Capability' Brown.)*
- 11.30am ETA Blenheim Palace
- Participants are responsible for their own lunch arrangements*
- 2.00pm Entry to **Blenheim Palace**
- 5.00pm Transport departs Blenheim for **Wroxton College**
- 6.00pm ETA Wroxton
- 7.00pm Dinner served in the Dining Room, Carriage House

Monday 20th April

8.00-8.50am Breakfast served in the Dining Room, Carriage House

9.30am Departure for **Chatsworth House**

12.00noon ETA at **Chatsworth**

Participants are responsible for their own lunch arrangements

2.00pm Entry to **Chatsworth House & Gardens**
(Chatsworth is the country seat of the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire, who continue to live there. The painted ceilings are of note. The original 17thc. frame of the house was expanded during the 18thc., along with the expansive formal gardens containing lakes, fountains, and sculptures. The Devonshires continue the tradition of their forebears collecting & commissioning contemporary art.)

5.30pm Transport departs **Chatsworth** to return to Wroxton College

7.30pm ETA at **Wroxton**

8.00pm Dinner served in the Dining Room, Carriage House

Tuesday 21st April

8.00-8.50am Breakfast served in the Dining Room, Carriage House

9.30-10.30am **Lecture: The Future of the Country House**
- Mrs. Wendy Muir Hart

10.30-11.00am Morning Coffee served in the Buttery, Carriage House

12noon Lunch served in the Dining Room, Carriage House

1.00pm Transport departs for afternoon visit to **Stowe Gardens**

1.45pm ETA Stowe Gardens

(The grounds of Stowe have attracted visitors since 1717. The 'natural' appearance of a classical rolling countryside, designed by 'Capability'

Brown, is full of hidden meanings within the picture-perfect views, temples, and lakeside walks. There is a café for refreshments and shop.)

- 4.30pm Depart Stowe for Wroxton College
- 5.15pm ETA Wroxton College
- 7.15pm *Drinks Reception in the Buttery, Carriage House*
- 7.30pm *Final Dinner served in the Dining Room, Carriage House*

Wednesday 22nd April

- am Breakfast served in the Dining Room, Carriage House
- am Transport arrives at Wroxton College
- am Transport departs Wroxton College for Heathrow Airport
- am Check-in at Heathrow Airport
- am Flights departs UK for US
- pm ETA Flight in the USA