

MHGAS 2017 weekend outing

Our annual weekend outing in 2017 will be from **Friday 16th to Monday 19th June**.

CRICKET ST THOMAS Warner Leisure Hotel, Somerset. TripAdvisor rating 4 of 5 (1280 reviews). A classic country house set in splendid parkland, with colourful gardens, lakes, and a unique woodland area. The house is noted for its mature cedars, maples, yews, chain of lakes, ornamental trees and shrubs. The BBC chose the estate as location for the popular sitcom 'To The Manor Born'.

Outbound travel on **Friday 16th**, a comfort break at **STONEHENGE, Wiltshire**. TripAdvisor rating 4 of 5 (>8000 reviews). Beat the rush of the Summer Solstice on the 21st. See Stonehenge slowly emerge on the horizon during the 10-minute free shuttle bus ride from the visitor centre. You can get off and walk from half way, or walk the whole way, and soak up the atmosphere of the ancient landscape.

On Saturday **17th ABBOTSBURY SUBTROPICAL GARDENS, Dorset**. TripAdvisor rating 4.5 of 5 (719 reviews) "ONE OF THE FINEST GARDENS I HAVE EVER VISITED" ALAN TITCHMARSH 2012
A magnificent 30 acre garden filled with rare and exotic plants from all over the world. Many of these plants were first introductions to this country. After the great storm of 1990 new exotic and unusual flowers have been introduced. The Garden is a mixture of formal and informal flowers, famous for its Camellia groves, Magnolias, Rhododendron and Hydrangea collections. Stunning views of the Dorset Jurassic Coast.

On **Sunday 18th**, we visit two gardens - **MAPPERTON, Dorset**. TripAdvisor rating 4 of 5 (131 reviews)
The valley gardens at Mapperton reflect three periods of history. On the top level is the croquet lawn. On the next level is the Italianate garden and an orangery. Below the wall and summer house are fish ponds which lead to the wild garden with its wonderful specimen shrubs and trees. All Saints Church is of medieval origin. It was remodelled in 1704 and in 1846. Services are held here during the summer and at major festivals.

FORDE ABBEY, Chard, Somerset - TripAdvisor rating 4.5 of 5 (368 reviews). Forde Abbey is a treasure dating back almost 900 years. It is a family home as well as a living and breathing working estate. Experience on a day visit - a stroll around the beautiful 30 acres of gardens and lakes (and watch England's tallest powered fountain come on three times a day). Admire the famous Mortlake tapestries created from the cartoons Raphael painted for the Sistine Chapel in Rome.

Return journey on **Monday 19th**, a comfort break at **BOMBAY SAPPHIRE DISTILLERY, Hampshire**. TripAdvisor rating 4.2 of 5 (1169 reviews). Celebrate end of travel with a cocktail! Unique Vapour Infusion distillation process and ten exotic botanicals that go into every drop of Bombay Sapphire can be explored in the stunning Glasshouses. A Self-Discovery experience and a complimentary cocktail is included. **A WORKING DISTILLERY - WEARING OPEN-TOED SHOES OR HIGH HEELS WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ENTER THE STILL HOUSE.**

The total cost to include hotel (half board, live entertainment, heated swimming pool, sauna and other leisure facilities), coach travel, entry to halls/gardens and accommodation/meals/gratuities for driver is as below. All rooms are double/twin and this is reflected in the final cost!

Please make your selection by completing the section below and return with a **deposit of £35pp, made payable to MHGAS by Friday 02nd December 2016 and final payment by Friday 24th March 2017** to the following.
9 Blackwell Gardens, Edgware HA8 8QA (Indra/Guru 020 8958 9979)
47 Flower Lane, London NW7 2JN (Moir/Selwyn) **OR at Thursday Café mornings**
****day outings are planned for Friday 5th May 2017 (KEW GARDENS) and Friday 21st or 28th July 2017 (2 or 3 Gardens in SUFFOLK). More details soon**.**

Hotel single occupancy	@ £443pp	£456 (Non-NT members)	only 20
Hotel twin/double occupancy	@ £423pp	£436 (Non-NT Members)	only 5

Name.....Contact details.....