GREAT GARDENS IN THE MAKING

Buckinghamshire's Country Parks

With their sense of space and delight in detail, Buckinghamshire's Country Parks are memorable, modern landscapes in the making. Historic and natural features combine to create variety and impact in a setting that garden lovers can appreciate and all the family can enjoy. Langley Park, once a royal hunting park with herds of fallow deer, has some lovely formal features which include the rhododendron and azalea-filled Temple Gardens and the Walled Arboretum. Black Park offers 530 acres of woods, grass and heath with a





centrepiece lake ringed with Scots Pines - one of the settings featured in Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone. The woodlands of Denham Country Park are bounded by the rivers Colne and Misbourne and the Grand Union Canal; warblers, herons, kingfishers and other birds all make their home here, and damselflies and dragonflies flit over its meadows and wetlands on sunny days. Part of the larger Colne Valley Regional Park, these three parks provide hours of walking and other outdoor activities with their own excellent visitor facilities never far away.

Tel: 01753 511060 www.buckscc.gov.uk/countryside

OTHER PLACES TO VISIT..

WEST WYCOMBE PARK

West Wycombe, Bucks HP14 3AJ Tel: 01494 513569 www.nationaltrust.org.uk

A perfectly preserved mid-18th century rococo landscape garden created by Sir Francis Dashwood, founder of the Dilettanti Society and Hellfire Club.

Open: Grounds: 1st Apr-31st Aug; House: 1st Jun-31st Aug. Sun-Thu.



CHENIES MANOR HOUSE

Chenies. Rickmansworth WD3 6ER Tel: 01494 762888

15th-16th century manor house with colourful, oldworld gardens including white garden, parterre, medicinal and kitchen gardens, yew maze and historic turf maze.



Open: Apr-Oct, Wed, Thu and Bank Hols, 12.00-17.00. Admission: Garden: Adults £3, Children £1.25.

TUCKED AWAY TREASURES

Buckinghamshire's Chiltern villages repay exploration with some tucked away gardens, diverse and discrete. The National Gardens Scheme provides an entrée both to Gipsy House in Great Missenden, Roald Dahl's much-loved garden where he wrote and relaxed and to Lord and Lady Carrington's handsome Manor House gardens at Bledlow, with their 14 chalk springs. Also open is the Carrington's charming Lyde Garden, created around former watercress-beds which were once so characteristic of this area. Two other little gems are open on a regular basis: the garden of John Milton's 16th-century cottage in Chalfont St Giles, where he lived and worked whilst escaping the plague in London, is planted with all the plants and flowers mentioned in his works; Bekonscot Model Village at Beaconsfield, largely created in 1929 as one man's hobby, is a miniature wonderland of six villages - each in their own beautifully manicured garden setting.

AA/RAC **



Milton's Cottage

www.visitbuckinghamshire.org.uk www.ngs.org.uk

PLACES TO STAY... BEACONSFIELD

CHEOUERS INN HOTEL

17th century inn with pretty bedrooms, an AA rosette and delicious food in the bar and restaurant.

B&B from £72.50 DB&B from £94.50 ▥◨▻◟◟◲ェ▯◈緯



HIGH WYCOMBE AYAM MANOR GUEST HOUSE

Warm, friendly welcome, guiet location. Near motorway, close to many sports facilities and historic places.

B&B from £60 (Double room) DB&B from £75

▥◨◸▻ᅕ◲ェ▯◈ё፤€ Hammersley Lane, High Wycombe,

Bucks HP10 8HF Tel: 01494 816932 Fax: 01494 816338 Email: jeansenior@ayammanor.freeserve.co.uk www.ayammanorguesthouse.co.uk

