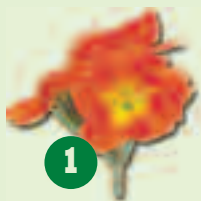




# CHARACTER AND CONTRAST

## Gardens of Dorset's Coast and Countryside



1

### Portland Castle – The Governor's Garden

Created in the shadow of Henry VIII's fortress which stands guard over Portland Harbour, the Governor's Garden is a unique garden in a unique setting.

This contemporary masterpiece is a walled garden of almost an acre, designed by Chelsea gold-medal

winner Christopher Bradley-Hole. The design creates an enclosed space within the walls, while still making the most of the dramatic views out to sea. The heart of the garden is an amphitheatre, with seating made from local Portland stone. The maritime theme is enhanced with blocks of tall, ornamental grasses which sway in the wind and reflect the light. Several trees have been retained, supplemented by new Corsican pine, to create a backdrop

opposite the garden's water feature - the seal Bulbs, euphorbia and geraniums are under-planted in the sheltered areas and historical features have been sensitively retained to enhance the garden's 'heritage' character.

Castleton, Portland, Dorset DT5 1AZ

Tel: 01305 820539 [www.english-heritage.org.uk/visits](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visits)

Castle open from 10.00. Apr-Oct, daily; Nov-Mar, Fri-Sun. **Garden open from July.**

**Admission:** Adults £3.50, Children £1.80, Concessions £2.70.



Artist impression of the new Governor's Garden



2

### Kingston Maurward Gardens and Animal Park

Kingston Maurward's classical 18th century parklands are amongst the rural treasures of Thomas Hardy's Dorset. Set around a

handsome Georgian house, their 35 acres include sweeping lawns bright with spring flowers, an imposing lake and formal Edwardian Gardens that are considered some of the finest of their kind. Created by the family who gifted Wisley to the Royal Horticultural Society, their stone terraces, balustrading and yew hedges fashion a series of fine vistas and intimate gardens which feature the National Collections of Penstemons and Salvias, rose gardens, tender perennials, herbaceous borders, a croquet lawn and a walled Demonstration Garden displaying a superb collection of plants particularly suited to Dorset. Within the park, The Tree Trail Guide identifies some 65 varieties. There is also an Animal Park, home to some unusual breeds. Kingston Maurward offers RHS lectures and workshops which welcome all pre-booked visitors.

Kingston Maurward, Dorchester DT2 8PY. Tel: 01305 215003 [www.kmc.ac.uk](http://www.kmc.ac.uk)

**Open:** Daily, 10.00-17.30 (or dusk).

**Admission:** Adults £4, Children £2.50.



### OTHER PLACES TO VISIT...

#### KINGSTON LACY HOUSE

Wimborne, Dorset BH21 4EA  
Tel: 01202 883402 [www.nationaltrust.org.uk](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk)

Thousands of winter snowdrops, spring camellias, hybrid azaleas, rhododendron and the National Collections of Anemone Nemorosa and Conuallaria. Floribund rose parterre, sunken garden and fernery.

**Open:** Feb-March, weekends; Apr-Oct, daily.

**Admission:** House & Gardens: Adults £6.80, Children £3.40; Garden: Adults £3.50, Children £1.75. Concessions.



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#### KNOLL GARDENS & NURSERY

Staplehill Road, Hampreston, Dorset BH21 7ND  
Tel: 01202 873931 [www.knollgardens.co.uk](http://www.knollgardens.co.uk)

Tumbling waterfalls, ponds, beautiful water gardens – informal English setting. 6000+ plant species, many fine trees. A gardener's garden. Nursery specialising grasses/perennials.

**Open:** Wed-Sun, 10.00-17.00 (or dusk).

**Admission:** Adults £3.50, Children £2, Senior Citizens £3, Family/Groups £9.50

