

Garden Group Trip Details

Upton House and Gardens, Warwickshire, (National Trust), Wed 17 June

Upton House, with its 1930's art deco décor, is the home of Lord Bearsted's fabulous art and porcelain collection. The gardens were designed by Lady Bearsted.

Sweeping lawns run down from the rear of the house to a terrace giving long distance views. The unusual tiered gardens with herbaceous planting and shrubs, as well as a vegetable garden and bog garden, culminate in what is called a Mirror Pool edged by shrubs. Most of the garden is accessed via steps and slopes but can be seen from the lawn.

There is also the opportunity to buy plants in the plant centre.

A brief introduction to the house will be given on arrival followed by timed visits to the house. A 'garden chatterer' will be on hand to answer any of your questions about the gardens.

There is a restaurant to provide refreshment as and when you wish. Picnic tables are available should you wish to bring your own refreshments.

Departure is at **8.30am** from the Essex Arms, Langley Way. Return is **4.00pm** from Upton House

Cost is **£23.00/head (£12.00 for National Trust Member)**. The price includes travel to Upton House, a gratuity for the coach driver, and entrance to the house and garden.

Bookings will be accepted from 20th April onwards. Once full a Reserve list will be made.

Bookings can be made by email to garden.wpu3a@gmail.com, or post to Pam Tomlinson at 151 Hillcroft Crescent, Oxhey Hall, Watford, WD19 4PA, (equal priority will be given to both methods but email preferred). You will be notified whether or not your booking has been successful. **Cheques payable to Watford Park U3A Garden Group** need to be posted to Pam or handed to her at the next opportunity.

To apply for a place you need to provide the following information in the email or postal booking:

- Name(s)
- Phone Number for contact before the trip
- Phone Number for contact during the trip (i.e. mobile)
- National Trust Membership Number where applicable

National Trust members need to bring their membership cards with them on the trip to obtain the free entry.

This trip is being organised on behalf of the Garden Group by Jean Behn and Frances Skinner.

Peter Hutchinson, Study Group Leader