

DESTINATION HARROGATE

NEWS RELEASE: Escape with the kids to a Harrogate district gardens adventure

Harrogate district gardens offer the perfect place to play, learn and chill out this summer

The fabulous gardens and outdoor spaces of the Harrogate district are in full bloom for summer and are jam packed full of exciting activities to inspire and entertain young people throughout the summer holidays.

From yeti hunts to butterfly trails, kids can go wild here in the wonderful outdoors – so parents can ditch the digi devices and bring the brood to discover what's magical about the gardens of the Harrogate district, on a summer adventure that the whole family will love.

At the **Himalayan Garden and Sculpture Park** near Ripon – where young people under 16 go free – everyone's invited to go on a yeti hunt! Can the kids discover the yeti den in the garden? Children are encouraged to join in with yeti activities, from making a Tibetan prayer flag to hang on the den to decorating stones to build a cairn.

Youngsters will also enjoy hunting for fairy doors hidden around the garden; wildlife spotting with a butterfly explorer guide and stumbling upon the collection of quirky sculptures dotted all over the park – while grown-ups can relax taking in the winding woodland paths, cooling water ways and unique land art. The garden stretches across 45 acres with an arboretum, lakes and more than 80 sculptures to discover; a log cabin tearoom and horsebox full of tasty treats with a woodland playground for little ones to explore.

At **RHS Garden Harlow Carr**, the Great Garden Adventure has outdoors adventures for all the family – so whether you choose to explore it, climb it, hide it, find it, dig it, make it, build it, plant it.... playing out has never been so much fun.

Across the Harrogate district, gardens are helping children to get closer to nature, learn about the wonderful wildlife with which we share our planet and, importantly, how to protect it. The Himalayan Garden and Sculpture Park's butterfly survey, in which visitors young and old are invited to take part, is helping to build a picture of the different species that call the garden their home. Dr Martin Partridge, Chairman of Yorkshire Butterfly Conservation and expert in all things butterfly, has created a butterfly identification guide and listed some top tips for how and where to find them.

Young people can feel inspired to learn more about the natural world with nature-themed play during days out with the National Trust at **Beningbrough Hall, Gallery and Gardens**. Budding intrepid explorers can enjoy the free nature trail, Brilliant Butterflies, where they can spot the giant replicas and discover unusual facts before having fun at the wilderness play area – which includes a play house and crawl tunnels for younger children; clamber stacks, slides and swings. Children's activities led by members of the Beningbrough team, to encourage further interest in wildlife conservation, are taking place on selected dates

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throughout August and include Arty Butterflies, Terrific Tansy Beetles and Why Do Bees Buzz?

It's well known that spending time outdoors and connecting with nature can boost physical and mental health, and awareness of protecting the natural world for future generations has never been more important – so you can feel good about treating the family to a trip to a Harrogate district garden this summer and having a day out that's good for everyone.

Find out more about the amazing gardens of the Harrogate district from the Visit Harrogate website: [Love Gardens - Visit Harrogate](#)

-ENDS-

NOTES TO EDITORS

Activities at the Himalayan Garden and Sculpture Park run from 10am-3pm, Wednesdays-Sundays during the summer school holidays. Kids Go Free (Under 16 years). Dogs are welcome on leads. Entrance tickets to be booked online. The garden is open Wed-Sunday until 30th October 2022.

The Great Garden Adventure at RHS Garden Harlow Carr runs until 4th Sept. Normal garden admission applies.

Beningbrough Hall, Gallery & Gardens is open daily throughout August from 10am – 5pm, with free entry to the gardens for National Trust and RHS members and under-fives. Plan your visit and check the timings for activities on the website. No booking needed.

Throughout August, join the Beningbrough team on a team member-led activity, from discovering what lives in a tree, peeping inside a hive to see why bees buzz, making wild art and getting close to the rare tansy beetle:

What lives in a tree? Tuesday 16 & 30 August **Why do bees buzz?** Tuesday 23 August **Butterfly spotter challenge** Wednesdays in August **Arty butterflies** Thursday 18 August and 1 September **Terrific tansy beetles** Thursday 25 August **Outdoor storytelling with Stories Alive** Bank holiday Monday 29 August.

The nature trail and play area are available all day, every day. Families are welcome to bring a ball or a kite and head to the large south lawn for traditional play outdoors.

About Harrogate District Gardens

Alongside the fabulous public parks, gardens and outdoor spaces of the Harrogate district, Visit Harrogate's 2022 Gardens Campaign, "[See How Our Gardens Grow](#)", promotes the following gardens and garden experiences:

[Beningbrough Hall, Gallery & Gardens](#)

[Fountains Abbey and Studley Royal Water Garden](#)

[Himalayan Garden and Sculpture Park](#)

[Kitchen Garden, Ridding Park](#)

[Newby Hall & Gardens](#)

[RHS Garden Harlow Carr](#)

About Visit Harrogate

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Visit Harrogate is the consumer brand of Destination Harrogate, the Destination Management Organisation (DMO) for Harrogate district, responsible for instigating and leading on the delivery of the Destination Management Plan for 2022 through to the end of 2025. In collaboration with its partners, the DMP showcases what's wonderful, exciting and appealing about Harrogate district to attract more visitors, events and investment to the area, to create a strong local economy for residents and businesses.