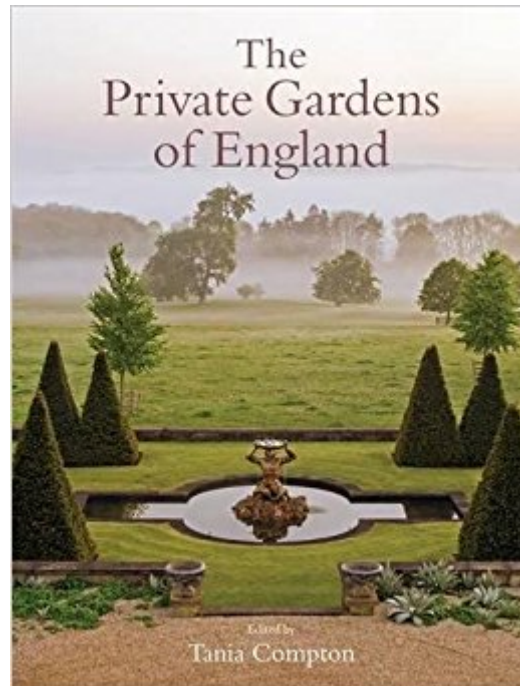


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Private Gardens Of England



Synopsis

The Sunday Times Gardening Book of the Year Described by Vogue as 'the revelatory garden book for our age' and a 'splendid new book' (Sebastian Shakespeare, Daily Mail), *The Private Gardens of England* is a glorious celebration of the art of gardening through some of the country's hidden horticultural jewels. Thirty-five English private gardens, thoughtfully selected by the writer and designer Tania Compton, are vividly described in the words of their owners, who bring an astonishing sense of intimacy to their own creations as well as their collaborations with some of the leading garden designers of today. From the Bannermans' romantic Cornish castle to the windswept shores of Howick in Northumberland via Jasper Conran in Somerset and Tom Stuart-Smith in Hertfordshire, an eclectic range of gardens is revealed. The traditional English garden is seen through the fresh eyes of plantswomen such as Mary-Anne Robb at Cothay Manor and Arabella Lennox-Boyd at Gresgarth Hall, alongside Hilborough House in Norfolk and Ferne Park in Dorset that recently only existed as fields. The historic landscape gardens of Boughton House and St Paul's Walden Bury are explored alongside the contemporary and conceptual at Plaz Metaxu in Devon. From the private walled garden at Petworth to the wildflower-strewn meadows of Spye Park, each garden is a testament to the thriving art of English gardening. With contributions from the country's best garden photographers, *The Private Gardens of England* reveals gardening at its highest level. It will inform and inspire anyone with a love of gardening, beauty and excellence. 'The photographs are take-your-breath-away spellbinding . . . The minute level of detail here will satisfy real gardeners, elevating this book far above its competition.' Sarah Feeley, *English Garden* 'Captures a brilliant moment in our history, where plantsmanship, good design and love of plants have all come together . . . compelling format . . . the photography and production are superb.' Kathryn Bradley-Hole, *Country Life* One of Christopher Woodward's Books of the Year in the Evening Standard

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Customer Reviews

A whistle-stop tour of hidden horticultural gems, with lavish pictures revealing beautiful gardens few of get to see. [Mail on Sunday](#) An exquisitely illustrated, satisfyingly sumptuous coffee table book that drives home the fact that England has far more than its fair share of world-class gardens and garden-makers [Irish Times](#) Captures a brilliant moment in our history, where plantsmanship, good design and love of plants have all come together . . . compelling format . . . the photography and production are superb. [Country Life](#) Splendid new book [Daily Mail](#) This year's most beautiful book [Daily Mail](#) The photographs are take-your-breath-away spellbinding . . . The minute level of detail here will satisfy real gardeners, elevating this book far above its competition. [English Garden](#) The revelatory garden book for our age [Vogue](#) There is no question about the gardening book of the year this Christmas: it's *The Private Gardens of England* . . . an exquisitely well-produced volume in which 35 gardens are introduced in the words of their owners, intimately and illuminatingly, accompanied by superb photographs from the best in the business . . . Every gardener would love it [Evening Standard](#) Stunning book . . . a rare gem [Sunday Times](#)

Writer and designer Tania Compton started gardening in her twenties in Ibiza before studying at The English Gardening School, where she met her husband the botanist Dr. Jamie Compton. After ten years as Garden Editor for *British House & Garden* she collaborated with Andrew Lawson on *Dream Gardens* (Merrell, 2007). A Trustee of The Garden Museum Tania spends spare hours ruminating over 6 acres of wild and unruly meadow in Wiltshire.

Sumptuous and mind-boggling. I was reading it right before going to bed but it made me too excited to sleep so I had to stop. Now I look at it in the morning. NB: These are stories - often fascinating - of building a great garden. Not a plant book or gardening guide.

This beautiful book far exceeded my highest expectations. After reading and viewing the

photographs in this book, I cannot imagine anyone attempting another book on the private gardens of England. A master work! While I enjoyed the text accompanying all the stunning photographs, I particularly enjoyed the text accompanying the photographs of Wyken. Witty, clever and engaging.

What glorious gardens! Expensive, but worth the price for those who love gardens and are looking for inspiration.

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