

Finding your way around

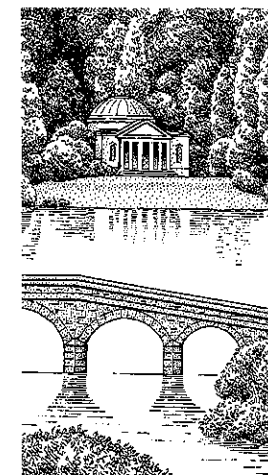
Please follow the  route from Visitor Reception building for Eighteenth Century Garden Walk (approx 2 miles).

Please follow  route to Bristol Cross Entrance and join the Eighteenth Century Garden Walk around the Lake (approx 1 3/4 miles).

Winter visitors (Nov to end Feb) please use this route.

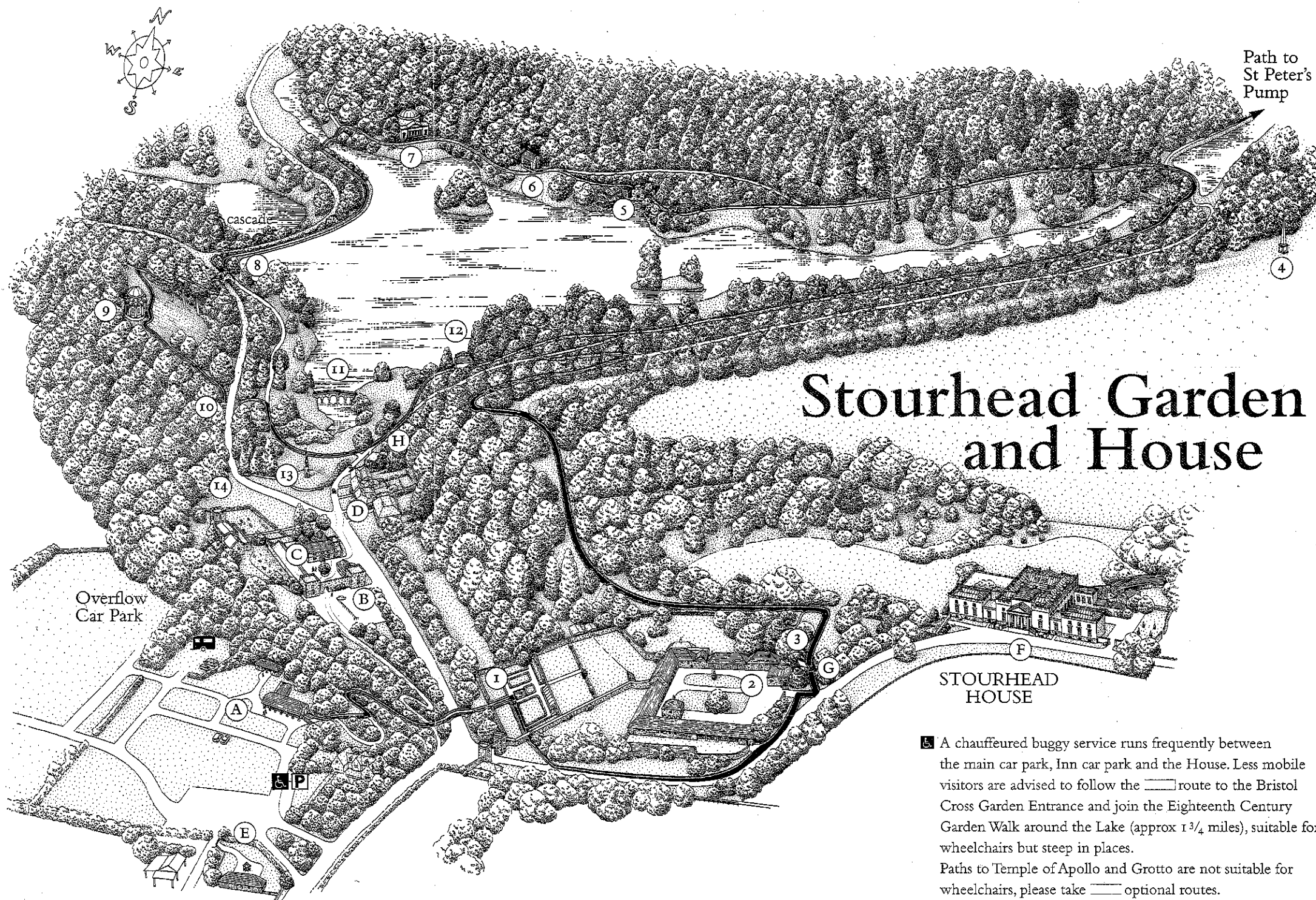
GARDEN FEATURES

1. Walled Garden, including Pelargonium House
2. Stable Yard
3. Ice House
4. Obelisk
5. Grotto
6. Gothic Cottage
7. Pantheon
8. Rock Arch
9. Temple of Apollo
10. Tunnel
11. Turf Bridge
12. Temple of Flora
13. Bristol Cross
14. St Peter's Church



FACILITIES

- A Car park, Visitor Reception building and lavatories. Also chauffeured buggy stop for Garden and House
- B Car park for Inn residents and buggy stop for Garden
- C National Trust shop, Village Hall tea room, Spread Eagle Inn and lavatories
- D Estate Office
- E Plant Centre
- F Buggy stop for House and lavatories inside House
- G Upper Garden Entrance
- H Bristol Cross Garden Entrance



Stourhead Garden and House

STOURHEAD HOUSE

 A chauffeured buggy service runs frequently between the main car park, Inn car park and the House. Less mobile visitors are advised to follow the  route to the Bristol Cross Garden Entrance and join the Eighteenth Century Garden Walk around the Lake (approx 1 3/4 miles), suitable for wheelchairs but steep in places. Paths to Temple of Apollo and Grotto are not suitable for wheelchairs, please take  optional routes.

INFORMATION TO HELP YOU

- ☐ Lavatories in main car park and the Spread Eagle Inn courtyard. Also available in the House.
- ☒ The Village Hall self-service tea room serves coffee, light lunches, teas and ice creams, and is open daily, April to October. The Spread Eagle Inn has accommodation and home-cooked food and is open all year with log fires in winter. Picnics welcome near car park and in Garden.
- ☐ Exhibition about Stourhead Estate in Visitor Reception building in main car park.
- ☐ The National Trust shop sells a wide range of gifts, souvenirs and guide books. Open daily all year round. (Closed Christmas Day.)
- ☒ Lavatories are available at main car park and in Spread Eagle Inn courtyard. Wheelchairs available at the Bristol Cross Garden entrance. House: 13 steps up to House accessible by stairclimber (book in advance 01747 840348), all showrooms on one level accessible by wheelchair. Shop, tea room and Inn are all accessible as is the Plant Centre. From King Alfred's Tower; there is a level walk across grass and along 2 mile terrace walk to House.
- ☒ Touch Tour guide available. Braille Garden guide. Scented azaleas and rhododendrons in early summer.
- ☐ The Plant Centre sells many of the popular shrubs grown at Stourhead and is open daily, March to September. Entrance off main car park.
- ☒ Parent-and-baby room available, next to Visitor Reception building in main car park.
- ☐ Special events and projects can be organised by contacting the Estate Office 01747 841152
- ☒ From 1st November to the end of February dogs are allowed in the Garden on leads and on the wider estate throughout the year. Dogs may be tied up outside King Alfred's Tower.
- ☐ Fête Champêtre, midsummer event, open air Shakespeare and other events telephone Regional Box Office 01985 843601 or Stourhead Events Office 01747 840142.
- ☐ Please ask trained staff to help.
- ☒ Overnight parking for Caravan Club members, Easter to October, reservations please telephone 01747 840061.
- ☒ Sensible shoes in Garden and House..

YOUR BRIEF GUIDE TO STOURHEAD

THE GARDEN

Here Henry Hoare II, inspired by the classical scene in Italy and the landscape paintings he saw there during his grand tour of Europe in the 1730s, set out to create a poetic landscape. His 'painting' was three-dimensional – he planted hanging beechwoods to clothe the hills and frame new lakes reflecting temples modelled on classical examples. The whole Garden echoes with references to heroes and gods of ancient Rome.



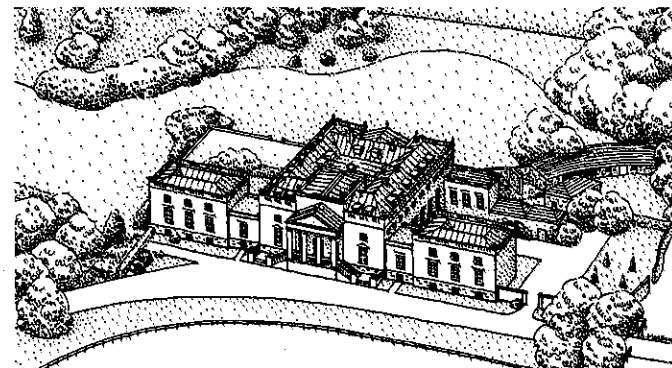
The Garden at Stourhead was much visited and copied, becoming a model for the growing English Landscape style, later taken up by Capability Brown and his followers.

The following generations of the Hoare family cherished the Garden whilst adding their own unique contribution; most spectacularly, Sir Richard Colt Hoare, who introduced exotic trees and shrubs. The rich displays of rhododendrons that flower in early summer were added in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Today's Stourhead is essentially the same as Henry Hoare's vision – a self-contained and timeless paradise.



THE HOUSE

The magnificent interior contains an outstanding Regency library, a wealth of paintings, art treasures and a significant collection of Chippendale the Younger furniture.



Henry Hoare I employed Colen Campbell to build the House in the early 1720s, reflecting the style of sixteenth century Venetian villas built by the architect Palladio. The House has changed over the years, with additions in 1792 and restoration work following a fire in 1902.

THE ESTATE

The House and Garden are at the centre of a 1,072 hectare (2,650 acre) estate. You may wander through woodland, open countryside and downland on a range of waymarked walks.

Just 1½ miles from the Garden is King Alfred's Tower, a 49 metre (160ft approx) triangular red brick folly. Don't miss the chance to climb to the top and enjoy magnificent views across Wiltshire, Dorset and Somerset.

- ☐ For more detailed information please look at the wide range of guidebooks in the Visitor Reception building and shop.

THE NATIONAL TRUST

How to enjoy free admission ... and help us in our work.

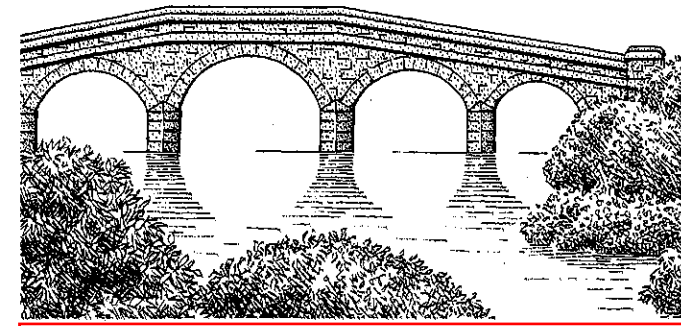
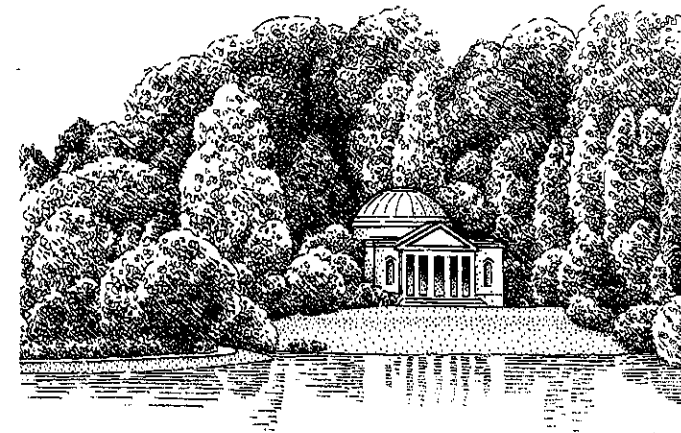
You can join the National Trust here today at the Visitor Reception building in the main car park and have your entrance money refunded. If you join as a member you can gain free admission to all our properties in the UK. We rely on public support to protect the coastline, countryside, gardens and historic buildings in our care.

For any further information please contact the
Stourhead Estate Office, Stourton, Warminster, Wiltshire BA12 6QD
Tel: 01747 841152

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 THE NATIONAL TRUST



Fax: 01747 842005

Email: stourhead@nationaltrust.org.uk

Admission prices (2008)

Garden or house: £7 (£6.30), child £3.80 (£3.40), family £16.60 (£15). Groups (£6). King Alfred's Tower: £2.60 (£2.20), child £1.40 (£1.20), family £6 (£5.40). Groups (£2.30)

Garden open all year round

<http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/main/w-vh/w-visits/w-findaplace/w-stourhead.htm>