

# Bicton Park Botanical Gardens

## Group visits

Bicton Park, set in the picturesque Otter Valley near the Jurassic Coast World Heritage Site of East Devon, is one of Britain's most beautiful historic gardens. With a blend of 18<sup>th</sup>-century tranquillity and modern facilities, we offer enjoyment for people of all ages throughout the four seasons. We welcome group visits and can accommodate large numbers in un-crowded comfort in our 63 acres (25 hectares) of Grade 1 listed gardens and parkland.

**OPEN ALL YEAR** From 10am-6pm in summer and 10am-5pm in winter (closed Christmas Day and Boxing Day). The park is designed to provide all-year interest. We suggest you allow two and a half to four hours for a visit, although many visitors do stay longer.

**OUTDOORS** Bicton's centrepiece is the formal Italian Garden, with its fountains, lake, flowerbeds and ornamental trees. Some of the world's rarest conifers form a dramatic landscape in the Pinetum. Other special areas include the American Garden, Stream Garden, Mediterranean Garden and Rose Garden.

**RAILWAY** Taking a 25-minute trip on the Bicton Woodland Railway gives visitors an ideal way of viewing the parkland especially the less able; the train can also accommodate wheelchairs.

**HISTORY** The Italian Garden was laid out in c1735. Many features were added in the 19<sup>th</sup> century by Lord John and Lady Louisa Rolle. The gardens were opened to the public by Lord Clinton in 1963.

**INDOORS** Lunches, teas and light refreshments are served in our spacious Orangery Restaurant. The historic Palm House and other 19<sup>th</sup>-century glasshouses appeal to plant-lovers, while the Countryside Museum features traction engines among hundreds of other exhibits. The quaint Shell House contains an international collection of seashells. We have a well-stocked Gift Shop and Garden Centre.

**CHILDREN** Our indoor and outdoor play areas are superbly equipped for maximum fun. We now have an all-weather football pitch in addition to an exciting maze, large climbing camp, tube slides, and much more. The fully heated Play Hall includes giant slides, roller-racers, a bouncy castle and a toddlers' area.

**WHEELCHAIRS** The park is wheelchair friendly, with smooth paths in the main garden areas and easy access to the train and toilets. Please be aware, however, that there are some steps and slopes.

**GROUP PRICES (to be paid by driver or group leader in one)**

Admission: Adults £4.95 or £5.95 with train ride; Children £3.95 or £4.95 with train ride. Group cream teas £4.25 must be pre-booked.

**DIRECTIONS** Follow the brown 'Bicton Park' signs. We are 10 miles SE of Exeter (M5, junction 30), between Newton Poppleford and Budleigh Salterton on B3178.

**PARKING** There is ample free parking space for cars, mini buses & coaches.

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## Group visits

Name of organisation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Date of Visit: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Group leader: \_\_\_\_\_

To qualify for group rates the group must consist of a minimum of 16 paying individuals. The payment must be paid in full in one transaction by the group leader. Train tickets will be issued to each person. Memberships cannot be used in conjunction with group visits

Number of Wheelchairs required (no charge)

	Number minimum 16	Total £
Adults £4.95		
Adults with train ride £5.95		
Children 2 yrs to 16 yrs £3.95		
Children with train ride £4.95		
Cream teas required at £4.25 each		
Total:		