

An Evening at Sissinghurst with Sarah

Collect outside The Granary Restaurant at 5.45pm to be checked in. The evening starts with a drink on the Tower Lawn at 6pm. If the weather is fine there will be a couple of talks sitting on the Tower Steps, or (depending on watering in the garden) in the rose garden. Cushions are provided for everyone to sit on the brick steps and there are a few benches, but do let us know if you'd like a chair provided. And do let us know if you are hard of hearing so we can arrange for you to sit at the front. We do not use microphones (as this is not good for the general feel and atmosphere of the place, which is very peaceful with no one else there).

Juliet Nicolson will give us a 15-20-minute talk on the history of Sissinghurst and their family and life as they grew up there. Sarah will then talk briefly about the making of the garden at Sissinghurst, Vita Sackville West's garden style and what has happened there since she died in 1962.

From about 6.50pm there is private wandering in the garden. Sarah and Juliet will be around for this part of the evening to answer questions on Sissinghurst, the garden and life there. Sarah will be there to answer plant names and queries. It's a good idea to take a photo on your phone of any plants you want identifying to show Sarah. The Tower and the South Cottage will be open through this time.

Dinner is then served at 8pm in the Granary Restaurant. You will be shown to shared tables by one of Sarah's Perch Hill team, so do let us know at booking if you would like to sit with friends who are also attending. Wine will be available on your table. There will be books for sale which Sarah or Juliet will be happy to sign. They have each written a book linked to Sissinghurst – A House Full of Daughters by Juliet Nicolson, Vita Sackville West's Sissinghurst: The Creation of a Garden by Vita Sackville West and Sarah Raven. Sarah and Juliet will then leave you to have dinner.

WET WEATHER PLAN: Checking in by a Perch Hill member of staff and 'Champagne', canapes and talks (with slides) on the top floor of The Granary Restaurant. We will then go into the garden and the evening will proceed as above. **Please bring umbrellas and realistic coats and shoes – just in case of showers/rain!**

OWN TRANSPORT IS NECESSARY

- * This day is held at Sissinghurst Castle, Cranbrook, Kent, TN17 2AB
- * The day runs from 6pm to 9.45-10pm

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Booking

Tuesday 8th June 2021 600130	£150.00	<u>Click here to book</u>
Wednesday 9th June 2021 600130	£150.00	<u>Click here to book</u>
Wednesday 16th June 2021 600130	£150.00	<u>Click here to book</u>
Tuesday 22nd June 2021 600130	£150.00	<u>Click here to book</u>
Friday 25th June 2021 600130	£150.00	<u>Click here to book</u>
Friday 2nd July 2021 600130	£150.00	<u>Click here to book</u>
Tuesday 6th July 2021 600130	£150.00	<u>Click here to book</u>
Friday 9th July 2021 600130	£150.00	<u>Click here to book</u>

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Itinerary

17:45 arrival at Sissinghurst

- * **Please bring umbrellas and realistic coats and shoes – just in case of showers/rain!**
- * Everyone will meet (and be checked in) outside The Granary Restaurant. (There are some loos here, but none in the garden). You will be given a garden map so, for those new to the garden, you'll be able to find your way around. There are outdoor tables and benches to sit at if you want to arrive early, but the café is still open for the National Trust at that stage, so we cannot—as a group—sit inside.

Sunny evening plan

18.00

- * Meet Sarah and Juliet Nicholson (Sarah's sister in law) who was brought up at Sissinghurst.
- * Go into the garden, which is then closed to the public. The Perch Hill team will serve you Chapel Down, our local vineyard's 'Champagne', (Chapel Down are not allowed to call it Champagne) and some simple canapés on the courtyard lawn.

18.15

- * Sitting on the Tower Steps, or (depending on watering in the garden) in the rose garden, you will then hear a couple of talks. Cushions are provided for everyone to sit on the brick steps and there are a few benches, but do let us know if you'd like a chair provided. And do let us know if you are hard of hearing so we can arrange for you to sit at the front. We do not use microphones (as this is not good for the general feel and atmosphere of the place, which is very peaceful with no one else there).
- * Juliet Nicholson will give us a 15-20-minute talk on the history of Sissinghurst and their family and life as they grew up there.
- * Sarah will then talk briefly about the making of the garden at Sissinghurst, Vita Sackville West's garden style and what has happened there since she died in 1962.

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Rainy evening plan

- * Checking in by a Perch Hill member of staff and 'Champagne', canapés and talks (with slides if inside) on the top floor of The Granary Restaurant.
- * We will then go into the garden and the evening will proceed as below.

18.50 (approx) – 19.45

- * Private wandering in the garden. Sarah and Juliet will be around for this part of the evening to answer questions on Sissinghurst, the garden and life there. Sarah will be there to answer plant names and queries. It's a good idea to take a photo on your phone of any plants you want identifying to show Sarah. The Tower and the South Cottage will be open through this time.

19.45

- * Collect in The Granary Restaurant. You will be shown to shared tables by one of Sarah's Perch Hill team, so let us know at booking if you would like to sit with friends who are also attending. Wine will be available on your table. There will be books for sale which Sarah or Juliet will be happy to sign. They have each written a book linked to Sissinghurst — A House Full of Daughters by Juliet Nicolson, Vita Sackville West's Sissinghurst: The Creation of a Garden by Vita Sackville West and Sarah Raven. Sarah and Juliet will then leave you to have dinner.

20.00

- * 3 course dinner cooked and served by the Perch Hill team, using recipes from one of Sarah's cookbooks served with complementary white or red wine.

Further information

Sissinghurst Castle, Cranbrook, Kent, TN17 2AB

Attendees should park in the main National Trust Sissinghurst Castle and Garden car park, then make their way to The Granary Restaurant which is easy to find. They will be greeted and directed from there by one of the Perch Hill Team.

Terms and conditions apply. [Please click here for more information](#). Completing and paying for your order shows acceptance of our full terms and conditions.

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