Itinerary ideas for your trip: Spring

Why not combine a day spent enjoying the heritage flowers of Westonbirt Arboretum with a visit to Tetbury and the quintessentially English Painswick Rococo Garden?

Westonbirt, The National Arboretum
Westonbirt Arboretum was created in the 1830s and offers 17 miles of Victorian Picturesque paths and landscape to explore. The rhododendrons, camellias and magnolias of the Old Arboretum display bold colour during March, April and May. Rhododendrons represent a significant period of horticultural development at Westonbirt, when the arboretum’s Victorian creators had plants collected from around the world.

Prices and more details at www.forestry.gov.uk/westonbirt-groups

To get to Westonbirt Arboretum (postcode GL8 8QS): 15 minutes drive from junction 18 of M4 (Bath junction) along the A46 and then onto the A433. From the M5 take junction 11a towards Cirencester (from Oxfordshire also head towards Cirencester) and then Tetbury. Pass through Tetbury on the A433. Follow the brown signs.

Tetbury
The Cotswolds are almost synonymous with antiques, offering the broadest choice available outside of London. Tetbury is internationally famous for its range of antique shops and dealers in and around Long Street.

www.visittetbury.co.uk

Painswick Rococo Garden
Painswick Rococo Garden is 30 minutes from Tetbury. The early 18th Century garden is a fascinating step back to a flamboyant and sensual period of English Garden Design. Well known for its February snowdrops, the garden offers beautiful displays of daffodils, hyacinth and tulips throughout the spring. The Orchard and Kitchen Garden abound with fruit blossom in April and as spring progresses, wallflowers and sweet William welcome in the summer.

Prices and more details at www.rococogarden.co.uk.

To get to the Rococo Garden (postcode GL6 6TH): Leave Tetbury following the signposts to Dursley and Stroud; take the A4135 then the A46 towards Cheltenham/ Gloucester. After approx 12 miles, at traffic signals turn left onto Gloucester Street - B4073 (sign posted Gloucester). Follow the brown signs.