

The Savill Garden, Windsor Great Park, Coach Trip Report

May 14th 2026.

Thirty-one members, including two new members, set off equipped with waterproof coats and umbrellas due to the previous day's stormy weather and the gloomy forecast for our trip to The Savill Garden. However, the weather man had got it wrong and although we had a couple of light showers, the weather was bright and sunny, albeit a bit chilly out of the sun.



When we arrived, we were divided into three groups as we had been given three guides. This was a surprise as we had only booked and paid for two! The guides were excellent, being both very knowledgeable and interesting.

The 35 acre garden was commissioned by King George V and designed by Eric Savill in 1932, and opened to the public in 1953. It is planted out to have something of interest for all seasons, but for our visit in May it was the Rhododendrons and Azaleas, in many shades of orange, yellow, pink, red, purple and a beautiful pure white, which made a stunning display. It was also the right time to see the cornus kousa (Japanese Dogwood) trees, which were covered in their spring bracts of various colours.



There is a rose garden planted out with hundreds of roses, which were covered in buds and will be lovely in a few weeks, particularly if they are a highly perfumed variety. There is a New Zealand garden but it looked a bit dry, I suppose May's a bit early for it in our climate, but it had some interesting architecture.



The Café and Restaurant in the visitor centre were excellent, all in all it was a lovely day out. We arrived in sunshine and left in sunshine, and it only took just over an hour to get there! There is a lot more to see than mentioned here, the lakes and streams, a bog garden, the paths are excellent for anyone with mobility problems and there are lots of seats to have a sit down and enjoy the views as you walk around.

Words by Val Blackburn, pictures by Jan Paver.