

Summer at Stowe

It's the time of year for simple pleasures such as play and picnics.

Stay late in the afternoon to see the sun glittering across the lakes and creating mystical reflections and shadows.

Wander off the beaten track and follow the grass paths to areas you may have missed before where we have the perfect spots to enjoy your hamper and admire summer's blooms.



“I'd recommend the walk towards the Grotto where you can notice how the lush foliage will make it seem darker than it is. It's lovely to then stand in the cool of the Grotto on a hot day and look out over the running water.”

Patrick Green, Assistant Head Gardener



Tulip Tree *Liriodendron tulipifera*

This tree looks good throughout summer and autumn with its impressive leaves and unusual shape flowers. Ours are well-established as they usually flower once they're 10 years or older. Crushing the leaves releases a scent like eucalyptus.

Coneflower *Rudbeckia*

One of summer's longest-flowering plants, this is guaranteed to bring a splash of sunshine to any spot. We like its daisy-like flowers that put on a pretty show. You might also know it by its nickname of "Black-eyed Susan"!



Cranesbill *Geranium macrohizum*

We love the ground cover that this hardy perennial gives. It is also easy to care for, making it a good choice for our gardeners as they look after 250 acres! It's traditionally used in herbal medicine for its antibacterial properties.

We would recommend this one for your gardens at home.



Summer in Lamport Garden

Have you visited the restored Lamport Garden yet?

In September 2013, it was opened for the first time in over 200 years to visitors. Even when Stowe was still a family residence, this secret space was normally kept private.

It's a lovely, wild spot with a rockery and gushing cascade to keep you cool if the weather is hot!

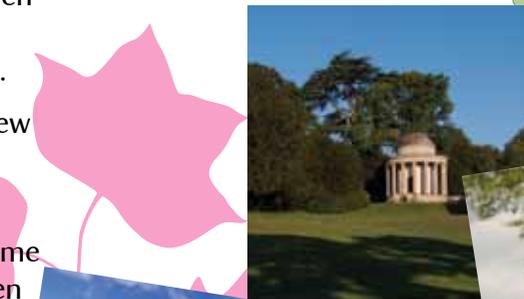
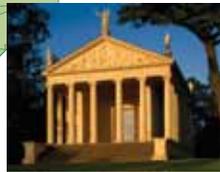


Stretch your legs this summer

This walk offers some of our best picnic spots with plenty of space to play!
Enjoy picture-perfect views and summer's best flowers while you eat.

Highlights

- 1 Look out for the water lilies on Octagon Lake. You may be lucky enough to see them flowering!
- 2 Take a look around the Pebble Alcove and spot the long-lasting cranesbill as well as a host of wildflowers.
- 3 Enjoy your picnic in the lovely, open space in front of the Doric Arch – plenty of room to play!
- 4 Spot the tulip tree by the Temple of Ancient Virtue. This is also another great spot for your picnic while you enjoy the view over to the Temple of British Worthies.
- 5 Admire the flowers beside the Temple of Concord & Victory, including our coneflowers and ox-eyed daisies bringing a splash of colour. This is another option for your picnic with shelter under the temple if you need it and a lovely view of the Grecian Valley. Wildflowers are abundant in the summer.
- 6 Pause at the Queen's Temple as it's a good spot to see birds and enjoy their song. You may even see a green woodpecker here! If you've not eaten yet, settle down for a picnic with a view.
- 7 Breathe the air in at the Saxon Deities. The yew hedge gives shade even on a hot day and this spot usually has a verdant, lush feel to it.
- 8 Admire the Holm Oak on your right as you come down Hawkwell Field. This is a lovely specimen that remains green all year round.



Length and terrain:
allow 1-2 hours for your walk.
The route includes both grass and gravel paths as well as some steeper inclines.