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# MINIGUIDE TO THE CHELSEA FLOWER SHOW



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## ANYTHING NEW TO MARK THE CENTENARY?

Prince Harry will be helping Jinny Blom to design the 'forget-me-not' garden for his Sentebale charity. Marks & Spencer is sponsoring its first ever garden with Joanna Lumley opening; celebrities have also been asked to decorate a Gnome, where 150 of the diminutive figures will be officially inspected by The Queen.



## SKIP THE FANCY LUNCH?

You don't want to be wasting your time sitting in a restaurant at the greatest flower show on earth. Eat a big breakfast and take a small picnic as there are lots of grassy banks and areas where you can settle down and enjoy a more relaxed day.



## CAN I BRING THE CHILDREN WITH ME?

Children are allowed to visit as long as they are accompanied by an adult. Unfortunately, under 5s and children's buggies are not permitted.



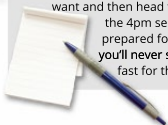
## WHAT ARE THE MUST-SEES?

Check out the different themed flower gardens, Show Gardens, Courtyard Gardens and the Urban Gardens which all have excellent ideas to get your green fingers itching to get out that trowel and start planting at home!



## LAST DAY INDULGENCE?

You can only buy plants on the last day where you can grab a bargain too! Whilst you're walking around, take note of the plants you want and then head to the stand before the 4pm sell-off bell. Be prepared for a battle though, you'll never see people move so fast for that £5 rose bush!



## WHAT DO I WEAR?

Comfy shoes are a must as you will be on your feet for most of the day. Bring a waterproof coat with a hood in case it rains, instead of an umbrella as these can get in the way in crowded areas.



## WHAT TO TAKE WITH YOU?

It is wise not to carry large rucksacks or bags around the show with you as they can get in the way of other visitors. If you are bringing a picnic or any large bags, check them into the cloakroom until you need them.



## ARE THERE ANY CATERING FACILITIES?

Between 11.30am and 2.30pm the show gets rather crowded so it might be worth stopping for a bite to eat to avoid the congestion. Use the catering area in the northwest corner of the site by Creek Gate where you'll find a range of hot and cold meals.



## HOW TO BEAT THE QUEUES

When the Main Avenue and Rock Garden Bank are congested, head into the Great Pavilion or to Western Avenue and Royal Hospital Way. The toilets in Western Avenue often have the shorter queues.



## HOW CAN I AVOID CARRYING TOO MUCH?

A folding box cart which can be bought at the show should solve all your problems. Once you have finished eating your picnic, you can then start filling your cart with your plant purchases.

## WHAT IF I AM IN A WHEELCHAIR?

There are 26 manual wheelchairs and 3 mobility scooters for hire at the Garden Entrance. All gardens are accessible with a recommended wheelchair route. The Rock Garden has limited access. There are adapted unisex WCs located at points throughout the garden – only suitable for manual wheelchair users.



## SHOULD I BUY A SHOW-GUIDE?

Yes. The map will help you to spot the restrooms, restaurants and vendors so you can plan your day effectively. Apparently, there is also a DVD of the show, available later on in the week.



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