

Visit to Thorp Perrow Arboretum

Saturday October 26th

Arboretum, Plant Centre, Mammal Centre, Birds of Prey Centre

One of the finest private collections of trees and shrubs in the country.

This 85 acre arboretum is unique to Britain, if not Europe, in being the creation of one man, Colonel Sir Leonard Ropner (1895 - 1977) and is now owned and managed by Sir John Ropner.

Before lunch : we suggest you visit the mammal centre and go to the garden on the tour (you can of course explore on your own).

Tea room for coffee/lunch/afternoon tea.

1.30 pm Garden Tour of about 90 minutes. Their gardening expert will take us round the best parts of the Arboretum & we should see some spectacular Autumn colours.

3.30pm Flying display of birds of prey (weather permitting).

5.00pm Depart

Located in the Yorkshire Dales, near the historic town of Bedale, Thorp Perrow has some of the largest and rarest trees and shrubs in England. There are tree trails, a nature trail and a large lake. The Arboretum also embraces the Milbank Pinetum planted by Lady Augusta Milbank in the mid-nineteenth century, and the medieval Spring Wood dates back to the 16th century.

A walk around the Arboretum can be a journey of plant discovery that takes you around the continents of the world; with tree & shrub, genera & species planted having origins in China, Japan, North America, Chile, and Europe.

During the early summer of 2004, 67 trees within the arboretum were recorded and designated as "Champion Trees" by The Tree Register of the British Isles. The Arboretum currently is home to five 'National Plant Collections' (Juglans spp.- Walnuts, Fraxinus - Ash excludes excelsior cvs., Tilia spp. - Lmes, Laburnum SPP & CVS and Cotinus).

Bird of Prey & Mammal Centre



The Falcons offer the opportunity to learn more about birds of prey and associated wildlife, with the enjoyment of hands on experience. The Mammal Centre has new enclosures and experiences; Meerkat Island, Walk Through Wallaby Wood etc