

On your stroll through the garden you may spot the Summerhouse on the curtilage lawn by the Court. It was designed by Rex Whistler in the 1930s.



The Summerhouse



Clovelly Court

The restored blue gate towards the end of the garden leads out on to Clovelly Court Great Terrace, where on a clear day you can enjoy a view of Lundy (Norse for island of puffins) and a sweeping vista of Bideford bay. It is a very popular location for marquee wedding receptions. Clovelly Court is the Manor House of the village and home of the Rous family.

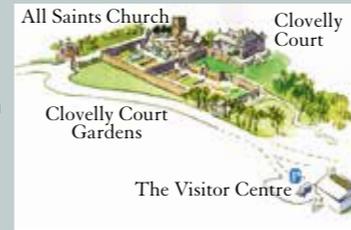


Herbaceous border



The blue gate

You are sure to find the gardens one of the most pleasurable places to go in North Devon, so do make sure you include them as part of your visit.



#### Location

EX39 5SZ. Adjacent to All Saints Church, Clovelly. Clovelly is just off the A39, 10 miles west of Bideford. Exit the M5 at Junction 27.

At Clovelly Cross on the A39 take the B3237 to Clovelly and park outside the entrance gates to Clovelly Court, then follow the signs.

#### Facilities

- Parking
- Group visits welcome
- Disabled access with WCs too
- Picnics allowed
- Plants for sale
- Dogs allowed on leads
- A full range of facilities at Clovelly Visitor Centre, only 5 minutes away
- Opening times 1st April to 30th September, 10am to 4pm

#### Admission

Adults £4. Children (under 16 years) free. RHS members free (1 member only) from October to March. Please note that admission charges to Clovelly Village include the gardens too.

A fare paying Land Rover service operates from Easter until the end of October to take you up from Clovelly harbour to the Visitor Centre, and at special request to Clovelly Court Gardens.

#### Further information

Telephone: 01237 431781  
E mail: [visitorcentre@clovelly.co.uk](mailto:visitorcentre@clovelly.co.uk)  
or visit our website: [www.clovelly.co.uk](http://www.clovelly.co.uk)



Clovelly Court Gardens are a classic example of a Victorian walled kitchen garden. Lovingly restored, a stand out feature is their magnificent Messenger design glasshouses with original manual levers still in working order. Years ago the walled garden was built to give protection from the sometimes salt-laden coastal winds and provide produce for the owners of the Manor House and its staff.



Spring blossoms

Tender and exotic plants thrive in this sunny corner of North Devon. It benefits from its enviable sheltered position in the Bristol Channel and the effects of the warm Gulf Stream flowing past Clovelly. Protected from the winds and bounded by an avenue of lofty lime trees, they are usually a month ahead of the season – but you'll find that there's always something to see and enjoy at any time of the year.



Summer borders



February peach blossoms

Peaches and apricots flower in February/ March so have to be pollinated by hand since there are few bees around at that time.

If you notice sachets hanging from the plants these contain organic biological controls, predatory bugs, which feed on a range of damaging pests.



The Judas Tree

Vegetable and fruit production take precedence over ornamental plants, but there are some remaining treasures such as the Judas tree you have to duck under as you enter the garden, said to be the oldest *Cercis Siliquastrum* in North Devon. Unusually the purple flowers robe the branches in either late April or May, before most of the leaves appear.



Herbaceous plants and vegetables growing side by side

The kitchen gardens, tended by a Head Gardener and a small team of full-time gardeners and volunteers, are bordered by herbaceous beds. Witness ongoing restoration of this charming garden and surrounding parkland and woodland.



Citrus fruit

In the run of restored glasshouses, apricots, peaches, nectarines, melons, vines (including an over ninety year old muscat grape), citrus fruit and figs ripen in the warmth along with cucumbers, peppers, chillies, aubergines, tomatoes – and a tropical Abutilon.



Abutilon



Espalier apples

Outside espalier, fan and cordon fruit trees line the walls enclosing the garden. There are apples, pears, quinces, medlars, soft fruit, and two mulberry trees. They make the best use of the c.18th-century walls, which were all renovated between 1997 and 2000 after the collapse of one section. Juice from home-grown apples is available for purchase at the Visitor Centre.

All of the garden produce is grown to organic principles and in rotation, ensuring a wide range of sweet tasting, wholesome produce is supplied to visitors, local villagers and the Clovelly hotels. For sale throughout the year are annual and perennial flowers, vegetable plants and freshly harvested fruits, vegetables and cut flowers according to the season.

Heritage tomatoes