

outdoor swimming pool



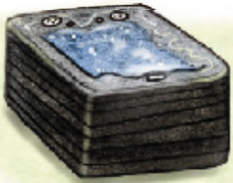
king barrow



bishopstrow house



hot tub



the forest hideaway



secret garden gate



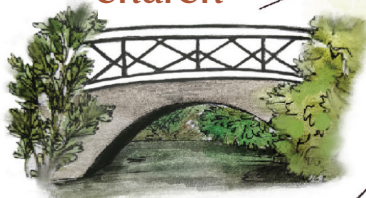
dog agility course



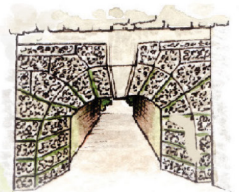
tennis court



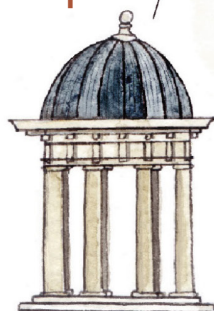
bridge to bishopstrow church



underpass



temple



summerhouse



no-dig kitchen garden



wild meadows



bishopstrow house

Buried deep in thirty acres of beautiful countryside, Bishopstrow House boasts a fascinatingly diverse collection of features, varying from an ancient Bronze Age barrow, right the way through to comparatively modern 19th-century vaulted tunnels, a neo-classical temple and tennis courts. On your way out, don't forget to take a pair of our wellies. While hugely relaxing and to be taken at your own pace, there is a great deal to take in:

the house

The original manor house, built on the remarkable site near the River Wylfe, was destroyed in a fire in 1817. A mere four years later, William Temple, assisted by his architect John Pinch the elder, finished the new and rather more imposing structure, modelled along classical lines. The immediate impact of the facade is created by an imposing portico, flanked by fluted Ionic columns, welcoming visitors through panelled doors to the treasures that lie within.

underpass

Wonderfully intriguing, and not a little eccentric, a segmented, barrel vaulted tunnel links Bishopstrow to the gardens of the earlier house. An inscription in the tunnel's keystone 'WT/1815', bears testament to the fact that this tunnel has offered a vital link accessing the river, temple, orchards and secret gardens for over two centuries. As you emerge at the other end of the tunnel, a collection of ruins offers clues to the exact site of the original house.

temple

Built as a picturesque focal point in 1770, this limestone temple with eight Tuscan columns and a lead covered domed roof, draws the eye across otherwise uninterrupted acres of landscape pasture, punctuated by magnificent trees.

no-dig kitchen garden

Take a stroll round the left hand side of our temple to find our No-Dig Kitchen Garden, spearheaded by Darren Stephens and a team of talented plant whisperers. Here, we cultivate fresh produce that forms the foundation of every meal we serve in our restaurant, The Garden Grill. With a focus on locally sourced ingredients and ethical practices, our restaurant offers a unique dining experience that celebrates the bounty of the surrounding countryside.

secret gardens

The River Wylfe runs its pleasant course alongside the southern boundary of the estate with a mill and the original coach house nearby. Enjoyable from here are superb vistas of the secret garden, framed by cast iron gates and Grade II listed walls. To the west is an enchanting carriage bridge with a latticed balustrade that passes over the clear chalk stream waters flowing below. Another architectural feature decorating the landscape is the octagonal summerhouse, designed presumably to provide shelter from the not so classical English weather. Once renovated, this will provide a rather lovely focal point for a leisurely walk through the grounds.

nature

Because Bishopstrow is nestled in 30 acres of wild meadows, orchards, gardens and woodlands, you are likely to see an extraordinary variety of native wildlife: deer, brown hares, hedgehogs, bats and harvest mice, as well as some extremely successful incomers - pheasants. Within a short walk from the estate, otters are frequently spotted at Smallbrook Meadows.

king and bowl barrow

Evidence of a much less complicated life is also to be found in the north of the estate. The outline of King Barrow, a Neolithic burial site is discernible, as is Bowl Barrow, a Bronze Age burial mound, situated between the house and the tennis court.

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