Welcome

Experience the fascinating world of plants with RBGE

Welcome to the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh (RBGE)’s 2019/20 Short Course Programme. This year we continue to offer our extensive range of adult learning courses making the most of our collections and the expertise of our staff.

Courses are offered in a range of formats including half-day introductory sessions, weekend workshops, as well as evening and daytime weekly classes for specialised skills.

Course content ranges from botany, and horticulture to garden design, art & crafts, health & wellbeing, and herbology. There is sure to be something to fit your interests and schedule.

Learn more
If you love what you’re learning and want to go deeper, you may be interested in our Certificate, Diploma, and Degree courses. See our website for full details: http://www.rbge.org.uk/professionalcourses

You can also continue to learn at RBGE wherever you are in the world. Join international classmates through our online learning programmes on PropaGate. See our website for full details of the courses currently available: http://onlinecourses.rbge.org.uk

Education Team

How to Book

Short courses can be booked by either returning the completed booking form or by telephoning the Education Department on 0131 248 2937 between 9.00am and 5.00pm. Full payment must be made at the time of booking.

The first price shown in the price list is the full price of the course, the second price listed is the price for members of RBGE.

Advanced booking for Members is by postal booking form only. Phone bookings will only be accepted from Wednesday 19 June when the general bookings open.
Cancellations

Courses may have to be cancelled due to low uptake, or other unexpected circumstances and a full refund will be given. We will make every effort to notify you of a cancellation, so it is important to provide both your daytime and evening phone numbers and email address if you have one. Some courses may not be able to run if the Garden has to close due to high winds or other severe weather. This will be indicated on your course outline. If this seems likely, please contact the Garden before you set out.

Refunds/Transfers

If you need to cancel your booking please inform the Education Department in writing (letter or email) as soon as possible. The cancellation is effective from the date your communication is received and is subject to the following charges:

- For cancellations with more than 4 weeks’ notice we will refund your payment less 15%
- For cancellations with 4 weeks’ notice or less we will refund your payment less 50%
- For cancellations with 1 week’s notice or less we regret we are unable to refund your payment unless there are exceptional circumstances.

However if we are able to fill your place at short notice we will offer a 50% refund

Transfers will be treated as a cancellation and re-booking unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Gift Vouchers

RBGE Education gift vouchers can be used as payment or part payment on any of our short courses. Vouchers are available in denominations of £20, £50 and £100 and the voucher pack will include an attractive RBGE greetings card appropriate to the occasion, your voucher(s) and our current Short Course Programme.
### Matrix of Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>COURSE</th>
<th>TUTOR</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>JULY</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 8 - Fri 12 Jul</td>
<td>9.30am - 4.00pm</td>
<td>Introduction to Botanical Art</td>
<td>Nicola Adams</td>
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<td>Sat 13 Jul</td>
<td>10.00am - 4.00pm</td>
<td>An Introduction to Botanical Photography</td>
<td>Stephen Whitehorne</td>
<td>£50/45</td>
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<td>Sat 20 - Sun 21 Jul</td>
<td>10.00am - 4.00pm</td>
<td>Capturing Light</td>
<td>Helen Jackson</td>
<td>£100/90</td>
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<td>Fri 2 Aug</td>
<td>4.00pm</td>
<td>Expressive Watercolour &amp; Landscape Summer School</td>
<td>David Forster</td>
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<td>Tue 6 Aug</td>
<td>11.00am - 2.00pm</td>
<td>Seaweed Foray (in North Berwick)</td>
<td>Greg Kenicer</td>
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<td>Sat 10 Aug</td>
<td>10.00am - 4.00pm</td>
<td>Creative Drawing</td>
<td>Jasmine Holt</td>
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<td>10 Sundays, 1 Sep - 14 Jun</td>
<td>10.00am - 4.00pm</td>
<td>Fur &amp; Feathers</td>
<td>Sharon Tingey</td>
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<td>Herbal First Aid</td>
<td>Jill Tees</td>
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<td>Axel Poulson</td>
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<td>1.30pm - 5.00pm</td>
<td>Ethnobotany (Plants and People)</td>
<td>Jen Farrar</td>
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<td>Slow Art for Fast Lives</td>
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<td>Introduction to Mosaics: Bird Baths</td>
<td>Sheila Angus</td>
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<td>9.30am - 12.30pm</td>
<td>Expressive Watercolour &amp; Landscape (Intermediate to Advanced)</td>
<td>David Forster</td>
<td>£120/108</td>
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<td>10.30am - 1.00pm</td>
<td>Intermediate Botanical Illustration - Monday Mornings</td>
<td>Lyn Campbell</td>
<td>£110/99</td>
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<td>1.30pm - 4.30pm</td>
<td>Expressive Watercolour &amp; Landscape (Beginners to Intermediate)</td>
<td>David Forster</td>
<td>£120/108</td>
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<td>Mon 23 Sep - 2 Dec</td>
<td>1.30pm - 4.00pm</td>
<td>Watercolour and Mixed Media - Monday Afternoon</td>
<td>Helen Jackson</td>
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<td>Beginning Botanical Illustration - Monday Evenings</td>
<td>Sarah Roberts</td>
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<td>Intermediate Botanical Illustration - Monday Evenings</td>
<td>Sharon Tingey</td>
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<td>Tue 24 Sep - 3 Dec</td>
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<td>Intermediate Botanical Illustration - Tuesday Mornings</td>
<td>Nicola Adams</td>
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<td>Tue 24 Sep - 3 Dec</td>
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<td>Beginning Botanical Illustration - Tuesday Afternoons</td>
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<td>Tue 24 Sep - 29 Oct</td>
<td>7.00pm - 9.00pm</td>
<td>Mystery, Myths and Plants from the Amazon</td>
<td>Dr Ann Simpson</td>
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<td>Wed 25 Sep - 30 Oct</td>
<td>10.00am - 1.00pm</td>
<td>Sunshine Palette</td>
<td>Sharon Tingey</td>
<td>£75/67.50</td>
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<td>10.30am - 1.00pm</td>
<td>Beginning Botanical Illustration - Wednesday Mornings</td>
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<td>6.30pm - 9.00pm</td>
<td>Herbs for Healing</td>
<td>Catherine Conway-Payne</td>
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<td>7.00pm - 9.00pm</td>
<td>Botany for Beginners</td>
<td>Emily Wood</td>
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<td>7.00pm - 9.00pm</td>
<td>Introduction to Horticulture</td>
<td>RBGE Staff</td>
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<td>1.00pm - 4.00pm</td>
<td>Developing a Garden Sketch Book</td>
<td>Helen Jackson</td>
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<td>1.45pm - 2.45pm</td>
<td>Nordic Walking</td>
<td>Trevor Jones</td>
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<td>10.00am - 1.00pm</td>
<td>Sampling Gardens of the World</td>
<td>Catherine Delire</td>
<td>£120/108</td>
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<td>Sat 28 - Sun 29 Sep</td>
<td>10.00am - 4.00pm</td>
<td>Juicy Fruits</td>
<td>Sharon Tingey</td>
<td>£120/108</td>
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<td>Smartphone-ography</td>
<td>Chris Pendleton</td>
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<td>Woven Nut Basket</td>
<td>Anna Liebmann</td>
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<td>6.30pm - 9.00pm</td>
<td>Watercolour and Mixed Media - Wednesday Evening</td>
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<td>10.30am - 4.30pm</td>
<td>Mother and Baby Care</td>
<td>Emma Roe</td>
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<td>Sat 5, 12 &amp; 19 Oct</td>
<td>10.00am - 4.00pm</td>
<td>Photographing Trees</td>
<td>Stephen Whitehorne</td>
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<td>1.00pm - 4.00pm</td>
<td>Your Garden in Autumn</td>
<td>John Taylor</td>
<td>£30/27</td>
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<td>10.00am - 4.00pm</td>
<td>Fungi Identification for Beginners</td>
<td>Neville Kilkenny</td>
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<td>Material Selection for Garden Use</td>
<td>Colin Bell</td>
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<td>10.00am - 4.00pm</td>
<td>Setting Out Garden Features</td>
<td>Colin Bell</td>
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<td>10.00am - 4.00pm</td>
<td>Drawing Expressive Trees</td>
<td>Sarah Simblet</td>
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<td>Willow Basketry</td>
<td>Anna Liebmann</td>
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<td>Wed 6 Nov - 4 Dec</td>
<td>10.00am - 1.00pm</td>
<td>Conifers and Cones</td>
<td>Lizzie Sanders</td>
<td>£75/67.50</td>
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<td>1.00pm - 4.30pm</td>
<td>Spoon Carving Workshop</td>
<td>Jasper Hamlet</td>
<td>£50/45</td>
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<td>Sat 16 Nov</td>
<td>10.00am - 4.00pm</td>
<td>‘Millefleure’: Herbal Soaps &amp; Salts</td>
<td>RBGE Staff</td>
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<td>10.00am - 4.00pm</td>
<td>Colour and Pigment in Watercolour</td>
<td>David Forster</td>
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<td>Lichen Identification</td>
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<td>Felted Christmas Wreaths</td>
<td>Amy Davidson</td>
<td>£40/36</td>
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<td>Sat 7 Dec</td>
<td>10.00am - 4.00pm</td>
<td>The Confection Box</td>
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<td>Thurs 9 Jan - 12 Mar</td>
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<td>Victorian Horticulture</td>
<td>Phil Lusby</td>
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<td>Plant Geography</td>
<td>Jen Farrar</td>
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<td>Sat 11 Jan &amp; Sat 29 Aug</td>
<td>10.30am - 4.00pm</td>
<td>Growing Heritage Apples and Pears</td>
<td>Johanna Lausen-Higgins</td>
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<td>Expressive Watercolour &amp; Landscape (Intermediate to Advanced)</td>
<td>David Forster</td>
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<td>10.30am - 1.00pm</td>
<td>Intermediate Botanical Illustration - Monday Mornings</td>
<td>Lyn Campbell</td>
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<td>Beginning Botanical Illustration - Monday Evenings</td>
<td>Sarah Roberts</td>
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<td>Sat 22 Feb</td>
<td>10.00am - 4.00pm</td>
<td>Care of Houseplants</td>
<td>Paula Maciejewska-Daruk</td>
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<td>Natural Dyeing</td>
<td>Ann Ross and Kristine</td>
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<td>Smartphone-ography</td>
<td>Chris Pendleton</td>
<td>£30/27</td>
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<td>Sat 29 Feb &amp; Sat 14 Mar</td>
<td>10.00am - 4.00pm</td>
<td>Small is Beautiful</td>
<td>Sarah Roberts &amp; Kristine</td>
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<td>Sat 7 Mar</td>
<td>10.00am - 4.00pm</td>
<td>Children's Herbal Healthcare</td>
<td>Emma Roe</td>
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<td>10.30am - 4.30pm</td>
<td>Working with Willow Withies: Garden Cones</td>
<td>Ginger Franklin</td>
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<td>Lichen Identification</td>
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<td>Spoon Carving Workshop</td>
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<td>Seaweedopedia</td>
<td>Monica Wilde</td>
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<td>Introduction to Botany</td>
<td>Emily Wood</td>
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<td>Introduction to Mosaics: Plant Pots</td>
<td>Sheila Angus</td>
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<td>10.00am - 4.00pm</td>
<td>A Long Look at Leaves</td>
<td>Ann Swan</td>
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<td>10.00am - 4.00pm</td>
<td>Herbal Medicine for Men</td>
<td>Joseph Nolan</td>
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<td>Sat 18 Apr</td>
<td>10.00am - 4.00pm</td>
<td>The Concrete Pharmacy</td>
<td>Catherine Conway-Payne</td>
<td>£60/54</td>
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<td>Tue 21 Apr - Z3 Jun</td>
<td>10.30am - 1.00pm</td>
<td>Garden Design for Gardeners - Tuesday Mornings</td>
<td>John Taylor &amp; Monika Polak</td>
<td>£100/90</td>
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<td>Nicola Adams</td>
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<td>Monika Polak</td>
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<td>Plant Families of the World</td>
<td>RBGE Staff</td>
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<td>Painting Rhododendrons</td>
<td>Janis Bain</td>
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<td>Developing a Garden Sketchbook - After Hours</td>
<td>Helen Jackson</td>
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<td>6.30pm - 9.00pm</td>
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<td>Introduction to Horticulture</td>
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<td>1.00pm - 4.00pm</td>
<td>Looking Through Their Eyes: Scottish Landscape Artists</td>
<td>Helen Jackson</td>
<td>£120/108</td>
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<td>1.45pm - 2.45pm</td>
<td>Nordic Walking</td>
<td>Trevor Jones</td>
<td>£65/58.50</td>
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<td>6.30pm - 9.00pm</td>
<td>Roses: Botany, Horticulture and History</td>
<td>Phil Lusby</td>
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<td>Measuring your Garden</td>
<td>Colin Bell</td>
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<td>Painting with Wool</td>
<td>Amy Davidson</td>
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<td>Photographing Rhododendrons</td>
<td>David Purvis</td>
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<td>Sat 25 Apr &amp; Sat 16 May</td>
<td>10.00am - 4.00pm</td>
<td>Wild Food</td>
<td>Ian Edwards</td>
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<td>Recording Levels in the Garden</td>
<td>Colin Bell</td>
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<td>9.30am - 12.30pm</td>
<td>Expressive Watercolour &amp; Landscape (Intermediate to Advanced) 8 Week Term</td>
<td>David Forster</td>
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<td>Mon 27 Apr - 29 Jun</td>
<td>1.30am - 4.30pm</td>
<td>Expressive Watercolour &amp; Landscape (Beginners to Intermediate) 8 Week Term</td>
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<td>Intermediate Botanical Illustration - Monday Mornings 8 Week Term</td>
<td>Lyn Campbell</td>
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<td>Watercolour and Mixed Media 8 Week Term</td>
<td>Helen Jackson</td>
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<td>Beginning Botanical Illustration - Monday Evenings 8 Week Term</td>
<td>Sarah Roberts</td>
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<td>Intermediate Botanical Illustration - Monday Evenings 8 Week Term</td>
<td>Sharon Tingey</td>
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**MAY**

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<td>Sat 2 May</td>
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<td>Your Garden in Spring</td>
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<td>Two Feet, One Mind - A Contemplative Walking Workshop</td>
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<td>10.00am - 4.00pm</td>
<td>Knowing and Understanding Healing Plants</td>
<td>Dr Ann Simpson &amp; Dr Katherine Buchanan</td>
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<td>Smartphone-ography</td>
<td>Chris Pendleton</td>
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<td>1.00pm - 5.00pm</td>
<td>Woven Nut Basket</td>
<td>Anna Liebmann</td>
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<td>Herbals in Ink</td>
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<td>Tue 26 May</td>
<td>6.00pm - 8.00pm</td>
<td>Two Feet, One Mind - A Contemplative Walking Workshop</td>
<td>Roger Hyam</td>
<td>£15</td>
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<td>Wed 27 May - 24 Jun</td>
<td>10.00am - 1.00pm</td>
<td>Loose Style: Summer Blooms</td>
<td>Clare Robinson</td>
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<td>Sat 30 May</td>
<td>10.00am - 4.00pm</td>
<td>An Introduction to Japanese Gardens</td>
<td>Liz Cole</td>
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<td>Sat 30 May- Sun 31 May</td>
<td>10.00am - 4.00pm</td>
<td>Coastal Lichens (at Tyninghame)</td>
<td>Rebecca Yahr</td>
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<td>10.00am - 4.00pm</td>
<td>Slow Art for Fast Lives</td>
<td>Eleanor Christopher</td>
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<td>10.00am - 4.00pm</td>
<td>The Call of the New Natives</td>
<td>Gerard O’Brien &amp; Greg Kenicer</td>
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<td>Orchid Cultivation at Home</td>
<td>Paula Maciejewsk-Daruk</td>
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<td>Women’s Hormonal Health</td>
<td>Emma Roe</td>
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<td>Sat 6 Jun</td>
<td>1.00pm - 4.30pm</td>
<td>Spoon Carving Workshop</td>
<td>Jasper Hamlet</td>
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<td>Dr Alan Elliott</td>
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<td>Sat 13 - Sun 14 Jun</td>
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<td>The Science and Art of Plant Medicines</td>
<td>Dr Ann Simpson</td>
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<td>Indian Miniature Painting</td>
<td>Susana Marin</td>
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<td>Wildflower Identification</td>
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<td>Fern Identification</td>
<td>Dr Heather McHaffie</td>
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<td>Remedies from the Physic Garden</td>
<td>Catherine Conway-Payne &amp; Johanna Lausen-Higgins</td>
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<td>Sat 27 Jun</td>
<td>10.00am - 5.00pm</td>
<td>Willow Basketry</td>
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<td>Sat 27 Jun</td>
<td>1.00pm - 4.00pm</td>
<td>Your Garden in Summer</td>
<td>John Taylor</td>
<td>£30/27</td>
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Summer Courses

Introduction to Botanical Art
This intensive week-long course is aimed at anyone new to botanical painting or watercolour. It consists of structured and individual tuition, demonstrations and exercises designed to introduce the student to the necessary skills required for botanical illustration.

Price includes lunch. Taught by Nicola L. Adams.

Runs: July

An Introduction to Botanical Photography
This one-day course presents a brief history of botanical photography. Starting with a morning lecture followed by an afternoon photographic session out in the Garden, we’ll explore various techniques and creative possibilities for photographing the summer plants around us whilst responding positively, or otherwise, to the historical traditions in the photography of botanical and garden subjects.

Taught by Stephen Whitehorn.

Runs: July

Expressive Watercolour Landscape Summer School
Tutored by award winning artist David Forster, a week to enjoy of the expressive possibilities of watercolour sketching. Working outdoors in the beautiful surroundings of the Botanic Gardens, the course will cover all the basic techniques, with an emphasis on brushwork and colour mixing. The course will suit those trying watercolour for the first time, as well as those more experienced wishing to get more out of the medium.

Price includes lunch.

Runs: July

Capturing Light
A painting workshop offering an opportunity to explore and draw the landscape, plants, trees and flowers in the gardens with a focus on the quality of light inherent within these summer blooms and vistas. Taught by Helen Jackson.

Runs: July

Seaweed Foray
A chance to get your feet wet and hands on with an up-close look at seaweeds. We’ll look at their diversity, work out the basics of identification and find out some of the weird, wonderful and everyday uses for this fascinating group of plants.

Held at North Berwick beach, we’ll comb the shore and explore some pools.

Runs: August

Photo: Brenda White
Creative Drawing
Explore the world of creative botanical drawing! Come and experiment with different mark-making and drawing techniques inspired by the shapes and textures found in the plant world. Participants will have the chance to draw on a large scale with tools of their own making to create textural artwork and artist books. Taught by Jasmine Holt.

Runs: August

Professional Courses

RBGE Certificate in Practical Horticulture

Attended summer block course
The RBGE Certificate in Practical Horticulture (CPH) is a unique course that focuses on the essential skills needed by budding horticulturalists today. Subjects covered on the course include Soil Care, Feeding & Watering, Seed & Vegetative Propagation and Growing Media.

Application and full details: www.rbge.org.uk/certph

RBGE Certificate in Botanical Illustration

Attended summer block course
The course will cover fundamental skills such as 3d modelling, colour mixing, painting techniques and composition. The techniques you learn are valuable across all areas of illustration and a seldom taught in art colleges or university art departments, so are well suited to any developing artist.

Application and full details: www.rbge.org.uk/certbi

Photo: Brenda White
**Weekly Classes**

**Introduction to Horticulture**
A ten-week theoretical course covering a range of topics, from soil science to pruning to plant anatomy. Suitable as an overview of horticulture for absolute beginners, or as a stepping stone to the RHS (level 2) Certificate in Horticulture. Taught by RBGE staff.

*Starts: September, January or April*

**Ethnobotany (Plants and People)**
This course looks at the ways in which humans have used plants from pre-agricultural societies, through to the drive for sustainable plant use in the present day. A module of the BSc in Horticulture with Plantsmanship. Taught by Jen Farrar.

*Starts: September*

**Plant Geography**
This course investigates the ways that plants have adapted to the incredible diversity of habitats available on Earth. As this course is a module of the BSc in Horticulture with Plantsmanship we are unable to confirm the dates at the time of print. This course is taught by taught by Jen Farrar.

*Starts: January*

**Victorian Horticulture**
Looking at the innovations and passions that drove one of Britain’s golden ages of horticulture. As this course is a module of the BSc in Horticulture with Plantsmanship we are unable to confirm the dates at the time of print. This course is taught by Phil Lusby.

*Starts: January*

**Weekend Workshops**

**Growing Heritage Apples and Pears**
A tour of the fruit garden at RBGE looking at traditional apples and pears grown including rare Scottish heritage cultivars. Guidance on how to create espaliers, fans and cordons to get the best quality fruit for your garden. This two-day course will cover choice of rootstocks, formal and general maintenance or summer pruning to help you establish trained fruit for your garden with confidence. Taught by Johanna Lausen-Higgins.

*Starts: January*

**Blue Poppy (Meconopsis) Workshop**
This one day workshop will look at cultivation and propagation techniques for successfully growing Meconopsis. Learn how and when to sow seed, divide plants and learn how we grow Meconopsis at RBGE. Taught by Alan Elliott.

*Runs: June*
Care and Maintenance of House Plants

Don’t have experience with house plants? That’s no reason to have bare windowsills! This one day course will cover the basics of house plant care and horticultural problem solving. A trip behind the scenes to see the RBGE backup plant collection is included. Taught by RBGE horticulturist Paulina Maciejewska-Daruk.

**Runs:** February

An Introduction to Japanese Gardens

Join Liz Cole on this one-day workshop looking at the origin and development of the gardens of Japan. Liz will cover topics like design features and plants used in many varied styles of gardens will be covered, both sacred and secular.

**Runs:** May

Orchid Cultivation at Home

An exciting new one day workshop covering the basics of orchid home cultivation. Includes a practical workshop with re-potting presentations and trip behind the scenes to see the RBGE backup orchid collection. Taught by RBGE Horticulturist, Paula Maciejewska-Daruk.

**Runs:** June

Your Garden Through the Year

A series of half-day workshops that really help you get to grips with your garden over the course of a year. Walkrounds, demonstrations and troubleshooting Q&A show you the key things you need to be doing in your own garden. All workshops taught by John Taylor.

Your Garden in Autumn

Autumn in the garden is much more than raking leaves, with some wonderful late-flowering plants and plenty of critical jobs to be getting on with, to set up for the winter and the following year.

**Runs:** October

Your Garden in Summer

With everything in full swing in the garden in summer, there are a host of jobs to do – find out how to keep your flowering plants looking their best and avoid a tired-looking garden in the height of summer.

**Runs:** June

Your Garden in Spring

As buds are bursting and the garden reawakens, spring is one of the busiest times for the plants and the gardener. Find out how to keep on top of all this activity.

**Runs:** May

Your Garden in Winter

All is far from quiet in the garden in winter – from propagation to preparation for the coming year, there are a great many jobs you can be doing during the winter months.

**Runs:** January
Professional Courses

RBGE Certificate in Practical Horticulture
Attended summer block course or weekends September – June
The RBGE Certificate in Practical Horticulture (CPH) is a unique course that focuses on the essential skills needed by budding horticulturalists today. Subjects covered on the course include Soil Care, Feeding & Watering, Seed & Vegetative Propagation and Growing Media.

Application and full details:
www.rbge.org.uk/certph

RHS Level 2 Certificate in Principles of Horticulture
Attended or Online Distance Learning
The RHS Level 2 Certificate in the Principles of Horticulture is the most widely regarded entry-level horticulture course. It is suitable for anyone with a passion for plants and gardens who wants to develop their knowledge. The certificate delivers a broad-based understanding of horticultural techniques and plant biology and provides you with a qualification that is recognised internationally by the horticulture industry.

Application and full details:
www.rbge.org.uk/rhslevel2

RHS Level 3 Certificates
Online Distance Learning

Application and full details:
www.rbge.org.uk/rhslevel3

HND/BSc Horticulture with Plantsmanship
2-4 years attended
The course is taught in conjunction with the Scotland’s Rural College (SRUC) and awarded by The University of Glasgow. This HND/BSc is perfect for those wishing to develop a career in any area of horticulture that requires a good knowledge of plants. This would include botanic and private gardens, nurseries, retail outlets and garden design.

Application and full details:
www.rbge.org.uk/plantsmanship

PropaGate Learning
Botany & Plant Science

Helping you to explore the World of Plants - wherever you are!

Learn online with RBGE using PropaGate Learning, our online learning platform. Studying in a way that suits you is just one of the many benefits on online learning. We have short courses, certificates and diplomas in many subjects. Visit us at: onlinecourses.rbge.ac.uk to see our full range of courses.

Online Courses

Getting started with... Botany

Ever wondered about the amazing diversity of plants out there or what exactly is going on within a plant? This fully online course is a comprehensive introduction to botany and how plants work. We look at seed growth, plant structure and processes, flowers, fruits and the naming of plants. Tips on plant identification and an introduction to the investigative skills of a botanist help prepare you for the big botanical world out there. The course is self-guided with tutor support through 9 units and is an ideal grounding for many of our certificated courses.

Starts: Anytime
Apply online: https://onlinecourses.rbge.ac.uk

Plant Defence: How Plants Fight Back

On this free course find out about the many ways plants have evolved to defend themselves on this free mini taster course. May it be spines, thorns, stings, mimicry or chemicals, plants have it all! This course gives insights into how plants avoid being eaten.

Starts: Anytime
Access course: https://onlinecourses.rbge.ac.uk

Keep Edinburgh Buzzing!

This is a free short course on the importance of our pollinators and how you can help – whether you are in Edinburgh or anywhere else there is something for you! The course covers the process of pollination, identifying pollinators and how to plant for pollinators. It has been developed by the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, the Royal Zoological Society of Scotland and Edinburgh Living Landscape.

Starts: Anytime
Access course: https://onlinecourses.rbge.ac.uk
**Weekly Classes**

**Botany for Beginners**
Aimed at the complete beginner and using living plants from the garden, this eight-week course investigates the identification, function and ecology of familiar plant species. Useful as a pre-course to the RHS Level 2 Certificate in Horticulture.

**Starts:** September

**Plant Families of the World**
This 10-week course will feature a different group or family of plants each week focusing on some of the key characteristics used to identify them, including flowers, fruits and vegetative characters as well as the variety that exists within each group. Our expert RBGE science and horticulture staff will showcase the plants they work with every day covering: conifers, gingers, orchids, begonias and many more, while highlighting their importance in our collections and the research we do as we endeavour to ‘Explore, Conserve and Explain the World of Plants for a Better Future’.

**Starts:** April

**Roses: Botany, Horticulture and History**
Join Phil Lusby for an intimate survey of these hugely popular, important and perplexing group of plants. Learn some of their unusual breeding habits, how they have been developed and classified and how to cultivate them. We’ll also look at products from roses, how to choose them for your garden and how roses have been used in garden design over the centuries. The stories of a selection of major historical figures of the rose world is as colourful as the roses themselves. An optional day-trip is included to one of the very best collections of Gallica roses in Britain situated in a most superb walled garden.

**www.plantheritage.com**

**Starts:** April

**Weekend Workshops**

**Gingers @ The Botanics!**
This half-day journey will introduce you to the world of gingers from the perspective of a botanical explorer who will explain the richness of these amazing plants and include behind the scenes tours of the living and conserved collections as well as a rare taste of gingers you never knew existed. Taught by Axel Poulsen.

**Runs:** September

**Introduction to Botany**
Spend a weekend getting to know the basics of how a plant is put together, exploring familiar and unfamiliar plants out in the Garden and under the microscope. Taught by Emily Wood.

**Runs:** March

**Coastal Lichens**
Lichens are a conspicuous part of Scottish coastlines, adding a splash of colour and diversity to the rocky shores. Come along and learn about lichens and how identify common coastal species on a day out along East Lothian’s shoreline. Taught by RBGE Lichenologist, Rebecca Yahr.

**Runs:** May

**Plant Identification Workshops**

**Fungi Identification for Beginners**
An introduction to the identification of fungi. You will be introduced to the different field characteristics of each of the families and their genera, how to apply these to identification keys, and good practice for collection. This practical workshop will include a tour of the Garden, to collect specimens for later identification in the classroom. Taught by Neville Kilkenny

**Runs:** October
Lichen Identification
An introduction to the fundamental features of lichens. This one-day workshop will include a lab-based session introducing the lichens, their structure and function and identification techniques and then some practice out in the Garden. Taught by Chris Ellis.

Runs: November or March

Winter Tree Identification
Winter identification of deciduous trees relies on things like the shape, colour, position and arrangement of buds. This one-day workshop is designed for complete beginners and will equip you with the skills to identify trees throughout the year. The course fee includes the cost of a copy of the Field Studies Council publication: A Guide to the Identification of Deciduous and Broad-leaved Trees and Shrubs in Winter. Taught by Max Coleman.

Runs: January

Rhododendron Identification
Learn to identify some common rhododendrons through an introduction to identification using keys. Includes a lab-based session and walk to practise some of the techniques learned. Taught by David Chamberlain. Running as part of the Rhododendron Festival.

Runs: May

Fern Identification
There are around 70 species of fern and on this one-day workshop you will learn some of the simple skills to identify the most common ones around Edinburgh. You will also learn about their life cycle and useful distinguishing features and enjoy putting your new knowledge into practice in the Garden. Taught by Heather McHaffie.

Runs: June

Wildflower Identification
Join Phil Lusby for an illustrated guide to native wildflowers. The day includes a hands-on workshop to teach you some basic skills, plus a field trip for a chance to put them into practice.

Runs: June

Professional Courses

MSc Biodiversity and Taxonomy of Plants
The MSc in Biodiversity and Taxonomy of Plants is a one-year Masters course run jointly by the University of Edinburgh and RBGE. The programme focuses on understanding the diversity of the world of plants and fungi with a strong emphasis on their identification.

Application and full details: www.rbge.org.uk/msc

Photo: David A. Purvis
Herbology

**Weekly Classes**

**Herbs for Healing**
Discover the healing properties of various plants found within the garden. Learn how to create a variety of practical herbal remedies and compile an individual herbarium of medicinal plant specimens, to form the basis of your very own medicine chest. Taught by Catherine Conway-Payne.

**Starts:** September

**Mystery, Myths and Plants from the Amazon**
This course will explore the knowledge held by rainforest Amazon tribal elders of their plants. It will look at how they built up their knowledge of sustainable survival in the forest; where this knowledge came from and transmitted. Examples of plants used in tribal daily life will be given and connected to the cultural beliefs of the elders. Taught by Dr Ann Simpson.

**Starts:** September

**Medicine from Trees**
When is a herb not a herb? When it’s a tree! Discover the therapeutic treasure store of our ancient woodlands and those of distant shores, learning something of the pharmacology, folklore and history that surrounds this truly remarkable facet of phytotherapy. Taught by Catherine Conway-Payne.

**Starts:** January

**Herbs of the Highlands**
The indigenous healing herbs of these northern climes are part of a truly remarkable botanical ethnomedica – one that is steeped in the oral tradition, unique unto itself and its spectacular geographical location. Learn all about the natural and nutritious remedies (and feel something of the magic!) of our native Flora Celtica. Taught by Catherine Conway-Payne.

**Starts:** April

**Weekend Workshops**

**Herbal First Aid**
Join us on this one-day practical workshop and learn how to prepare a herbal first aid box full of healing plant based remedies and how to apply them. Taught by Jill Tees.

**Runs:** September

**Mother and Baby Care**
Pregnancy, birth and the post-natal period contain some of the most precious and most challenging times in a woman’s life. Medical Herbalist Emma Roe will teach you how to care for and nourish yourself and your little one naturally, using herbal remedies. We will make, taste, smell, and take home, wonderful remedies for yourself and your little one. Babies are welcome on this course!

**Runs:** October

**‘Millefleure’: Herbal Soaps & Salts**
A delightful one day workshop offering the opportunity to learn how to create your own enchanting herbal soaps (using the simplest of melt & pour techniques) and prepare re-mineralizing fizzing bath salts – all infused with a myriad of jewel-like flowers.

**Runs:** November
The Confection Box
Make your own selection of seasonal herbal gifts just in time for Christmas on this one-day workshop! Include Chocolate Orange Balm, Winter Spice Oil and Mulled Wine Mix.

**Runs:** December

Seaweedopedia: Seaweed for food, health and beauty
Join expert forager Monica Wilde FLS to learn all about Scottish seaweeds and their myriad uses. From gourmet cuisine, to nutrition, remedies and beauty applications. The day will be part lecture and part hands-on workshop so be prepared to try some unusual tastes and to get sticky!

**Runs:** March

Children’s Herbal Healthcare
Help your little ones thrive naturally, using herbal remedies for common childhood ailments. Medical Herbalist Emma Roe will guide you through making, choosing, and safely using, herbal medicines for your children. Take your own handmade remedies away with you!

**Runs:** March

Herbal Medicine for Men
Join Medical Herbalist and Forager Joseph Nolan for a day of Men’s Medicine, learning how to optimise physical and mental health with herbs. We will be looking at local plants and readily available botanicals, preparing them, using them, and making medicines to take home. Don’t wear your best clothes!

**Runs:** March

The Concrete Pharmacy
An unexpected green pharmacy exists amongst the botanicals that tenaciously break through, inhabit and at times even colonize, the crumbling stonework and ground of our sprawling city landscapes. If you are curious to learn more about this extraordinary urban Materia medica - that so often passes unnoticed, but is quite literally all around us - then don’t miss your chance to learn all about the ‘Concrete Pharmacy’.

**Taught by** Catherine Conway-Payne.

**Runs:** April

Wild Food
Foraging, cooking and eating wild foods connects us with our past and offers inspiration for a seasonal, sustainable and healthy diet. This two-day practical course will help you identify, collect, preserve and make delicious meals from a range of wild edible plants from woodland (RBGE) and shore (Tynninghame). Includes a foraged lunch and hot drinks. Taught by Ian Edwards.

**Starts:** April

Knowing and understanding healing plants - an integrated approach
Learn about different cultural approaches to healing plants. This will commence with an introduction to the ways of the San tribe of Southern Africa and the indigenous elders of the Amazon forest and leading to consideration of “Western” ways of understanding plant healing properties and their relevance to medicine today.

**Taught by** Dr Katherine Buchanan and Dr Ann Simpson.

**Runs:** May
Professional Courses

RBGE Certificate in Herbology

Attended 5 weekends August – December or January – June

The RBGE Certificate in Herbology is a great way to learn about medicinal plants – how to find, recognise and use them. This is the perfect way to begin to develop your materia medica (knowledge of healing botanicals), botanising and green pharmacy (herbal remedy making) skills and will provide the perfect stepping stone for those wishing to progress on to the RBGE Diploma in Herbology.

Application and full details:
www.rbge.org.uk/ceerherb

RBGE Diploma in Herbology

Attended or Blended Online

Herbology is an innovative programme of study that draws together several connected branches of botanical science to clearly demonstrate the remarkable therapeutic potential of plants and the practical applications of this knowledge. The course is divided into 5 subject areas. Each includes practical and theoretical topics, with sessions delivered by lecturers from RBGE as well as visiting Herbalists, Holistic and Organic Practitioners, Botanists and Ethnobotanists from around the world.

Application and full details:
www.rbge.org.uk/dipherb

The Science and Art of Plant Medicines

This course will look at the use of plants in traditional and modern medicine from looking at where healing plant knowledge has come from – ancient healers, alchemists, apothecaries, chemists, pharmacists to relevance in modern medicine. Modern drug discovery will be explored. Taught by Dr Ann Simpson.

Runs: June

Women’s Hormonal Health

Ever wondered how to balance hormones naturally? Medical Herbalist Emma Roe will help you to understand your own hormones and their changing cycles from adolescence to menopause. Learn how to make and use herbal remedies to correct imbalances, support through times of transition, and ensure optimum hormonal health.

Runs: June

Remedies from the Physic Garden

That RBGE was originally founded as a Physic Garden in 1670 is well known, and James Sutherland’s Hortus Medicus Edinburgensis catalogues the quite extraordinary diversity of botanicals that were being nurtured for medicine making in Edinburgh at that time. What is less well known, is how these herbs were being compounded into remedies. With selected extracts translated from the earliest editions of the Edinburgh Pharmacopoeia, we will complete that missing link for the first time since the C17th. Taught by Catherine Conway-Payne and Johanna Lausen-Higgins.

Runs: June
Garden Design

Weekly Classes

Sampling Gardens of the World

Are you interested in garden design and would like to discover the philosophy behind acclaimed garden styles of the world? This course combines the exploration of iconic international garden styles with a practical application to your own garden. A basic survey of your garden will provide the template for you to successfully apply various design theories, whatever your drawing skills and size of garden. Taught by Catherine Delire.

Starts: September

Garden Design for Gardeners

This ten-week garden design course has been developed in response to our students’ interests. It focuses mainly on the selection of plants for various settings and growing conditions, and explains how to create that all important year-round interest for your garden. Taught by John Taylor and Monika Polak.

Starts: April
**Weekend Classes**

**The Call of the New Natives**
What are native plants? The term “native” plants is bandied about a lot, and is a hot topic in ecology and horticulture. Why are they considered important? This course seeks to, if not answer this question, debate it! The workshop also looks at combining this knowledge with a look at contemporary garden design and how we can respond to the call of the native in our gardens. Taught by Gerard O’Brien and Greg Kenicer.

**Runs:** June

**Introduction to Garden Landscaping Workshops**

A series of informative workshops for anyone looking to learn more about Garden Landscaping. The perfect accompaniment for those studying the RHS Level 3 Certificate in the Principles of Garden Planning, Construction and Planting. All workshops taught by Colin Bell.

**Material Selection for Garden Use**
This is a half–day workshop explores the different material choices for use within gardens. This workshop will cover sustainability, safety requirements, aesthetic considerations and functional use.

**Runs:** October

**Setting out Garden Features**
This is a one–day workshop which will show you how to set out common garden features on the ground. Translating garden design plans and construction details properly will enable garden features to be set out accurately.

**Runs:** October

**Recording Levels in the Garden**
This is a one–day workshop which will show you how to conduct a level survey of a garden area. Changes in level within the garden can be difficult to record accurately. You will be shown simple methods such as string & spirit levels through to more precise recording methods using an optical level. This workshop will also demonstrate the use of laser levels.

**Runs:** April

**Measuring your Garden**
This is a one–day workshop which will show you how to measure your garden and produce a scale plan. Accurate scale plans are essential to help set out hard and soft landscape features and enable materials to be quantified. Taught by Colin Bell.

**Runs:** April

Book a full weekend or all four courses and get an extra 5% discount.
Botanical Illustration

Weekly Classes

Beginning Botanical Illustration
This ten-week class introduces students to techniques in botanical painting. Students will develop drawing skills, learn to use watercolours and pen and ink effectively and create work inspired by fresh material from the Garden. This course runs Monday evenings, Tuesday afternoons or Wednesday mornings.

**Starts:** September, January or April

Intermediate Botanical Illustration
This class helps students to consolidate and develop their skills before moving on to the more advanced RBGE illustration courses and masterclasses. Suitable for students who have completed the ten-week Beginners or Continuing Botanical Illustration classes. This course runs on Monday mornings, Monday evenings or Tuesday mornings.

**Starts:** September, January or April
Botanical Artistry – Skills and Techniques

This is a great series of classes each focusing on a particular technique of botanical illustration. Each unit can be studied on its own, for interest, but the structured approach also provides an ideal stepping stone for those considering the RBGE Certificate or Diploma in Botanical Illustration.

Sunshine Palette
Sharon Tingey
Studying sunflowers in all their sunny glory, learn to paint clear and transparent yellows with ease, avoiding muddy or grey shadows. We will look at the flowers from fresh and unusual angles, giving us a modern, contemporary, look.

**Starts:** September  **Level:** Intermediate +

Conifers and Cones
Lizzie Sanders
It’s time to get to grips with the complex intricacy of conifer and cones – pine, fir, larch and more. Find out about Fibonacci and why he matters. Practice dry brush technique with help from Lizzie Sanders who will demonstrate and give one-to-one assistance each week.

**Starts:** November  **Level:** Intermediate +

Loving your Greens and Foliage
Clare Robinson
Even in late winter and very early spring there is still an abundance of beautiful and colourful foliage in the Garden. Using a loose style watercolour technique and sketchy drawing style while looking at trailing and twisting stems to using a palette of rich, glossy, tonal greens and other sumptuous colours – there is so much inspiration to be taken from seasonal foliage.

**Starts:** January  **Level:** Intermediate +

Painting Rhododendrons
Janis Bain
RBGE has an amazing range of rhododendrons with both indoor and greenhouse varieties, collected from all around the world. This course is an opportunity to study them at close range, learn more of their history and significance, and to paint and draw these fascinating plants in detail, either on paper or on vellum. Running as part of the Rhododendron Festival.

**Starts:** April  **Level:** Intermediate +

Loose Style – Summer Blooms
Clare Robinson
It is time to discover big blousy blooms such as vintage roses and hydrangeas, and seasonal flowers with luscious petals and sumptuous colours on this 5-week course. A lovely loose style of watercolour technique is used to explore wet into wet, crisp and faded edges, different types of brushwork and layers of tints and shades. Sessions will focus on being expressive, creative and spontaneous.

**Starts:** May  **Level:** Intermediate +
Weekend Workshops

Juicy Fruits

Sharon Tingey
Using soft, autumnal fruits as subject matter, learn how to depict bright, shiny, reds and purples on calf vellum. Vellum is a precious, historical surface, and requires a close, dry-brush technique, which is ideally suited to small detailed subjects like strawberries or raspberries. Alternative vegan surfaces will be available.

Starts: September  Level: Intermediate +

Small is Beautiful: an art-science exploration of lichens

Sarah Roberts and Kristine Bogomazova
RBGE lichenologist and artist team (Kristine and Sarah) will take you on a journey to take a closer look at the amazing colours, structures and lifestyles of lichens. Learn how to use a microscope to make observations and to scale up a drawing to make larger than life paintings of these wonderful organisms.

Starts: February  Level: Intermediate +

Herbals in Ink

Nicola Adams
A 3-day course working in ink and dip nib pens to create an illustration in the style of an old herbal wood cut working with medicinal plants and referring to historical works for information and inspiration. After initial pencil studies you will practise drawing in ink, with a selection of nibs, exploring the potential of this expressive medium. The final ink illustration can also be hand coloured in watercolour or gouache.

Starts: May  Level: Intermediate +
Botanical Art Masterclass Series

These two-day masterclasses gives students a chance to work with acclaimed and award-winning botanical artists from across the country. These workshops are intermediate – advance level and NOT suitable for beginners.

Sarah Simblet - Drawing Expressive Trees
Learn how to make expressive drawings of our majestic trees using brushes, pens, ink and mixed media of your choice. This experimental drawing course explores the rich collections of the Botanic Garden and will teach essential methods of observing, understanding and drawing trees. Suitable for enabling the beginner to make a strong start and for refreshing the skills of the more experienced artist. Sarah will also share and discuss her own drawings and sketchbooks.

Runs: October

Ann Swan - A Long Look at Leaves
Love them or loathe them we need to draw them and they can make or break our plant portraits.

Runs: June

Spend two-days with Ann learning to love them, understand them and depict them realistically so they add another dimension to your work.

Runs: March

Susana Marin - Indian Miniature Painting
This course will focus on trees and flowering vines found in 18th century miniature painting from Northern India. Techniques of Indian miniature painting will be used to lay the base colours of foliage and trunks, delineate different types of leaves, build up tonal variations, create delicate outlines, and paint tiny flowers in impasto. Students will work with traditional materials such as handmade paper from India, squirrel-hair brushes and mineral and vegetable extract pigments.

Runs: June
Professional Courses

RBGE Certificate in Botanical Illustration

Attended summer block course or Saturdays September – June or Online Distance Learning

The course will cover fundamental skills such as 3d modelling, colour mixing, painting techniques and composition. The techniques you learn are valuable across all areas of illustration and a seldom taught in art colleges or university art departments, so are well suited to any developing artist.

Application and full details:
www.rbge.org.uk/certbi

RBGE Diploma in Botanical Illustration

Attended part-time: Tuesdays in year 1, home study in year 2

The main focus is on observational drawing, pen-and-ink work and painting skills, but by the end of the course, students should develop expertise in a wide range of botanical illustration techniques. Students will be trained in visual analysis, fundamentals of botany, the essentials of different plant structures and the ability to assess and produce botanically accurate drawing and painting work.

Application and full details:
www.rbge.org.uk/dipbi

Photo: Lynn Dumbell
Garden Art

Monthly Course

Fur and Feathers

Over the 10 monthly sessions, you will create three beautiful paintings, based on a bird, a small furry creature and another natural history subject of your choice. You will look in detail at how to depict the various textures associated with wildlife painting, such as fur, feathers and possibly insect wings or fish scales using pencil and watercolour. Over the ten sessions, you will work from photographs using precise measuring and accurate colour mixing techniques, but you will not be restricted to these techniques in your paintings, as Sharon is happy to encourage a variety of styles.

This unique course gives you ten full days of tuition with time to practice what you have learned in between, allowing you to really immerse yourself in the subject. Some previous painting and drawing experience would be useful, although not necessarily with wildlife subjects. Hard working beginners are welcome. Taught by Sharon Tingey through a series of demonstrations and personal, one-to-one tutoring.

**Dates:** Sundays – 1 Sep, 6 Oct, 10 Nov, 8 Dec, 12 Jan, 2 Feb, 1 Mar, 26 Apr, 10 May, 14 Jun.

Weekly Classes

Expressive Watercolour & Landscape

Explore the techniques, and expressive joys of landscape watercolour painting. This ten-week course will use artist demonstration and individual guidance to help each student to a more confident handling of this fascinating medium. Lessons will cover techniques in the studio, but where conditions are suitable the students will have the chance to work outside in the Garden. Beginners and Intermediate to Advanced classes available. Taught by David Forster.

**Starts:** September, January or April

Developing a Garden Sketchbook: A Creative Response to Nature through Painting and Drawing

A course with tutor Helen Jackson designed to guide the student in exploring and developing their own personal style using a variety of media working on both preparatory studies and final works inspired by the gardens throughout the seasons.

**Starts:** September: Thursday afternoons or April: Wednesday evenings

Watercolour and Mixed Media

Experiment using watercolour together with a variety of media such as ink, oil pastel, charcoal and collage to develop new and exciting ways of expressing and creating garden art. Taught by Helen Jackson.

**Starts:** September: Monday afternoons or Wednesday evenings or April: Monday afternoons
Weekend Workshops

Slow Art for Fast Lives – a synergy of Mindfulness & Botanical Painting

Explore painting styles and techniques to produce botanical watercolours to consolidate mindful meditations practiced in class. You discover how to slow down, relax, ‘worry-bust’ and enjoy mindful observation and creativity. Taught by Eleanor Christopher.

Runs: September or May

Colour and Pigment in Watercolour

Watercolour not only offers an unrivalled subtlety of colour mixing, but the right choice of pigment allows those colours to have an even greater impact. Covering basic colour theory, the colour wheel, complimentary colours and colour mixing, then course will show students how to achieve watercolours of maximum vigour and brilliance.

Taught by David Forster.

Runs: November

Natural Dyeing

Join artist Ann Ross and Lichenologist Kristine Bogomazova on this one-day workshop to find out about the function, structures and lifestyles of lichens and Scottish plants. This practical workshop gives you the opportunity to “dabble in dyes” and build up a selection of samples of both yarns and fibres. You will learn about the processes, enjoy experimenting and discover amazing diversity of rich and complex colours produced from these amazing organisms.

Runs: February

Botanical Inspirations in Jewellery: Lost Wax Technique

In this 10-week class you will learn how to make beautiful jewellery inspired by the plants in the Garden. Using the ancient Lost Wax Technique you will first create your items in special jewellery wax, which will then be cast in the metal of your choice (silver, bronze, gold). You will also learn how to clean and finish your metal jewellery. This class is suitable for complete beginners. Please note that the price of the metal is not included in the fee.

Taught by Mirka Janeckova.

Starts: January

Looking Through Their Eyes: Scottish Women Artists

Looking through the eyes of five Scottish women artists and their creative response to flowers and the natural world. This ten week course gives the student a variety of ways of exploring different methods of reproducing the beauty of flowers and the natural world. Taught by Helen Jackson.

Starts: January

Looking Through Their Eyes: Scottish Landscape Artists

Learn how to view Nature through the eyes of five contemporary Scottish landscape artists and the different ways they portray the landscape around them. Taught by Helen Jackson.

Runs: April
Working with Willow Withies: Making Garden Cones

The beauty of willow is its flexibility, which allows it to be moulded into architectural shapes or woven into freeform sculptures. Whether you are a willow beginner or have used willow before and want to develop your skills, any of these 2 workshops will teach the basic techniques of working with willow withies, leading to weaving a conical plant climber or creating a sculpture from nature: bird, animal, plant—only limited by your imagination—and time. Taught by Ginger Franklin.

Runs: March

Introduction to Mosaics

Learn how to make your own beautiful mosaic art, using a variety of tesserae, coloured glass and old/vintage crockery. Learning how to use the basic tools and equipment associated with mosaic making, full instruction will be given. Suitable for beginners. Taught by Sheila Angus.

- Workshop 1: Mosaic Bird Bath Runs: September
- Workshop 2: Mosaic Plant Pot Runs: March

Painting with Wool

In this beginners workshop we will teach participants the art of needle felting using the landscapes around us as inspiration. Participants will learn how to ‘paint with wool’ and take away a stunning felt landscape piece framed in an embroidery hoop. Taught by Amy Davidson.

Runs: April

Felted Wreaths

In this 3 hour workshop you will learn the art of needle felting. You will learn how to felt leaves, sprigs and other foliage, which will then be used to create a stunning felt wreath. We will also think about colour, texture and placement of the felt leaves. Using the specialist felting needle we will show you how to add detail. The felt wreath can be something which can be used again and again each Christmas! This workshop is perfect for absolute beginners. We will have a lovely selection of wool to create that perfect Christmas wreath. Taught by Amy Davidson.

Runs: November
Learn a Craft in the Cottage

This series of workshops will introduce you to traditional crafts in the beautiful setting of the Botanic Cottage.

Willow Basketry
Students will learn all the fundamental techniques of basket making, completing a fruit basket throughout the day. We will work on understanding the structure of a basket, and practise selecting the correct grade of willow for each part of the basket, using Scottish and English grown willows. Techniques taught will include tying the slath, pairing weave, joins, staking up, waling weave and a trac border to finish the basket off. Taught by Anna Liebmann.

Runs: October, February or June

Spoon Carving Workshop
Handcraft your very own spoon with this introduction to spoon carving. You will learn traditional wood carving and finishing techniques to help you progress from a spoon blank, hand prepared from sustainable Scottish green wood, to a beautiful and unique wooden spoon that you will be able to take away with you. Taught by Jasper Hamlet.

Runs: November, March or June

Woven Nut Basket
A shorter weaving course designed to introduce working with willow to students, who will weave a stylish boat shaped basket suitable for holding a small amount of fruit, nuts, the contents of your pockets, etc. We will work with different colours of organically grown Scottish willows. Taught by Anna Liebmann.

Runs: September, January or May

Photo: Jasper Hamlet
Photography Weekend Workshops

Smartphone-ography
The best camera is the one you have in your hand!
With a smartphone there is a whole new world of photography literally at your fingertips; this course will help you unlock this. Create exciting images, edit and post with the smartphone-ography course. Taught by Chris Pendleton of Iconic Tours.

**Runs:** September, February or May

Photographing Trees
Learn the basics of your digital camera while discovering how best to approach trees as a subject. Through tutorials and practical outdoor sessions, this introductory course, over three Saturdays in October, will teach you how to use your camera for successful and creative ‘tree’ photography. Taught by RHS Gold Medal-winning professional photographer Stephen Whitehorne.

**Runs:** October

Photographing Rhododendrons
RBGE is a world-recognised centre of expertise in Rhododendron taxonomy, a botanically rich plant group with significant ‘flagship’ status for plant conservation and holds one of the best ex-situ collections in the world. Come along learn about the taxonomy and how best to photograph them. Taught by botanical photographer David A. Purvis. Running as part of the Rhododendron Festival.

**Runs:** April

Photographing the Weird and Wonderful
RBGE holds a very diverse collection of plants collected from all corners of the world. Join David A. Purvis, a botanist and photographer, photographing the weird, wonderful and sometimes unnoticed treasures available within the collection.

**Runs:** June

Photo: David A. Purvis
Nordic Walking

Nordic Walking is a specific fitness technique that enhances everyday walking with the use of poles. This adds two massive benefits to your walking, the use of poles tones the upper body muscles and abdominals as well as the legs and bottom all while burning 20% more calories than ordinary walking. Nordic walking is great for people with knee or back problems as the poles provide support for the whole body, poles are provided. Taught by Trevor Jones

**Starts:** September, January or April

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Slow Art for Fast Lives – a synergy of Mindfulness & Botanical Painting

Explore painting styles and techniques to produce botanical watercolours to consolidate mindful meditations practiced in class. You discover how to slow down, relax, ‘worry-bust’ and enjoy mindful observation and creativity. Taught by Eleanor Christopher.

**Runs:** September or May

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Two Feet, One Mind – A Contemplative Walking Workshop

Mindfulness based techniques to maximise the benefits of time spent in beautiful places. Held ‘on the hoof’ in the Botanics after closing time, it is suitable for absolute beginners or experienced meditators. With Roger Hyam.

**Runs:** May
Turn over a new leaf and take your studies to the next level

If you are curious to take your studies further we have a fantastic range of professional courses including Certificates, Diplomas and BSc & MSc Degrees for you to explore.

We now offer one of the world’s most comprehensive ranges of courses for anyone looking to develop their knowledge in botany, horticulture, garden design, botanical illustration or herbology.

As well as courses that run at RBGE we also have a range of blended/distance learning courses allowing you to study from wherever you are with PropaGate Learning, our online learning environment.

To find out more about our courses visit our website:
www.rbge.org.uk/professionalcourses
Where can you explore a tropical rainforest, an arid desert or a Scottish woodland in a single morning?

Our school programmes are inter-disciplinary and make use of the living collection of plants in our Gardens and Glasshouses to make learning come alive for classes of all ages.

Contact us to find out more about bringing your class to the Garden and our exciting range of CPD Courses for teachers and early years practitioners.

To find out more visit our website: www.rbge.org.uk/Schools
Please return your completed form to:
Education Administration, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, 20A Inverleith Row, Edinburgh EH3 5LR

### Personal details

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