

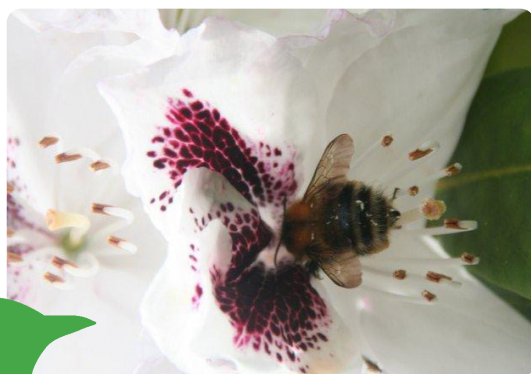
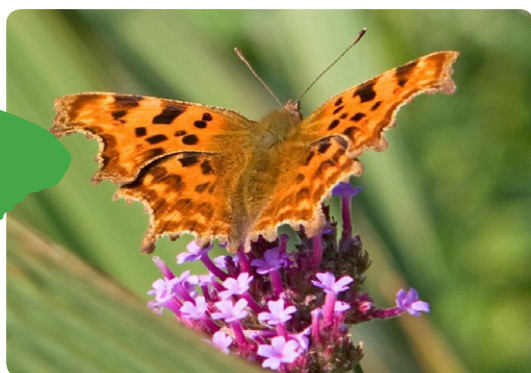
Get wild about Devon

at Lower Coombe Royal

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Lower Coombe Royal is a magnificent country house set in it's own private valley on the edge of Kingsbridge. The Lower Coombe Royal gardens are eight acres in size and have a fine collection of trees, both native and non-native.

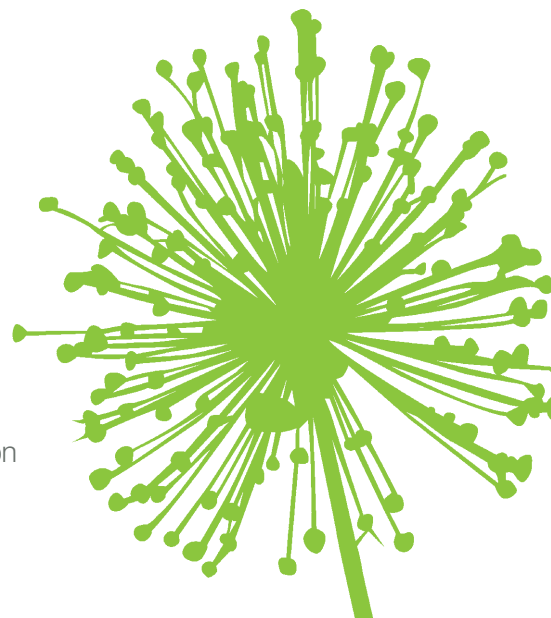
Of particular interest are the silver fir, japanese elm, judas tree and an enormous specimen of thuia. A series of paths take you on a meandering journey around the grounds with plenty of wildlife to see along the way.

There are over a hundred varieties of camellia and many different rhododendrons some of which are over fifty foot high and were planted in the 1840's. The gardens are of historical note, planted in the 19th Century by John Luscombe. He was an enthusiastic gardener and received seeds from Kew and America to create his American garden.

Get wild about Devon

is a wildlife appreciation scheme for tourism businesses in Devon who are serious about proactively improving wildlife as part of their business. The scheme is supported by Devon County Council on behalf of Visit Devon.

www.visitdevon.co.uk



Lower Coombe Royal



Species List

at Lower Coombe Royal

Trees & Shrubs

(Native not ornamental)

Ash
Beech
Black Alder
Blackthorn
Buddleia
Elder
Field Maple
Guelder rose
Hawthorn
Hazel
Holly
Oak
Rowan
Scots pine
Silver Birch
Spindle
Sweet chestnut
Wild cherry
Willow

Ferns

Hard fern
Harts tongue fern
Lady fern
Male fern
Scaly male fern

Mammals

Badger
Bank vole
Common shrew
Daubentons bat

Field mouse
Fox
Hare
Lesser horseshoe bat
Pipistrelle bat
Rabbit
Roe deer
Wood mouse

Reptiles & Amphibians

Common lizard
Frog
Grass snake
Palmate newt
Slow worm
Toad

Birds

Blackbird
Blackcap
Blue tit
Buzzard
Carrion crow
Chaffinch
Chiffchaff
Coal tit
Dunnock
Fieldfare
Garden warbler
Goldfinch
Great tit
Greater spotted woodpecker
Green woodpecker

Greenfinch
Grey wagtail
House martin
House sparrow
Jackdaw
Jay
Kestrel
Linnet
Long tail tit
Mallard
Marsh tit
Meadow pipit
Mistle thrush
Pied wagtail
Raven
Redwing
Robin
Rook
Skylark
Song thrush
Sparrowhawk
Spotted Flycatcher
Stock dove
Swallow
Swift
Tawny owl
Whitethroat
Willow warbler
Wren

Plants

Annual meadow grass
Bluebell
Bramble

Burdock
Cleavers
Cocksfoot
Ground Ivy
Giant hogweed
Common dog violet
Cow parsley
Creeping buttercup
Creeping Thistle
Enchanters nightshade
Honeysuckle
Greater plantain
Greater sedge
Herb Robert
Honeysuckle
Herb Bennet
Germander speedwell
Ivy
Lord and ladies
Marsh marigold
Nettles
Primrose
Red campion
Snowdrop
Timothy
Water figwort
Water mint
Yellow flag iris
Yorkshire fog

NB This is not a comprehensive list

Wildlife places of interest nearby

Slapton Ley National Nature Reserve – OS Map: SX 827 443

The largest freshwater lake in the southwest, it is separated from the sea by the narrow shingle ridge known as Slapton Sands. There is plenty to see, cettis warbler is a resident warbler (listen out for its explosive song), reed and sedge warbler in the summer. Waterfowl include tufted duck, coot, golden eye, great crested grebe and mammals include badger, otter, dormouse and many species of bats. Slapton Bridge, which divides the two leys, is a great vantage point to watch the plethora of wildlife that the reserve supports. The shingle ridge itself is home to a host of wildflowers including yellow horned poppy and viper's bugloss and looks stunning in May and June. Guided walks run throughout the summer. **Tel 01548 580685.**

Beesands – OS Map: SX 819 410

The small village of Beesands sits behind a mile long stretch of shingle beach. There is a small freshwater lagoon 'Widdecombe Ley' which is an important wildlife site. There is a bird hide which is open to the public from which to watch the wildfowl and other wildlife that visits this ley.

Start Point – OS Map: SX 821 374

A perfect spot for watching the sun go down looking at the lighthouse and the stunning scenery. It is also a good place to watch the summer migrant birds such as willow warbler, chiffchaff and wheatear arriving. March and April is the best time for the migrants, however all year round interest includes peregrine, kestrel, raven and curl bunting. Look out on to the rocks known as Pear Tree Point and you may see a seal or two.