

# May Events



## May Day Festival

Hever Castle, Edenbridge, Kent

**29 April-1 May**

Celebrate May Day at this historic castle, home to Henry VIII's second queen Anne Boleyn, over the bank holiday weekend. There will be traditional dancing accompanied by 16th century music. Visitors are invited to join in the age-old custom of dancing round the maypole. Watch the Jack-in-the Green procession as it wends its way through the gardens. It is the perfect way to celebrate the coming of summer.

[www.hevercastle.co.uk](http://www.hevercastle.co.uk)

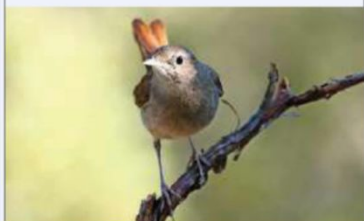
## Nightingale Festival

Pulborough Brooks, Wiggonholt, West Sussex

**29 April-1 May**

This wonderful bird makes the journey from Africa to the reserve for just a few months of the year. As soon as he arrives, the male starts to sing to woo a female and intimidate any rivals. Birdwatching help will be on hand throughout the weekend, with friendly guides in the visitor centre and out on the nature trail to find best places to hear the nightingale's liquid song.

[www.rspb.org.uk/reserves-and-events](http://www.rspb.org.uk/reserves-and-events)



## Tweed Walk and Prosecco

Llangollen, Denbighshire

**1 May**

Dress up in tweeds or vintage attire and meet at The Corn Mill for tea or coffee and locally-made Welsh cakes. After a short walk to the station, take a steam train ride along the River Dee, followed by a guided walk. The day finishes at Gales Wine Bar for prosecco and canapés. Certificates will be presented and there will be a prize for the best-dressed rambler.

[www.llangollenwalkingfestival.co.uk](http://www.llangollenwalkingfestival.co.uk)

## Channel Islands Heritage Festival

Jersey, Guernsey, Alderney, Sark and Herm

**1-10 May**

For its third year, the festival is themed around heroes, myths and legends that have shaped the enchanting history of the Channel Islands. It features family-friendly adventures, guided walks, exclusive openings of historical monuments and tours on the five main islands. Other activities to take part in will include kayaking and coasteering.

[www.visitchannelislands.com/events](http://www.visitchannelislands.com/events)



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## Colonsay Festival of Spring

Isle of Colonsay, Argyll

**1-21 May**

Join in the festival for a mix of nature, art, foraging, craft and heritage, with a variety of events and classes for everyone to join in. Attendees will be able to enjoy flax weaving, dry stone walling, bookbinding, fern appreciation walks, historical and ornithological walks, crochet, knitting, foraging, printing, basketry and Colonsay wool dyeing.

[www.colonsayspringfest.co.uk](http://www.colonsayspringfest.co.uk)

## English Garden Favourites

Stark Gallery, Canterbury, Kent

**1-26 May**

Over the last six years, Hazel West-Sherring has created a showcase of paintings and drawings, favoured by Alexis Datta, former head gardener at Sissinghurst Castle Gardens in Kent. The detailed, vibrant botanical work will be shown in all its glory at the gallery.

[www.hazelwestsherring.co.uk](http://www.hazelwestsherring.co.uk)



## Creating the Countryside

Compton Verney Art Gallery & Park, Warwickshire

**1 May-18 June**

Bringing together Old Masters and contemporary artists spanning more than 350 years, this exhibition examines the relationship between humans and the countryside. It reflects upon artistic, social and political forces and how they have shaped the rural idyll, offering a new perspective on the countryside.

[www.comptonverney.org.uk](http://www.comptonverney.org.uk)

## Living Crafts

Hatfield House, Hertfordshire

**4-7 May**

A four-day British crafting event held at a historic house, featuring hundreds of designer-makers. Spend the day immersed in British craftsmanship as they display their unique designs. Enjoy the new Sculpture Spectacular, craft demonstrations, masterclasses and entertainment, or try a workshop, including rag rugging, papermaking and wire sculpture.

[www.livingcrafts.co.uk](http://www.livingcrafts.co.uk)

