

INVEREWE GARDEN (Easy)

What you'll see: One of the world's greatest gardens



EVERYONE should visit the National Trust for Scotland gardens at Inverewe, for located on the shores of a Highland sea loch, further north than Moscow, is one of the world's greatest gardens; a truly special place. The gardens are a realisation of one man's dream and determination; Sir Osgood MacKenzie. In the 1860's at a fairly young age, Osgood became the owner of a large area of treeless land on a barren and rocky promontory on the edge of a windswept and rain soaked coastline.

Over a 90 year period he and his daughter created a special blend of the natural and the exotic by incorporating plants and trees from all around the world into the rugged Wester Ross landscape. The estate was handed to the Trust in 1952 who have continued to care for it and make it the beautiful and popular place it is now.

Due to the planting of the surrounding trees it is now a fairly sheltered spot, which has seen the gardens flourish. The only downside to this shelter

of the evolution of the garden has been to ensure there is something in flower throughout the entire year, the Spring flowers and rhododendrons are a delight.

With such a unique attraction the National Trust for Scotland has had to create a large car park and Visitor Centre to cater for the numbers that visit the gardens. However, this does make them accessible and once through the gates all this is left behind and there is air of seclusion and tranquillity. There is an admission charge for non Trust members, however, at certain times there are free guided walks – check www.nts.org.uk for details. Pick up a leaflet and simply wander around the gardens and also take in the views of Loch Ewe and the splendid Highland landscape beyond.



dreaded Highland Midge can spoil ones enjoyment, so either go early in the Spring, or be well-prepared. Although part

The essentials

MAP OS LANDRANGER SHEET 19

DISTANCE UP TO 2 MILES (3KM)

APPROXIMATE TIME 2-3 HOURS,

OR MORE

GRADE EASY

START /FINISH THE TRUST CAR PARK,

INVEREWE, POOLEWE (NG 863 818)



the National Trust
for Scotland
a place for everyone