

May 2008

ALL ABOARD THE "OH SO BRITISH" ASPARABUS

A new event looks set to join The Season alongside the Chelsea Flower Show, Wimbledon and Henley Regatta. What could be more British than celebrating the asparagus season by taking a tour of the asparagus fields of Worcestershire - the new garden of England?

Each asparabus will be hosted by an asparaguide and the first stop is the only pub owned by the National Trust, the historic Fleece Inn at Bretforton and home of the renowned asparagus auction and festival day held on the second May Bank Holiday - www.britishasparagusfestival.org Then off to Evesham and the UK's only Asparagus Exhibition for the chance to be immersed in the folklore of this fascinating aphrodisiac. Lunch follows at a choice of local eateries offering asparagus served in unusual and tempting ways - including asparagus ice cream!

In the afternoon, The Plant Centre at Pershore College - the scientific centre of asparagus growing - plays host with the chance to buy your very own asparagus crowns. Next stop Defford and Revill's Farm Shop, growers of the rare purple asparagus and a chance to wander the fields - akin to the lavender fields of Provence. After sampling this unusual variety, cream teas are on offer in the Farm Shop

Given the short nature of the season, the tours are only available on 7th, 14th and 21st May so booking is advised by calling 01386 792206. A range of pick up points throughout the region are available and the cost is £10 for adults, £9 for OAPs and £8 for children.

ENDS

For further information, images or to arrange a tour, please contact Sara Stewart on 07789 374174 or Sara Lawrance on 07970 658532.