

2/13/2025

Hello NARGS members,

On behalf of the Tours Committee we wanted to let you know that due to some recent tour cancellations, we now have 5 openings available for the Gardens of Scotland tour, May 13-22, 2025, with possible extension to the Chelsea Flower Show and RHS Wisley, May 22-24. This tour will allow you to visit several private gardens from members of the Scottish Rock Garden Club, some local castles and several noteworthy botanical gardens including Edinburgh, Logan, Glenarn, Branklyn and Glendoick. Rock and woodland gardens will be at their peak!



We also wanted to inform you that we have up to 7 spaces still available of the Western Cape of South Africa Tour, Aug 21-Sept 4, 2025. This tour will cover a large swathe of this biodiverse area at the height of spring, targeting a wide range of habitats with many endemic and localized species. Starting in Cape Town, with Table Mountain looming over the world-famous Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens, we will head up the West Coast to the famous arid plains of Namaqualand where the normally barren landscape transforms into a floral paradise. The granite hills near Springbok are filled with rare bulbs and the plains below beset in a sea of daisies. The isolated Kamiesberg holds a range of endemics which we will seek out before heading south via the quartz plains of the Knersvlakte, rich in localized succulents. Heading up the escarpment, we arrive at one of the most diverse areas for bulbs in the world – Nieuwoudtville. We cross the mighty Cederberg to explore the rich valley full of bulbs and pockets of endemism. Heading out to the coast, the flower fields of West Coast National Park beckon, sandwiched between the Langebaan Lagoon and the Atlantic Ocean. Nearby is the bulb rich town of Darling which we will take in before finishing off our tour in the lush Cape Peninsula where we explore the coastal mountains and their diversity of Protea and other flora.



For more information on these tours and how to register, please visit our tours webpage at nargs.org/tours

Thank-you, Todd Boland (President and Tours Committee Chair)