**GARDENS and GREEN SPACES Top of Form**

**Visit Ripon and the Skell Valley**

**Please see the bottom of this sheet for ideas on how to use this information.**

Ripon is framed by the Nidderdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, with pockets of green inside the city too. The Spa Gardens date back to the times when Ripon vied with Harrogate to establish itself as a spa town. You might also enjoy visiting the Workhouse Museum Gardens, now planted in a similar way to the original kitchen garden. The nearby Ripon Walled Garden has an orchard, woodland and plant nursery.

Studley Royal Water Gardens are part of the famous Fountains Abbey World Heritage Site, described by UNESCO as representing ‘over 800 years of human ambition, design and achievement,’ and a ‘feat of human creative genius’. It’s a delight to spend a whole day exploring the open spaces, historic abbey ruins and admiring the landscaping of the Water Gardens.

At nearby Newby Hall the present owner’s grandfather said, he’d inherited an ‘exceptionally beautiful home but no garden to speak of’ and was determined to rectify this. His vision set the scene for today’s impressive 25 acre gardens, with the next generations adding the National Collection of Cornus (dogwoods), an alpine area, fun adventure garden and miniature railway.

The Himalayan Gardens in Grewelthorpe are a hidden gem, transporting visitors into another world. Since 1997, the current owners have undertaken an extensive programme of woodland clearance and planting the 20-acre site to create the North’s largest collection of rhododendrons, azaleas and magnolia.

**HOW TO USE THIS INFORMATION**

We’d love you to use this information, or any of the other sections, in your own promotional activity – on your website, mailings or social media.

You can edit it and change it as much as you want.

You can use all of it, or just small snippets.

You’re welcome to add your own angles, and customise the info.

This is just a starting point.

We’ve created this information to encourage more collaborations between businesses.

For example, if you run a visitor attraction you might talk about other activities in the area to show there’s a critical mass of things to do and Ripon is worth the journey.

Accommodation providers might use some of this information to talk about their location and encourage longer stays.

See the other information on [www.tourismknowhow.com/Ripon](https://www.tourismknowhow.com/ripon).

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