

## Tyntesfield, Somerset

Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> June 2019

By coach departing at 8.45 am

Organised by George Brunavs

Supported by Val Brunavs

Tyntesfield is a powerful and dramatic High Victorian mansion, yet beautifully sited on wooded slopes and without any hint of Gothic gloom. Since its acquisition by the National Trust in 2002, it has been restored and developed as a major showpiece of the Trust. It was expanded from a smaller house in the 1860s by the Gibbs family, who made their huge fortune from fertiliser, first from Peruvian guano and then sodium nitrate from desert regions in South America.

Their architect for the conversion was John Norton, who worked locally in the Bristol area, and who was a thorough disciple of the school of Pugin and Scott; later alterations were carried out by Henry Woodyer, another outstanding exponent of the Gothic Revival style. The house and gardens are presented as in around 1875, all of a piece with original furnishings, decoration and accumulated possessions of the time. It is especially notable for its internal woodwork and panelling, as in the Library and the striking roof of the Billiard Room. The Chapel is as magnificent as that of an Oxford or Cambridge college.

We shall have a comfort/refreshment stop at Gloucester Farm Shops services on the M5 motorway, and probably arrive at Tyntesfield around 11.30 am. The whole day will be a free-flow one, with time to explore the house, extensive gardens, grounds and walks, and visit in your own time the Cow Barn restaurant or Pavilion

café serving food made largely from local produce.

We expect to leave at 4.15 pm for our return journey to Rugby, hoping to arrive back at approximately 6.15-30 pm.

**Please remember to bring your National Trust membership cards**



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