

PEP Claire River Billion



ASKED WOODLAND BALLS, DECADENT midnight feasts and champagne saunas in the sun. The Jubilee/
Olympics-fuelled summer is the time to embrace the Great British outdoors, so we're gearing up for one long barmy garden party. It's less Chelsea Flower Show, more Club Tropicana. Fun and sunshine? There's enough for everyone...

Party – marking its 10th birthday in July with debaucherous barefoot discos and twilight fire circle tales – contenders to the coolest festival throne are, well, branching out over the country. Bands on the bill? A mere formality. The Wyndstock Midsummer Ball (wyndstock.com) in Norfolk on 30 June is too occupied with giant bonfires and hot tubs, while Cotswolds-based Wilderness, which launched last year (wildernessfestival.com), on 10 August encourages foraging in the woods,

gourmet banquets from Yotam Ottolenghi, Valentine Warner et al and jumping in the lake. Although not necessarily in that order.

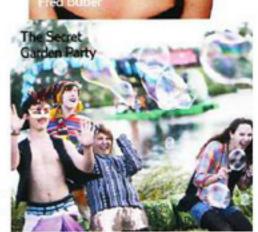
Wonder-woodlands are getting curious and curiouser with a Healing Herb Garden at Wilderness, AirHotel (a piece of theatre where you stay overnight in an ancient treetop) at this month's Norfolk & Norwich Festival (nnfestival.org.uk) and a Wild West theme at Winterwell in Cirencester on 29 June (winterwell.co.uk) complete with 'go to jail' area. Arresting!

More urban than country? Teatime is escaping outdoors – try an al fresco Secrets of The City – Afternoon Tea Walk from Harvey Nichols' Prism Brasserie. Culture vultures should head to Kew Gardens for David Nash's wood quarry

sculptures or Exposed at the Saatchi Gallery, the UK debut of Ana Tzarev's flower canvases. Then there's Attenborough's Kingdom of Plants on Skyl. Who knew Sir David was so on trend?

Vibrant splashes of s/s 12
neon flower power à la Mary
Katrantzou are key to the
dress code. Kingof clash Peter
Pilotto's latest prints were
inspired by time spent in the
Javanese jungle while Prabal

Gurung went avant-garde combining floral motifs with fetish fabrics. We also love ASOS Black's first venture into print with designer Lauren McCalmont. For something more out there and festival-friendly, check out milliner-du-jour Piers Atkinson's St Martins Lane pop-up on 1 June, with workshops from Lady Gaga's fave, Fred Butler. Madder than a hatter.







Black Sphere

by David

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