

BLUE DIAMOND GARDEN CENTRES

PRESS RELEASE

09 February 2026

Blue Diamond Garden Centres — Gold Medal winners at RHS Chelsea Flower Show 2025 — are back and aiming high once again at this year’s Show!

- Blue Diamond Garden Centres were delighted to have been awarded their first Gold Medal Win at RHS Chelsea Flower Show last year, along with an award for ‘Tree of the Show’ for the exceptional “Acer palmatum ‘Shishigashira’!
- This year Blue Diamond Garden Centres are back and aiming for Gold once again with their ambitious exhibit;- one that will showcase the breadth, quality and relevance of plants grown directly in Blue Diamond’s nurseries.
- It is the only fully immersive, walk-through exhibit in the Great Pavilion.
- Located in a central position, near to the Monument, Blue Diamond’s exhibit is also one of the largest in the Great Pavilion at 240 square metres and will include more than 35 metres of walk-through pathways for visitors to explore.
- It is the only exhibit at the Show to feature the newly released Prunus Sumaura Fugenzo ‘Japanese Lantern’™.

Blue Diamond Garden Centres are delighted to return to the RHS Chelsea Flower Show this year, following their outstanding success last year that saw the company awarded its first ever Gold Medal, along with the prestigious ‘Tree of the Show’ accolade for the exceptional Acer palmatum ‘Shishigashira’.

Building on last year’s success, Blue Diamond is once again aiming for Gold with an ambitious exhibit to be constructed by Peter Dowle and his team at Leaf Creative.

Their exhibit will showcase **the breadth, quality and relevance of plants grown directly in Blue Diamond’s nurseries**, while addressing some of the most pressing challenges facing today’s gardeners, and will be the only fully immersive, walk-through exhibit in the Great Pavilion.

Situated in a central location near to the Monument, it will also be **one of the largest exhibits** in the Great Pavilion, spanning 240 square metres and featuring over 35 metres of walk-through pathways for visitors to explore.

The exhibit will **showcase Blue Diamond Garden Centres’ extensive and diverse plant range**, with most plants available to purchase across all Blue Diamond Garden Centres nationwide, **including new and exclusive plant introductions, 3 new roses all bred by Rosen Tantau**, one to be launched on behalf of the **charity Hospice UK**, and the newly released **Prunus Sumaura Fugenzo ‘Japanese Lantern’™**.

First discovered in Japan in 1990, this extraordinary tree has finally been brought to market by **Frank P. Matthews Trees**.

Following remarkable success at the HTA National Plant Show — where it secured three awards, including a prestigious Gold Medal and the People’s Choice Award — it will now be entered into **The Plant of the Year Awards at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show this May**.

Visitors to the Show will be able to admire this stunning Prunus on **exclusive display within the Blue Diamond Garden Centres exhibit in the Great Pavilion**

Visitors can also expect to see an inspiring yet practical exhibit that brings together **achievable gardening ideas** and **innovative design**.

Exploring key themes such as drought-tolerant planting, growing food in small spaces, and sustainable gardening practices, **the space will unfold across a series of thoughtfully curated zones** including ‘Thrive Not Just Survive’ drought-tolerant planting, Tropical Houseplants, Jungle-Inspired displays, Shade-Loving plants, Green Walls, Vertical Allotments, and Cottage Gardening, among others. Enhancing the sense of theatre and drama, a striking full-scale waterfall will serve as a showstopping centrepiece, delivering a truly immersive and memorable sensory experience.

- **Plants that thrive, not just survive**

The exhibit will open with bold, drought-tolerant planting, demonstrating resilient beauty for a changing climate. Drifts of Salvia, Agapanthus and Thyme are paired with striking architectural plants such as Astelia and Cordyline, anchored by a dramatic 40-year-old Yucca rostrata.

- **An immersive horticultural journey**

Visitors will then be drawn into a walk-through experience that transitions seamlessly from dry planting to a lush greenhouse environment. Here, hanging plants, bold foliage and a tropical green wall, rich with ferns, Selaginella, Calathea and orchids-create a fully enveloping sensory experience.

- **The UK tropical jungle**

The path will continue into a shaded, jungle-inspired landscape of tree ferns, camphor and bananas, underplanted with grasses, shrubs and ferns. A full-scale waterfall will add sound, movement and theatre, heightening the sense of escape.

- **Real solutions for real gardens**

Planting will then evolve into dappled shade scheme, one of the most common gardening challenges. Japanese maples and flowering dogwoods (Cornus kousa and Cornus florida) will take centre-stage, supported by a refined palette of whites, burgundies and soft blues.

- **Small-space and edible inspiration**

Visitors will then enter a walled garden through scented arches of Trachelospermum, where they will discover a contemporary vertical allotment. Herbs, salads and strawberries grown on living walls, proving that productive gardening is possible even in compact spaces.

- **Celebrating classics and new favourites**

The journey will then meander through roses-including three new varieties for 2025-mixed with cottage-style perennials in a harmonious palette of whites, silvers, soft yellows, blues and purples, punctuated with confident pops of colour.

- **From Chelsea to the customer**

The experience will conclude with views of a rose-clad walled garden, leaving visitors inspired and confident that this extraordinary range of plants is accessible at a Blue Diamond Garden Centre near them.

Blue Diamond Garden Centres' exhibit **will highlight both the realities and possibilities of modern gardening**, combining accessible ideas for all with a clear **commitment to peat-free growing and a more sustainable approach to horticulture.**

To find out more and to follow our RHS Chelsea Flower Show journey, please visit;-

<https://www.bluediamond.gg/rhs-chelsea-flower-show-2026>

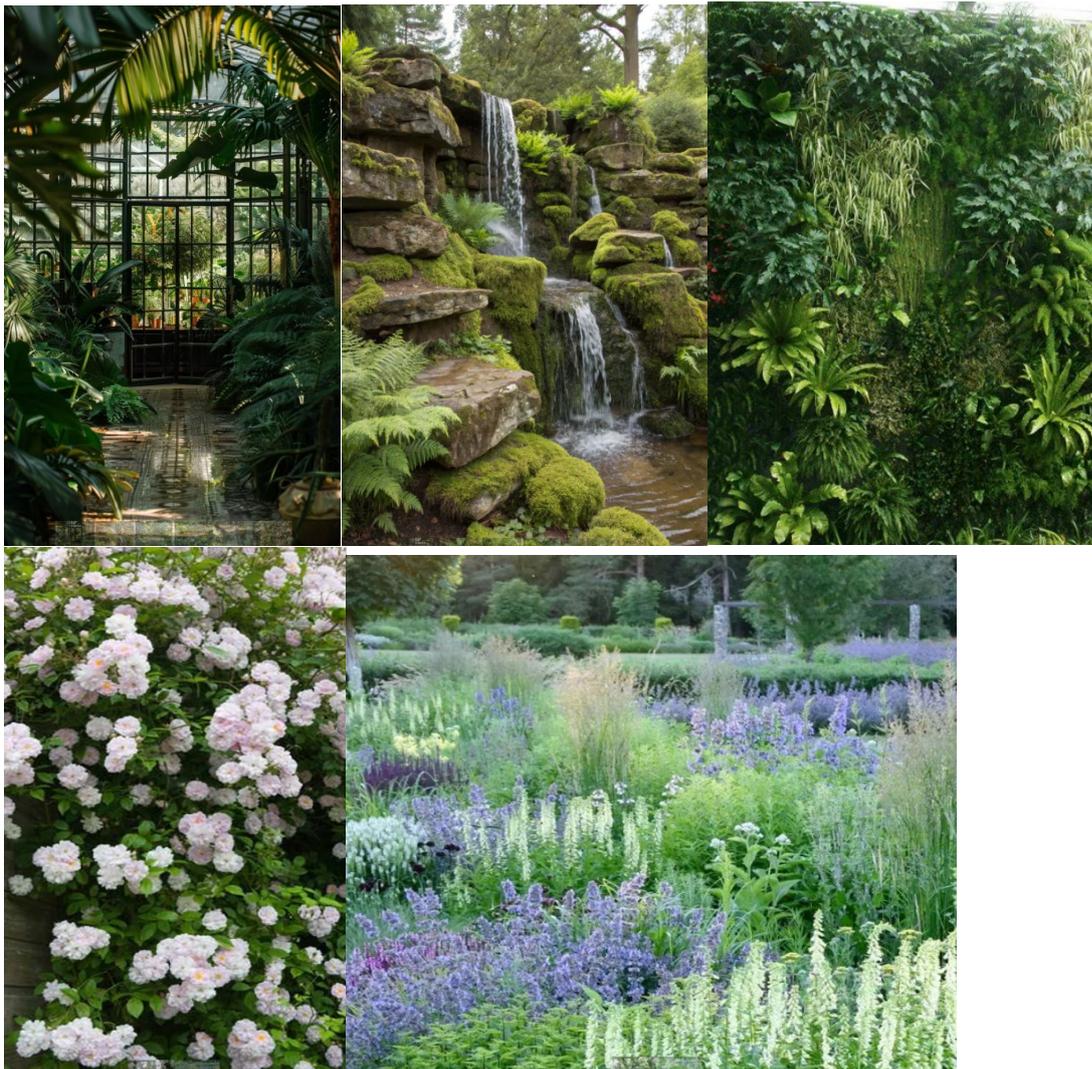




Image credits- Rosen Tantau for the roses.

Frank P Mathews Trees for the **Prunus Sumaura Fugenzo ‘Japanese Lantern’™**.

For all Press enquiries please contact; -

Jill Kerr- Group Relationship Manager for Blue Diamond Garden Centres

Email: - Jill.kerr@bluediamond.gg

Tel: - 07824 660701

Blue Diamond is the UK's Number One Garden Centre group with 52 centres across the UK and Channel Islands. It owns 6 UK based nurseries which grow and supply plants exclusively for the Group. It also has its own brand of Fryer's Roses, and it is the proud owner of Bridgemere Show Gardens, an RHS Partner Garden, set in 6-acres and which includes a collection of award-winning show gardens, including RHS Chelsea Gold medal winning gardens.

Visit bluediamond.gg for more information

Leaf Creative Gardens

Leaf Creative is a garden design and retail centre, formed in 2018 by Chelsea Gold medallist Peter Dowle. This is where plants rule supreme together with its Fernery restaurant, a magical dining experience set amidst tropical plants. Leaf Creative Gardens operates from the same site, designing gardens for construction throughout the Cotswolds and Southwest. Leaf Creative are proud partners of the Blue Diamond Garden Centres.

Contact: - Enquiries@leafcreativegardens.co.uk

Peter Dowle- peter@leafcreative.co.uk