



## Booking Form – Practical Forest Gardening Courses

High Heathercombe Centre, Heathercombe Brake, Manaton,  
Newton Abbot, Devon TQ13 9XE

Part 1: Wednesday 20th to Sunday 24th February 2019  
(9.00am Wednesday to 4.30pm Sunday)

Part 2: Friday 3rd to Sunday 5th May 2019  
(9.00am Friday to 4.30pm Sunday)



Thank you for your enquiry about the 'Practical Forest Gardening' Courses. Please complete this booking form as fully as possible. Further details, such as directions and what to bring will be sent to you along with confirmation of your booking. We look forward to meeting you on the course.

### What are these courses and who are they for?

Edible forest gardening is the art and science of putting plants together in woodland-like patterns that forge mutually beneficial relationships, creating a garden ecosystem that is more than the sum of its parts. You can grow fruits, nuts, vegetables, herbs, mushrooms, other useful plants, and animals in a way that mimics natural ecosystems (Jacke). The aim is to create a low-input, high-output system that benefits people and the environment, providing a wide range of products. A forest garden is designed and established according to the site and the needs of the client.

This is a residential course offered in two parts. These can be taken together, or individually. Part 1 will cover basic theory and focus on the design and planting out of the tree and shrub layer of a new forest garden. Part 2 will cover the planting out of the understory of the existing forest garden, established in 2012. This practical hands-on course will help participants visualize, plan, establish and continue to maintain, harvest and learn from a forest garden, be it at home or on someone else's land such as a community garden, school garden, etc. These courses are aimed at anyone interested in developing a forest garden. The principles and skills gained can be useful at both home garden and larger scales. By establishing perennial food systems we increase our food security, both at a personal and community level.

### Dates and times

This course is in two parts, which can be taken together, or separately. The first part will be taught by Aranya and Phil Gamble and covers the design and planting of the tree and shrub layer of a forest garden. It runs from 9.00am on Wednesday 20th February to around 4.30pm on Sunday 24th February. The second part will be taught by Aranya and Caroline Aitken and covers the planting out of the understory of a five-year old forest garden. It runs from 9.00am on Friday 3rd May to around 4.30pm on Sunday 5th May.

Sessions will run throughout each day. We have an hour and a quarter for lunch and evening meals, plus tea breaks during the mornings and afternoons. Both courses include a forest garden tour with Martin Crawford, each with a different focus.

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## What you will learn

These courses include hands-on practical sessions in topics such as site surveying and design layout, propagation, planting, fertility and mulching, pruning and tool care.

### Part 1 (five days) includes:

- A day of forest garden theory (and site visit to Martin Crawford's superb forest garden).
- A day of designing the forest garden layout, using permaculture principles.
- Half a day of tree planting and after care tuition.
- A day of planting out trees and shrubs.
- Additional sessions on pruning trees and shrubs, plus propagation techniques.
- And much, much more!

### Part 2 (three days) includes:

- An introduction to useful understory plants.
- Creating beneficial guilds to meet specific functions.
- A visit to Martin Crawford's forest garden, focusing on the understory.
- Establishing the understory, including mulching techniques.
- Successful propagation from seed.
- Maintaining fertility in the forest garden.

## The Teachers



**Aranya** completed his Diploma in Applied Permaculture Design in 2003 and started teaching the following year. He discovered this made his heart sing, so he made it his main focus. Since 2004 he has taught over 80 two-week design courses, something he has no intention of stopping. He feels that it's a privilege to have the opportunity to teach "something that can make a real difference in all our lives". Aranya has planted a number of small forest gardens since 1993 and been teaching courses on the subject since 2011. He is also excited about new ways in which permaculture thinking can help us, developing new courses on using its principles to help us design for optimising our health and creating ethical livelihoods. In the spring of 2012 Permanent Publications published his first book 'Permaculture Design - a Step-by-Step Guide', which evolved from a set of design course worksheets. He also writes occasionally for magazines and from time to time shares interesting items on his blog. Aranya is currently writing a second book, about a subject he's especially fascinated by, the application of systems thinking and patterns in permaculture design. Aranya's website:

[www.learnpermaculture.com](http://www.learnpermaculture.com)



**Phil Gamble** teaches many of the practical sessions on the forest gardening course - tree planting, propagation, tool care etc. He began making compost by recycling grass mowings through an elephant. Since those years, caring for the gardens of his local wildlife park in Somerset he has qualified in horticulture, training and education. He holds the Certificate in Permaculture Design. Originally inspired by a childhood amongst the plants and gardens of his mother and grandfather, Phil trained at Cannington College, Somerset. As head gardener on a large estate in North Somerset, he maintained ornamental grounds and raised vegetables in a one acre walled garden - all by 'traditional' methods. He was asked back to Cannington to join the lecturing staff and found himself on his true path. Qualifying as a further education lecturer the following year he took up his first full-time teaching post at Kingston Maurward College in Dorchester in 1987. As a popular and experienced speaker he offers illustrated talks to groups on various subjects, including the varied activities of the local group; Turn Lyme Green. Phil's website: [www.gardenreassurance.com](http://www.gardenreassurance.com)

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**Caroline Aitken** is a permaculture teacher, designer and consultant and director of Patrick Whitefield Associates. She is qualified in design, permaculture design and horticulture and has a background in gardening and food growing. Her experience includes managing two acres of intensive organic vegetable production, managing five acres of ornamental and food gardens at a meditation retreat centre and catering for groups, courses and retreats. She lives with her partner and son on a four acre smallholding in Dartmoor where they are working towards self-sufficiency and creating educational spaces. Caroline is also co-author with Martin Crawford of *Food from your Forest Garden*, a comprehensive guide to making best use of your forest garden

produce. Her website and blog 'Think.Grow.Eat': <http://permacultureplate.blogspot.co.uk/>



**Martin Crawford** started his working life a computer programmer but his passion for organic gardening quickly led to a change in career. Martin has had broad and varied horticultural/agricultural experience over the last 25 years - he has worked for the Yarner Trust in North Devon teaching small-scale organic agriculture; grown food for a small hotel on the Isle of Iona; restored the walled gardens of a manor house in mid-Devon; and run his own organic market garden and tree nursery in South Devon. His experience led him to the concept of forest gardening as a sustainable system that can flourish in our changing climate conditions and it was this that led to the founding of the

Agroforestry Research Trust in 1992, where he's been systematically researching plant interactions, unusual crops, etc. He currently manages a 2 acre Forest Garden in Dartington which he planted 20 years ago, he runs a commercial tree nursery specialising in unusual trees and shrubs and has an 8-acre trial site, researching fruit and nut trees. He also teaches courses on Forest Gardening and Growing Nut Crops, writes books and edits a quarterly journal, *Agroforestry News*. His website is [www.agroforestry.co.uk](http://www.agroforestry.co.uk)

## Pre-course reading

We won't assume any previous knowledge and recognise that everyone has their own unique skills, knowledge and areas of interest to bring to the course. We all learn together. If you'd like to do some reading beforehand, we do of course highly recommend Martin's book: 'Creating a Forest Garden'. You could ask your local library to get it in for you or buy one directly from Martin via his website.

## Costs

Part 1: £375 (four concessions at £275) / Part 2: £225 (four concessions at £165)

The courses can be booked together at the reduced rate of £510 (15% off)

Fees are fully inclusive of tuition, food, accommodation & materials.

A deposit of £120 is required to secure your place. The remaining balance is due three weeks prior to the start of each course. The deposit is non-refundable unless we need to cancel for any reason.

We look forward to working with you in the spring.

For more information on booking or enquiries about the course content or teaching, contact: Aranya on 01297 20908 or email [aranya@learnpermaculture.com](mailto:aranya@learnpermaculture.com)

For enquiries about venue or catering contact Mel:  
01647 221425 / 0779 160 1737 or email: [high@heathercombe.com](mailto:high@heathercombe.com)

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Part 2: Friday 3rd to Sunday 5th May 2019 (9.00am Friday to 4.30pm Sunday)

### 1) Your contact details and needs

**PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY OR TYPE INTO THE BOXES BELOW**

Full Name:	
Name by which you'd like to be known:	
Please delete as appropriate (so we can allocate rooms):	Male / Female
Address (including postcode):	
Telephone No:	
Mobile No:	
Email:	
Emergency contact details while you are on the course: <b>(name and phone no)</b>	
Do you have any specific dietary needs? (N.B. The catering at Heathercombe is all vegetarian with a vegan option)	
Do you have any other needs? (e.g. mobility, learning difficulties)	



### 2) Your booking (please see cancellation policy on website)

Part 1: £375 (four concessions at £275) / Part 2: £225 (four concessions at £165) / Both courses: £510 (15% off). Fees are fully inclusive of tuition, food, accommodation & materials.

A deposit of £120 is required to reserve your place; the **remaining balance is to be paid three weeks before the start of each course**. Please make cheques payable to 'Aranya Gardens', and send them with this form to the address overleaf. Alternatively email your booking form to [aranya@learnpermaculture.com](mailto:aranya@learnpermaculture.com) and ask for bank details.

*Please fill in and tick as appropriate*

I wish to book:  Part 1 – Trees and shrubs     Part 2 – Understory     Both courses together

I am paying £\_\_\_\_\_ and have enclosed a £120 deposit.

I am applying for one of the concessionary places.

(please check with us that there's still one available before sending us your form).

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**3) How did you hear about these courses?** (Please state as precisely as possible so we can optimize publicity – if via the internet, please let us know the website if you can remember, thank you)

**4) Your permaculture background:**

Have you attended any other similar courses? Please state which one and the tutor(s).

What other related knowledge/experience/skills do you have?

**5) Travel and Resources:**

How are you planning to travel to the course?

We will be connecting all participants via email several weeks before the course starts so that you can all contact each other and arrange lift share/requests/offers. Would you like to be included in this information?

Yes       No

What other resources/skills might you be able to offer the group? (e.g. first aid, games, etc.)

**6) Age Range (please tick) – to help us with room allocations**

16 – 25       26 – 40       41 – 59       60 and above

**7) Your expectations for the course**

What are your reasons for joining the course? What do you hope to get out of it?

Your signature:

Date:

To secure your place, please print out this form & send along with your payment/deposit to:  
**Aranya – Learn Permaculture, Spring Cottage, Axmouth, Seaton, Devon EX12 4BE**

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