

North Berwick

This map shows the location of tulips planted in tubs and beds across North Berwick. Look out for planters and barrels at the Railway Station and along the High Street and Quality Street. The War Memorial Garden and the Lodge Gardens both have good displays. See how many different varieties you can find!

TULIP FESTIVAL 2024

The tulip is a much loved spring flowering bulb with over three thousand registered varieties. Most wild tulips originated in mountainous areas of Central Asia, and were first cultivated in the Ottoman Empire as early as 1000AD. Tulips were introduced into Europe during the sixteenth century, where the large colourful blooms quickly became a coveted luxury, and a huge number of new varieties were bred. The most sought after were those with patterns on the flower caused by a type of mosaic virus, and during the 1630s "Tulipmania" in the Netherlands led to collectors paying huge sums of money for rare examples. To this day tulips are associated with the Netherlands, which is home to many commercial bulb growers and the famous Keukenhof gardens.

In horticulture, tulips are divided into fifteen groups or divisions as described in this leaflet. Most tulips have one flower per stem, although some, such as *T. turkestanica*, have multiple flowers. Tulips come in a huge variety of colours, although not a true blue.



The Royal Burgh of North Berwick is one of the most beautiful coastal towns in Scotland, and has won many awards in both Beautiful Scotland and RHS Britain in Bloom. Over the years, East Lothian Council has planted over a million spring bulbs in North Berwick, and the display is added to every year by North Berwick in Bloom and the Rotary Club of North Berwick.



T. tarda



T. pinocchio

Division 15 – Species Tulips

This group covers all the wild tulips and some of their selected garden forms. There is a wide range of flower colours, shapes and sizes. Most are smaller and more delicate in appearance than the modern hybrids but are equally hardy. Many are grown in the restored Edwardian rockery in the Lodge Grounds, North Berwick's public park.

Tulipa clusiana Cynthia; *T. tarda*; *T. turkestanica*; *T. humilis* Little Princess and Lilliput; *T. praestans* Fusilier and Unicum; *T. pulchella* Persian Pearl.

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North Berwick in Bloom




How to Grow Tulips

Tulips are very easy to grow and will give a good display in almost any soil that is well drained. For the best blooms in spring, choose plump, healthy bulbs with no sign of mould. They should be planted at four times their own depth from late October until December. Add gritty sand and compost to the soil to improve drainage.

Tulips enjoy full sun during growth, so do not plant in shady areas. Bedding tulips tend not to naturalise in the same way as daffodils so the small species or rockery types are the best if you want them to come up year after year.

Tulips around the Town

 This symbol indicates where you can find planters and tubs containing displays of festival tulips and spring bedding. For our thirteenth Tulip Festival in 2024 we have planted nearly fifty varieties of tulip around the town.

Every display has a label with the name of the tulip and the group to which it belongs. Early varieties will be in flower by March; mid-season in April and the late varieties throughout May, although the weather can affect the flowering time.