

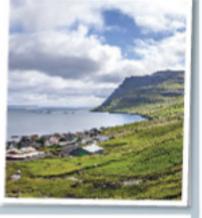
SCOTTISH HIGHLIGHTS & FAROES CRUISE

This autumn cruise from Tilbury offers the opportunity to discover the historic lanes and wynds of majestic Scottish capital Edinburgh from Leith. home to the famous Royal Yacht Britannia. Two Faroese calls, in Klaksvik and capital Torshavn, as well as the northern isles' outposts of Shetland and Orkney, will add to the pleasure of the mainland Scottish calls.

CRUISE HIGHLIGHTS

capital

- Edinburgh port Leith is home to the former Royal Yacht Britannia Faroes' haven Klaksvik is
- sur rounded by mountains Wander the Toytown-like streets of Faroes' capital Torshavn Explore ancient Lerwick, Shetland
- Rugged Orkney capital Kirkwall ■ Traditional British & International cultine, stylish entertainment, guest lecturers & on-board
- leisure tacilities Nine nights' full board accommodation on board Marco Polo



LAND OF THE NORTHERN LIGHTS CRUISE

WAS FROM £1,829 PER PERSON, NOW FROM £1,079 PER PERSON

Call at some stunning ports along the coast of Western Norway, heading beyond the Arctic Circle to within a short distance of the very tip of Europe.



- Kristiansund is known as the 'City
- of Islands' A call in Alta brings opportunities to discover the remote Finnmark region
- Remote Honningsvaag is close to Europe's northern most point nsø, home to Norway's
- "Arctic Cathedral" and Polarmuseum Discover Viking capital
- Trondheim Call in Andalsnes on beautiful Romsdaisfjord
- Visit historic Bergen, Fraditional British & International cuisine, stylish entertainment, guest lecturers & on-board
- 13 nights' full board Marro Pob

eisure facilities

Call **0330 160 7836** (quoting SMR) or visit smr.newmarketholidavs.co.uk

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Gardening club

with DAVID DOMONEY

features@sundaymirror.co.uk

SUNDAY 29.04.2018 SUNDAY MIRROR 57



Getting to the root of container veg

want to start growing my own veg but don't have a lot of space. What can I grow in containers? - Gordon, via email DAVID: More than you think! Radishes are great for containers and perfect for beginners as they're ready in about a month. Salad crops such as lettuce, spinach, rocket and spring onions don't need deep soil - while potatoes can grow in an old dustbin. And herbs can take as little space as you like.



Keeping Pink Quill has me mist-ified

I've been given a Pink Quill houseplant but have no idea how to care for it. Any help would be appreciated. Janet, Woodbridge, Suffolk DAVID: A Pink Quill, or Tillandsia cyanea, is a lovely and striking bromeliad - an

air plant, like an orchid. It likes high humidity and bright natural light from an east or west facing window sill. Don't over-water - it mainly takes water through the leaves, so mist once or twice a week.

TIP of the week

Plant purple flowers such as buddleia and lavender to attract pollinating insects - eq butterflies and bees - which are vital for keeping our gardens functioning.

GET IN TOUCH

For loads more hints and tips on gardening visit follow me on Facebook at @DavidDomoneyTV or on Twitter @daviddomonev

Are you ready to get back into the great outdoors? A patio is perfect to enjoy the onset of spring, while not straying too far from the cosy indoors

pring is when the patio comes back to life. The air is warming, flowers are blooming, and I can almost smell the barbecues. If you're missing out on this delight, here are some tips to get started.

Whether you want to create a patio from scratch or have an old patio that needs replacing, it's not that difficult to design and build a stunning and practical patio space.

First of all, plan it. Don't just buy materials off the cuff and try to make them fit. Think about what you want.

Draw it out properly with precise measurements - things such as flagstones often cover more (or less) space than expected once you get them home.

Take photographs of your space using your phone to help you visualise it when you're out picking patterns or buying materials. It's really important to think care-

fully about what you're hoping to get out of your patio. Is it a cosy nook in the shade for

reading a book on a warm day? A large sunny space for entertaining friends and family? A barbecue hot spot? Think about how much space you

need, how much furniture you'd like to

You don't have to lay flags end to end – get creative with shapes

fit on to it and whether you would rather it catch the sun or provide shade. This will help you to site your patio in the ideal location.

Next, think of what style you'd like you patio to have. Are you going for a sleek modern look, or a classic one or something else entirely?

It often works well to match the feel of the patio to the feel of your home, although some people do prefer to create a contrasting space. Once you've made those decisions,

your first port of call is the paving. You can get a huge choice of styles to fit your theme, and a range of materials – whether porcelain, natural stone or concrete.

Porcelain tiles are often brilliant for a clean modern look, while natural stone will give you unique textures that look at home in any garden.

Take a look at pavestone.co.uk for a huge range of styles and ideas. Concrete paving can go either way,

from clean uniform finishes to those which are intentionally mixed for more dynamic textures. Laying slabs or tiles can be a big job

so you may need professional help. But here's my quick guide: Once you've decided where the

paving is going, use pegs and string to mark out the area, then remove any old flagstones vou're replacing.

SLATE IS GREAT Texture and colour

Next remove turf, soil and any rubble to a depth of about 15cm and use a plank to level off the ground, making it ready for laying flags.

Add hardcore to a depth of about 7cm. A builder's yard should be able

to deliver to your door. Use a rake to spread ready-mixed mortar across the hardcore layer, setting the paying stones into the mixture before it dries.

Don't feel you have to lay flags end to end. Be creative with different 24 hours before walking on it. colours, shapes, and even patterns.

pattern can create the illusion of mixture of sand, cement and water than solid, blocky objects. A seating of you and your family.

slope so rain runs off. And remember.

Laying flagstones in a diamond fill the gaps between by brushing in a

GET FIRED UP Porcelain

If you have a small space you may can be used as seating when needed.

when vou've laid a slab, leave it at least want to consider folding furniture that Patios are often at the heart of how Once you've got the slabs in place, designs that let light through.

space. I and let it set. After you've established wall is another great patio idea always set your floor surface, you can find furni- simply a low wall around 20 inches a patio on a slight ture to complement your chosen style. high and about 24 inches wide, which

MORTAR SIT ON A low wall

you can clear away when needed, and we use, share and enjoy our gardens, and planning it properly will help you These will make the patio feel larger end up with one that serves the needs

> without the hassle? Pavestone Moodul is a modular

and local volunteers. Nearby Poundbury Garden Centre has been supportive in tips

Mr Moore added: "The children are excited every afternoon about going out doing jobs in the garden. They're always enthusiastic about

Follow Cultivation Street on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, or take a look at cultivationstreet.com for more details and for



We are delighted to offer this exciting modern Coleus plant, compact by nature and ideal for growing in patio pots, containers or directly in a summer flowerbed.

Each plant grows to 60-80cm, is very low maintenance and produces spectacular burnt-orange coloured foliage. UK-grown 3cm diameter plug plants supplied. Delivery will be within 14 days.

You can buy 6 for £12.99 or order 12 for £19.98 and save £6 off RRP. To order by debit/credit card call **0843 922 5000** quoting DM33510 or send a cheque made payable to MGN DM33510 to Coleus Campfire Offer (**DM33510**) PO Box 64, South West District Office, Manchester, M16 9HY or visit nirrorgardenoffers.co.uk



GADGET

Fancy building a new garden wall

wall you can construct and deconstruct a bit like Lego. The blocks simply stack into each other and, unless you're making a really high wall, no cement is necessary. You can change it around if you get bored and the blocks can also be used to construct built-in barbecues, seating walls, raised

planting borders, fire pits and more And you can buy attachments to add benches, shelves, mounted flower pots and other clever stuff. Find out more at pavestone.co.uk.

terms and conditions.



Eco location at primary school has pupils growing strong

Patio scores

We're handing out a fantastic £20,500 as prizes in our brilliant Cultivation 2018

competition sponsored by Calliope® Flowers. If you're involved in a school or community gardening scheme, you can find categories and how to enter at cultivationstreet.com

Pupils and staff at Damers First School in Poundbury, Dorchester, are hoping their eco garden will attract the attention of our judges. Edd Moore, 35, eco-coordinator at the school, said: "It has been amazing to see so

Cultivation Street involved in gardening with huge smiles across

their faces. Each class has its own raised bed so the whole school is taking part.

"The children are really enjoying getting out into the garden - whatever the weather."

Youngsters learn about the vegetables and plants they are growing with the help of staff

and ideas, donating seeds and even coming to help the children sow them.

taking part and concentrate on their tasks."