

# EMBRACE FLOWER POWER

Bring an artistic flourish to your Easter tablescapes, with advice from flower expert Georgia Miles

WORDS BY LOUISE HOWESON

**S**easonal plants, accents of moss and foliage and seasonal cut flowers create a vibrant spring look.

“Think pinks, blues and whites with flowers such as Tulips, Hyacinth bulbs, Ranunculus and Anemones. You don’t necessarily have to go for the traditional Easter yellow,” says Georgia. “To create a sustainable design, use indoor plants and bulbs in interesting containers, outdoor plants or herbs can also work well.”

The founder of the Sussex Flower School advises that it is simple to create a beautiful look, be it for a dining table, hallway, or kitchen, but the key to a balanced design is to have objects of varying heights.

“If you want it to run the length of the dining table keep it long and skinny, but be sure to make it see through-able or see over-able if people are sitting opposite each other at the table,” says Georgia.

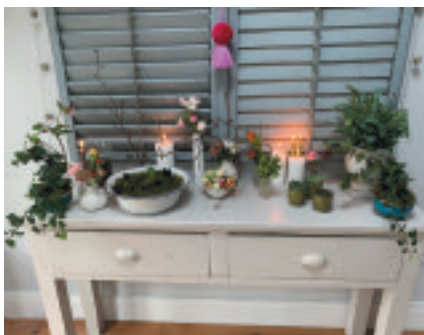
She suggests using candles of different heights to create interest as well as natural materials like twigs or blossom.

Georgia started The Sussex Flower School in 2011 with the aim of providing in her words: “affordable, caring and flexible tuition”. She recently moved the school to a light and airy converted barn on the outskirts of Blackboys, near Uckfield.

The school has an onsite cutting garden and Georgia also has a dedicated cutting garden at her home, where many of the flowers are grown for the courses.

She is a big advocate for British grown flowers and adheres as much as possible to an eco-friendly approach, from minimal foam use to recycling and composting. “There are so many farms growing British flowers now,” says Georgia. “There is a wonderful community of florists and growers around here and we all support each other”

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A great resource for sourcing British grown flowers, which Georgia uses, is [flowersfromthefarm.co.uk](http://flowersfromthefarm.co.uk).

Prior to setting up the school, Georgia ran her own successful wedding floristry business and then went on to teach on the National Certificate Levels 2, 3 and 4 - The Higher Diploma in Floristry - at Plumpton College in East Sussex.

Georgia’s ethos is to make floral design accessible to everybody in a supportive and open environment. As much or as little as they want in a format that suits different lifestyles and intended outcomes.

Students can pick and choose courses to suit their needs and add to their skills as they progress. The environment is relaxed, friendly, fun and offers high quality tuition from someone with many years’ experience in the industry.

“You do not need prior knowledge for any of the courses. When I started out there wasn’t this sort of thing available. It was either a year or two at college or apprenticeships. The odd well-known florist in London would open a school, but that was it. All fantastic routes to learning, but I wanted to create something more flexible.”

Georgia keeps up to date with floristry trends on social media and is always learning... but her innate artistic flare and the flowers themselves are what drives her ideas.

“I studied art history and I am artistic in my approach, however my main drive behind the course creation is I ask myself what I would like to learn, then I put it on!”

Georgia is offering a 10 per cent discount when people use the discount code SPM10 valid on all online orders until July 1 2021.

[thesussexflowerschool.co.uk](http://thesussexflowerschool.co.uk)







## MAKE YOUR OWN TABLE SCAPE



1. Source containers from around your home looking for different sizes and textures



2. See what houseplants you already have at home and maybe plant up some flowering bulbs with moss



3. Look round your garden and cut some foliage, twigs and berries



4. Get together a selection of different sized candles



5. Buy a few seasonal flowers (used here are Ranunculus, Anemones, Tulips and Hellebores)

