

The Gardens of France

A 12-day study and travel abroad experience for Purdue Master Gardeners and Lovers of Garden History June 3-14, 2008



About This Course:

Our goal is to expand gardeners' knowledge in fruit, vegetable, and ornamental horticulture, landscape and garden design, all in a historical context. We'll visit and study these notable gardens and sites: Chateau Vaux Le Vicomte, Roseraie de l'Hay du Val de Marne, Palace of Versailles, Potager du Roi, Chartres, International Garden Festival at Chaumont-sur-Loire, Chateau Chenonceau, Chateau Villandry, Plou et Fils Winery, Mansoniere Gardens, Le Vasterival, Bois des Moutiers, Giverny, and the gardens of Bagatelle. To preview our destinations online, see www.hort.purdue.edu/ext/GoF/HOME.html.

What's Included:

- Ground Transportation in France via motor coach (with French speaking guide) and Paris Metro pass.
- Three star hotels in Paris, suburban Paris, Amboise, and Rouen
- Breakfast daily, 2 lunches, and 6 dinners
- Admission to 14 gardens, sites, and events
- Hotel, Coach, and group meal gratuities
- Lectures, study guide, group discussions
- Travel health and accident insurance (MedEx)

What's Not Included:

- Airfare (air travel information will be provided after minimum enrollment is reached.)
- Personal Items (passport fees, laundry, alcoholic beverages)
- Trip cancellation insurance is recommended and available through your local travel agent.
- Most lunches, some dinners and other incidental expenses



Sponsored by
Department of Horticulture & Landscape Architecture
International Programs in Agriculture
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Instructors from the Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture:

Dr. Michael N. Dana
Professor and Extension Specialist



Mike developed and co-teaches an undergrad summer course on History, Horticulture and Landscape Architecture in England.

Ms. B. Rosie Lerner
Extension Consumer Horticulture Specialist
and Master Gardener State Coordinator



Rosie has led several gardening-related tours to Europe. Together, they have led several Master Gardener study abroad classes to England

Note: Due to the historical nature of the itinerary, full accessibility at these sites may be a challenge. To fully participate in this class, enrollees should expect to do substantial walking each day.



Program Policies:

Registration is open to those with a serious interest in gardens and garden history, with preference given to participants in the Purdue Master Gardener Program. Enrollment is limited to 25 total participants, available on a first come basis with a \$500 deposit required to hold your spot in the class. Advanced training hours will be credited to those Purdue Master Gardeners who complete the required reading and quizzes. Master Gardener participants will also earn volunteer service hours upon their return by sharing what they've learned with others.

Itinerary: (*Meals Provided B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)

Tuesday, June 3 – Travel to Paris (with the instructors or on your own, see “What’s Not Included”).

Wednesday, June 4 – Morning arrival in Paris, travel via motor coach to Vaux le Vicomte, mid 17th century chateau and gardens built for then finance minister Nicolas Fouquet. Vaux served as the jealous inspiration and motivation for Versailles. Our guided tour of the chateau includes the private apartments, stately rooms, kitchens, and the exhibition on Andre Le Notre, the landscape architect behind these and many other renowned gardens. Le Notre’s brilliant designs are much hidden from view until you go out into the garden where there is always a surprise in store. Stroll the formal parterre gardens, terraces, garden sculptures, and water features including the infamous Hercules, and Grand Canal.

Later we’ll visit La Roseraie de l’Hay du Val de Marne, the world’s oldest existing garden devoted exclusively to roses. Jules Gravereaux started his collection of roses in 1894 and today the collection includes over 3,000 species and varieties of ancient and modern roses from all around the world. We’ll dine together near our hotel. (D)

Thursday, June 5 – We’ll spend the day exploring the fabulous palace, gardens, and parks of Versailles built by Louis XIV. It took a workforce of 30,000 over 20 years to complete the gardens. After our guided tour of the chateau we’ll stroll the immense, mind boggling gardens of statues, water features, parterres, and bosquets. You can take the long walk of the canal or take a tram ride to visit the other spectacular sites, including the Grand Trianon, Petit Trianon, and the Hammeau (Marie Antoinette’s village in miniature.) Also included is a visit to the Potager du Roi, the royal fruit and vegetable garden. We dine together before returning to our hotel. (B, D)

Friday, June 6 – We’ll check out of our hotel and head for Chartres for a guided tour of the 12-13th century cathedral including the spiritual labyrinth dating to 1200. Then on to the Chateau de Chaumont-sur-Loire for the 17th International Garden Festival where we’ll be treated to more than 25 new gardens in the theme of “Sharing The Garden”, along with the permanent garden features including the experimental gardens, the valley of mists, and a quick look around the castle. Then on to our hotel in Amboise and group dinner. (B, D)

Saturday, June 7 – Morning visit to the romantic Chateau De Chenonceau, built completely in the River Cher and given by Henry II to his mistress, Diane de Poitiers, who commissioned the graceful 5 arched bridge over the river and the Italian

gardens. After his death, Henry’s widow Catherine de Medici evicted Diane and built the two story extension of the chateau into the river (now a gallery) and the formal parterre gardens. You’ll be free to have lunch on your own in the Orangerie. We’ll stop for a winery tour at Plou et Fils before returning to our hotel. You’ll be free for dinner on your own in historic Amboise. (B)

Sunday, June 8 – We’ll check out of our hotel and go to Chateau De Villandry, famous for its ornamental vegetable gardens, an authentic French potager, herb gardens, and the “Garden of Love.” Then on to lunch in the village of Alencon followed by a visit to the walled Mansoniere Gardens, high in the Alpes Mancelles set above the most scenic village in France! (B, L, D)

Monday, June 9 – We are privileged to spend the morning touring the private landscape gardens of Princess Sturdza at Le Vasterival. Set on the cliffs above the sea, the wandering woodland paths will take you through over 15,000 species, all planned with purpose. A world-renowned horticulturist and board member of the Chelsea Flower Show, the Princess does not allow photography on the site, so you must visit the gardens to experience (or buy her book!) We’ll lunch together at the seaside Les Regates seafood restaurant, then off to Le Parc du Bois des Moutiers, designed by the esteemed partnership of Edwin Lutyens and Gertrude Jekyll, blending the best of plants and architectural features. Dinner is on your own in Rouen. (B, L)

Tuesday, June 10 – Depart hotel for Giverny, Monet’s home and gardens that served as the ever-changing, ever blooming studio from which to create his masterpieces; thousands of flowers including the famous water lilies, the Japanese bridge adorned with wisteria, and the wonderful fragrance of roses. Then on to Paris, where we’ll have a guided tour of the “City of Light”, including a visit to the famous Bagatelle gardens in the Bois de Boulogne, and orientation of Notre Dame, Hôtel de Ville, Louvre Place Vendôme, Opéra, Concorde, Madeleine, Champs Elysées, Arc de Triomphe, Tour Eiffel, Trocadéro, Sacré Coeur de Montmartre. Dinner together near our hotel. (B, D)

Wednesday, June 11 – Guided visit of Paris parks and gardens via the Metro underground transportation system, the unique vertical gardens at Musee Branly, Parc André Citroën, and? Lunch and Dinner on your own. (B)

Thursday, June 12 – Free day in Paris to explore the Louvre and other museums, shopping, and other site seeing. Lunch and Dinner on your own. (B)

Friday, June 13 – Free day in Paris. Lunch on your own. Group dinner grand finale. (B, D)

Saturday, June 14 – Transfer to airport for return flight home. (B)

Costs: Program fee for Gardens of France
Land Package Only: \$3178 per person
Single Supplement \$769, total \$3948

Single Travelers:

If you want us to assign a roommate for shared accommodations, we will make every effort to honor your request. If we cannot provide a roommate, we will contact you.

Payment Schedule:

A \$500 per person deposit is required to reserve space in the class. The final balance will be due in full on March 1, 2008.

Refund Policy:

Once the course has reached the enrollment limit of 25, a waiting list will be maintained. Although fees are generally non-refundable after Dec 1, a refund MAY be issued IF a replacement from the waiting list is available to take your spot.

How to Register For This Course:

Reservations are accepted on a first come/first served basis by telephone only. A non-refundable \$500 per person deposit is required upon submission of registration.

You may register M-F, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM Eastern Time.

1. Call toll-free 1-888-EXT-INFO (398-4636) and ask to be transferred to either Rosie Lerner or Mike Dana in Hort & L.A. or dial us directly at 765-494-1311 (Rosie) or 765-494-5923 (Mike). If leaving a message, let us know you’re calling about the France class and a number and time where you can be reached.
2. Be prepared to provide the following information for both primary and guest registrant:
 - a. name, address, phone, email, county of MG training
 - b. hotel occupancy (single or double)
 - c. roommate
3. Following phone registration, you will be billed for your deposit (and later for the remaining fee) by the Purdue Conference Division. You may pay by credit card or personal check (payable to Purdue University). Registration is not complete until your payment is received.

Questions? Call or email us at rosie@purdue.edu or dana@purdue.edu.