

# The Gardens of France

A 12-day study and travel abroad experience for Purdue Master Gardeners and Lovers of Garden History June 30-July 11, 2009



## About This Course:

Our goal is to expand gardeners' knowledge in landscape and garden design plus fruit, vegetable, and ornamental horticulture, all in a historical context. We'll visit and study these notable gardens and sites: Chateau Vaux Le Vicomte, Palace of Versailles, Potager du Roi, Blois, Chartres Cathedral, Basilica of St. Denis, International Garden Festival at Chaumont-sur-Loire, Chateau Chenonceau, Chateau Villandry, Plou et Fils Winery, Le Vasterival, Bois des Moutiers, Shamrock Hydrangea Collection, Monet's Garden at Giverny, and the gardens of Bagatelle. Additional guided visits to gardens and related sites in Paris will be available. More information is at: [www.hort.purdue.edu/France/](http://www.hort.purdue.edu/France/)

## What's Included:

- Two full-time Purdue instructors
- Bilingual guide
- Transport in France via motor coach / Paris Metro pass
- Three star hotels in Paris, Blois, and Rouen
- Breakfast daily, 4 lunches, and 3 dinners
- Admission to 15 gardens, sites, and events
- Coach and group meal gratuities
- Lectures, study guide, group discussions
- Paris Museum Pass
- Travel health and accident insurance (MedEx)

## What's Not Included:

- Airfare
- Personal Items (passports, laundry, alcoholic beverages)
- Hotel gratuities
- Some lunches, dinners and other incidental expenses
- Trip cancellation insurance is recommended and available through your local travel agent.



Sponsored by  
Department of Horticulture & Landscape Architecture  
International Programs in Agriculture  
Purdue Cooperative Extension

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Instructors from the Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture:

Dr. Michael N. Dana  
Professor and Extension Specialist



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



Specialist from the Office of  
International Programs in Agriculture

Ms. Kira Everhart-Valentin  
International Extension Programming Specialist  
Bilingual Guide



*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 anyone with a serious interest in gardens and garden history. It is an Advanced Training opportunity for 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. 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 30** – Travel to Paris

**Wednesday, July 1** – Morning arrival in Paris, visit to Basilica of St. Denis, ancient burial place of French royalty. Then on to Blois for a “get acquainted” dinner at our hotel. (L, D)

**Thursday, July 2** – Introductory lecture followed by walking tour of central Blois, and a contemporary rooftop garden atop a parking garage, the site of the former Chateau gardens. Afternoon visit to Chateau De Villandry, famous for its ornamental vegetable gardens, an authentic French potager, herb gardens, and the “Garden of Love” formal yet whimsical gardens. (B, L, D)

**Friday, July 3** – 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. After his death, Henry's widow Catherine de Medici took the chateau from Diane, then built the two story extension of the chateau into the river (now a gallery) and the formal parterre gardens. Lunch on your own in the Orangerie or snack shop. We'll stop for a winery tour at Plou et Fils before heading to historic Amboise, where you will be on your own for dinner. Return to Blois hotel. (B)

**Saturday, July 4** – Morning visit to Le Chateau de Chaumont-sur-Loire for the 18th International Garden Festival where we'll be treated to more than 25 new gardens in the theme of “Gardens of Color”, along with the permanent garden features including the experimental gardens, the valley of mists, and a quick look around the castle. Lunch on your own at the festival. Later, we'll have free time to explore Blois. Dinner on your own. (B)



**Sunday, July 5** – Depart Blois for Chartres, 12-13th century cathedral including world-famous stained glass. Then on to Giverny, Monet's home and gardens that served as his ever-blooming studio including the famous water lilies, the Japanese bridge adorned with wisteria, and the fragrance of roses. Time to explore the village, American Museum, and dinner on your own before heading to our hotel in Rouen. (B, L)

**Monday, July 6** – We are privileged to spend the morning touring the private landscape gardens of Princess Sturdza at Le Vasterival. 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 sea-side 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 architecture. Next stop Shamrock, the world's largest collection of hydrangeas! Dinner on your own in historic Rouen. (B, L)

**Tuesday, July 7** – Depart Rouen for Vaux le Vicomte, mid 17th century chateau, Andre Le Notre's masterpiece, and the jealous inspiration and motivation for Versailles. Stroll Le Notre's brilliant designs; the formal parterre gardens, terraces, garden sculptures, water features and the infamous Hercules, with lunch on your own. Then on to Paris, “City of Light”, including a visit to the famous Bagatelle gardens in the Bois de Boulogne, and drive-by orientation of Notre Dame, Hôtel de Ville, Louvre, Place Vendôme, Opéra, Concorde, Madeleine, Champs Elysées, Arc de Triomphe, and Tour Eiffel. Dinner together near our hotel. (B, D)

**Wednesday, July 8** – We'll spend the whole day exploring the fabulous palace, gardens, and parks of Versailles, created by Louis XIV. The immense gardens of statues, water features, parterres, and bosquets are mind boggling. You can take the long walk of the canal or take a tram ride to visit the other sites, including the Grand Trianon, Petit Trianon, and the Hameau (Marie Antoinette's village in miniature.) Also, we'll visit the Potager du Roi, the royal fruit and vegetable garden. Lunch and dinner on your own in Versailles. (B)



**Thursday, July 9** – Free Day to explore the Louvre and other museums, shopping, and other site seeing. Lunch and Dinner on your own. Optional guided tour of selected Paris parks. Metro pass and Museum pass included. (B)

**Friday, July 10** – Free Day in Paris. Lunch on your own. Metro pass included. Group dinner grand finale. (B, D)

**Saturday, July 11**– Group transfer to airport for return flight home.

**Costs:** Program fee for *The Gardens of France* Land Package Only (dbl. occ.): \$3350 per person  
Single Supplement \$525, total \$3875

#### 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 15, 2009.

#### 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 Jan. 15, 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, 8AM-Noon, 1–5:00 PM Eastern Time.

1. Call toll-free 1-888-EXT-INFO (398-4636) and ask to be transferred to Tammy Goodale in Hort & L.A. or dial her directly at 765-494-1296. If leaving a message, indicate you're calling about *The Gardens of 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, e-mail, county of MG training
  - b. hotel occupancy (single or double) & roommate (if app.)
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 Tammy, or call or e-mail:

Rosie (765-494-1311, [rosie@purdue.edu](mailto:rosie@purdue.edu)) or  
Mike (765-494-5923, [dana@purdue.edu](mailto:dana@purdue.edu)).