



Introducing our exciting garden tour to the Netherlands and Germany!

On this tour, we visit castle gardens, botanic gardens, private gardens, an island that *is* a garden, and we meet with international renown garden experts. The centerpiece of the tour is the **FLORIADE**, an international garden fair and exhibition near Amsterdam that only happens once every ten years.

We stay in first class hotels in city center locations in Amsterdam, Heidelberg, Munich, Berlin, with two nights on the shores of Lake Constance.

Cost: \$6250 per person

Double occupancy with **airfare included** on United from Washington Dulles to Amsterdam and return from Berlin.

Dates: July 14-28, 2022

Deadline to Register: April 26, 2022

Come along with us on this spectacular garden adventure!



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TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

The *FLORIADE* ♦ Flower Auction in Almeer ♦ Private gardens in Flevoland
Garden of Nico Wissing, Landscape Architect ♦ Peter Janke's HORTVS Garden
Heidelberg Castle ♦ Schlossgut Diehl Winery
Schwetzingen Castle Garden ♦ Hermanshof Garden
Killesberg Garden Park ♦ Gaißmayer Perennial Nursery
The Garden Island of Mainau ♦ Mirabell Gardens ♦ Hellbrun Castle Garden
Neuschwanstein Castle ♦ Linderhof Palace Gardens ♦ Sanssouci Palace Garden
Nymphenburg Palace and Botanic Garden ♦ Allotment Gardens
Royal Garden Academy Berlin ♦ Botanic Garden Dahlem ♦ Karl Foerster Garden
Amsterdam ♦ Heidelberg ♦ Munich ♦ Salzburg ♦ Lake Constance ♦ Berlin

TOUR AT A GLANCE

The tour begins at Washington Dulles Airport with a flight to Amsterdam. From there we travel to Heidelberg, Lake Constance, Munich, and finally, Berlin, before flying home.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Flight from Dulles Airport to Amsterdam and return from Berlin
- All entrance fees and all breakfasts, several lunches and dinners
- Transportation in a deluxe air-conditioned coach
- Centrally-located first-class hotels

NOT INCLUDED

- Tips to driver, tour guides, hotel staff
- Meals not in the itinerary, and any other items not listed in the itinerary





Netherlands and Germany *Floriade!*

July 14-28, 2022

ITINERARY

This itinerary is subject to change.

Included meals: (B) Breakfast, (L) Lunch, (T) Tea, (D) Dinner

Day One – Thursday, July 14

Today we fly from Washington Dulles Airport to Schiphol Amsterdam Airport.

Day Two - Friday, July 15

After landing and clearing customs, we drive a short distance to visit the remarkable marketing phenomenon known as the **Royal Floraholland Aalsmeer**. It is the world's largest auction house for plants and flowers. From Aalsmeer, flowers are bought, sold, and immediately shipped all over the world. Afterward we stop at a nearby restaurant for lunch before going into Amsterdam, where we have a walking and canal tour of



Royal Floraholland Aalsmeer Flower Auction

Amsterdam. Later this evening we will enjoy a get-acquainted dinner aboard a canal boat that departs from our hotel. Lodging: Amsterdam Room Mate Aitana Hotel (L)(D)



Rendering of 2022 Floriade

Day Three - Saturday, July 16

One of the highlights of our tour is the incomparable, once-a-decade **Floriade International Horticultural Expo**, featuring presentations from forty

countries. This year, along with inspiring displays of gardens, flowers, fruits and vegetables, the emphasis will be on "Growing Green Cities." There are four main themes: Green, Food, Energy and Health. Exhibits will demonstrate how cities can be made more attractive and resilient by creating more parks and vertical gardens; the latest ideas for sufficient, healthy and affordable food; solutions and inventions in the field of sustainable energy; and how good food, exercise, flowers, plants and trees can help with life in the city. In addition, there will, of course, be extensive displays of horticultural excellence and we can expect a riot of color and inventive planting. Lodging: Amsterdam Room Mate Aitana Hotel (B)(L)(D)

Day Four - Sunday, July 17

A short drive out of Amsterdam takes us to an area known as Flevoland to visit three stunning private gardens. At the first one, **Het Zwaluw Huis**, is a good example of a Dutch Wave Garden. We also get our first taste of Dutch hospitality as we have tea and pie. In the second garden, called **Pegasushof**, we walk with the owner who explains how the garden began and what it's like living in a polder (a low-lying area reclaimed from the sea). We enjoy lunch before making our way to the third garden, called **De Stekkentuin**. It has a free form layout with undulating lines of perfectly maintained planting beds, full of color. Then true to form, we end the with wine and sweets before returning to our hotel. Lodging: Amsterdam Room Mate Aitana Hotel (B)(T)(L)(T)



Private Garden in Flevoland



Garden of Nicco Wissing

Day Five - Monday, July 18

This morning we say goodbye to Amsterdam as we head towards Germany. On the way, we stop to visit the **garden of Nico Wissing**, a Dutch landscape architect who has designed gardens all around the world including his own, which we see today. He lectures in the Netherlands and abroad, sharing his vision of the role of plants and gardens in a sustainable world. As



Schlossgut Diehl Winery

we depart, we cross the border into Germany to visit another influential landscape designer, **Peter Janke**, owner of the nursery and garden design firm called **HORTVS**. Having worked under the tutelage of Beth Chatto in England, it's easy to see her influence on Peter's garden and nursery. Before we proceed to Heidelberg, we have one more stop at the **Schlossgut Diehl Winery** where we tour the winery



HORTVS' Peter Janke Garden

with the owner, Caroline Diehl. Caroline is a seventh-generation winemaker—and first woman—at the venerable Schlossgut, having assumed the reigns together with her husband, Sylvain Taurisson-Diehl in July 2019. Dinner awaits us at our hotel, the NH Heidelberg Hotel. Lodging: Heidelberg (B)(L)(D)



The North American Prairie Garden at Hermanshof

Day Six - Tuesday, July 19

This morning we begin a tour of Heidelberg with a visit to the stunning **Heidelberg Castle** set on a hill above the city. Heidelberg is a charming university town having survived WWII without significant damage. After lunch, we visit two very German gardens: **Hermanshof** in Weinheim and the castle garden in **Schwetzingen**. Hermanshof features its renowned North American prairie

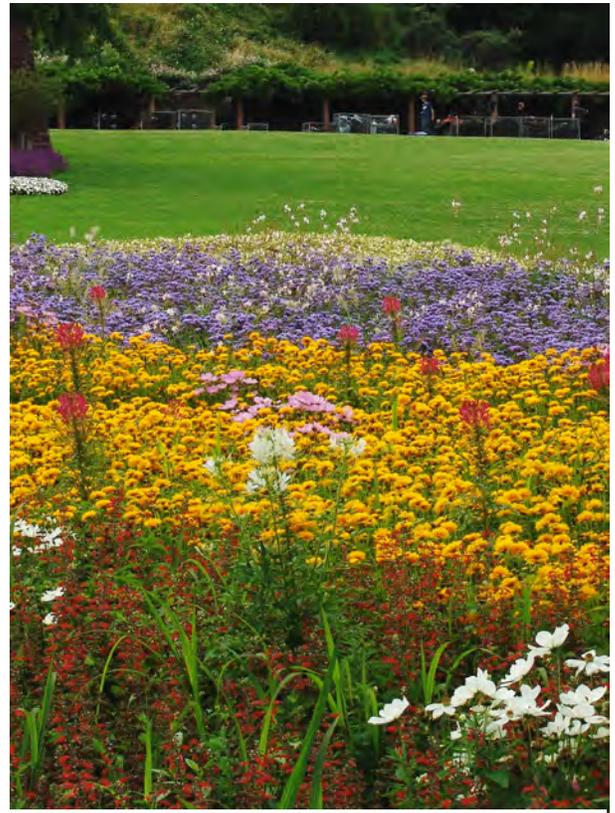


Schwetzingen Castle Gardens

garden, a Mecca for designers of the new perennial movement, including the Dutch designer Piet Oudolf, who says it is the only garden he visits for inspiration. Then it's on to Schwetzingen Castle gardens which are one of best maintained examples of an historic garden in Germany—a combination of a 17th century French formal garden with an 18th century English landscape. Mozart gave regular concerts at the theater which is still used today. Lodging: Heidelberg (B)

Day Seven - Wednesday, July 20

Departing Heidelberg, we travel to another beautiful German city to visit **Killesberg Hill Park**, a green oasis in the middle of the city of Stuttgart. It has sophisticated fountains along with a 40-meter-high tower that dates back to a horticultural show in 1939. Before the show, a large area of the park had been a quarry. As we depart Stuttgart and drive south, we stop at **Gaißmayer Perennial Nursery** where a large team of plant-loving gardeners, cultivate—diligently and of course ecologically—an impressive assortment of well over 2500 species and varieties of perennials, herbs, grasses and ferns. After we tour the facilities, we take some time at the café before the last leg of our journey to our hotel on Lake Constance. Lodging: Sonnenhof Bodensee Hotel, Kressbronn am Bodensee (B)(T)(D)



Killesberg Hill Park Stuttgart



Floral Cascade on the Island of Mainau

Day Eight - Thursday, July 21

This morning we enjoy a scenic boat ride on Germany's third largest lake, Lake Constance, on our way to the extraordinary island of Mainau. **Insel Mainau** is a vast garden island full of plants, peacocks, and palaces, a place aptly known as the "flower island," drawing some 1.2 million visitors to its shores every year. This unique and floral island exudes a distinctively Mediterranean charm, with an extensive collection of citrus plants and palm trees complementing the flowers and scores of old trees in the arboretum. We spend the entire day there before our coach takes us back to our hotel. This evening, we have an evening reception in our hotel. Lodging: Lake Constance (B)(D)

Day Nine - Fri, July 22

Our adventure in Bavaria continues as we leave Lake Constance. Along the way, we visit two of 'Mad' King Ludwig's castles—**Neuschwanstein** and **Linderhof**. Neuschwanstein is a 19th-century palace on a rugged hill above the village of Hohenschwangau near Füssen. The palace was commissioned by King Ludwig II of Bavaria as a retreat and in honor of his friend, Richard Wagner. Never completed, it was Ludwig's residence until his death. Not far away is a less imposing structure built by Ludwig and the only one of his three castles that was completed. The castle is surrounded by gardens, much in the style of Versailles, but not nearly as vast. There is even a grotto large enough to stage Wagner's opera, *Tannhäuser*, and the formal grounds give way to touches of the English Landscape School. After our visit, we depart for Munich, the capital of Bavaria. We stay for three nights at the Eden Hotel Wolff. Lodging: Munich (B)(D)



Neuschwanstein Castle



Linderhof Castle and Gardens

Day Ten - Saturday, July 23

We begin our day with a driving tour of the city of Munich along with a visit to a uniquely European phenomena, the **Allotment Garden**. These are small, compact gardens, with accompanying structures for growing plants and storing tools. They often become a second home, with elaborate facilities for comfort and relaxation. Following our visit, we make our way to one of the most Munich things to do: have lunch with beer at the **Hofbräuhaus**. Afterwards, we are off to **Nymphenburg**, the summer palace of the Bavarian kings. Here we walk through its intimate rooms with paintings of the most beautiful women of the 19th century European aristocracy, while its carriages museum exhibits the finest carriages ever designed. Adjacent to the palace is the **Botanic Garden** and **Man and Nature Museum**. All of this in one lovely magnificent, and very spacious Park. Lodging: Munich (B)



Allotment Garden in Munich



Hellbrunn Castle Garden

Day Eleven – Sunday, July 24

Just an hour and a half ride out of Munich is **Salzburg, Austria**, the birthplace of Mozart. The entire old town with its medieval fortress and the baroque palaces and churches is a UNESCO world heritage site. While there, we enjoy a driving tour of the city followed by free time for lunch before visiting **Mirabell**. These Baroque gardens are colorful and extensive and have served as the backdrop for many a wedding. Speaking

of weddings, our next destination is **Hellbrunn Castle**, where portions of the Sound of Music were filmed. The gardens are distinctly Italian Renaissance and riddled with water tricks. Most visitors to Hellbrunn immediately recognize the gazebo where Liesl and Rolf sang of their young love. Lodging in Munich. (B)

Day Twelve - Monday, July 25

Early this morning, we walk across the street from our hotel and board the fast train to Berlin. As we ride through the scenic countryside, there is time to relax and eat lunch before arriving in the German capital. Upon our arrival, we go directly to the beautiful **Botanical Garden** in

Dahlem. Beckoning like an oasis, this “green jewel” with its **Grosses Tropolhaus** (Large Tropical Conservatory), it is one of the largest and most important botanical gardens in the world. We then cross the street to the **Königliche Gartenakademie** (Royal Garden Academy) to see the work of Dr. Isabelle Van Groeningen, a reknown garden designer and educator. After our visit, we enjoy a driving tour of Berlin before settling into our hotel, the Grimm Potsdamer Platz. Lodging: Berlin (B)



Grosses Tropolhaus Dahlem Botanic Garden

Day Thirteen - Tuesday, July 26

Today is a great day for gardens in nearby Potsdam. Here we will visit beautiful **Sanssouci Palace**, the summer palace of Frederick the Great, King of Prussia. It is in the style of Versailles, but much less formal. It is the place Frederick came to relax. We will also visit the house and restored **gardens of Karl Foerster**, the visionary behind the use of grasses in the garden as well as a champion of the use of American prairie perennials. He can well be described as the Godfather of modern German gardening, along with the rise in the use of grasses and other perennials in the U.S. The restoration of his garden was finished in 2003 and is stunning. His old nursery is still operational. On our return, we stop at a villa garden on the lake, the summer residence of the painter, **Max Liebermann**. Lodging: Berlin (B)(T)

Day Fourteen - Wednesday, July 27

This, our last full day in Germany, is a chance for you to explore Berlin on your own. Our hotel is situated perfectly. Near Potsdamer Platz, the Times Square of the German capital, there are shops, museums, and important historic sites, like Checkpoint Charlie, all located within walking distance. We can also help you arrange private tours of places in and around Berlin that you have an interest in. We end our day with a farewell dinner at our hotel. Lodging: Berlin (B)(D)

Day Fifteen - Thursday, July 28

Today brings to a close our journey through gardens in the Netherlands and Germany as we catch a morning flight from Berlin Brandenburg Airport to Washington Dulles Airport. (B)



Sanssouci Palace and Gardens



TERMS AND CONDITIONS

COST:

\$6250.00 Total cost per person (double/twin occupancy, airfare included)

\$1100.00 Single room supplemental fee

While we attempt to find roommates for single participants, if a roommate is not available, the participant is subject to pay the single supplement fee. The maximum number of participants is 36.

Method of Payment: by check only, payable to: MCDUFFTOURS LLC

TOUR CONDITIONS:

MCDUFFTOURS LLC acts only as agents for the passengers with respect to transportation, hotels and restaurants, and exercise every care possible. MCDUFFTOURS LLC assumes no responsibility to any person or entity for liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, breakdown, disruption of advertised schedules, delay or irregularity in connection with the service of any ship, ferry, airplane, train, automobile, motorcoach, carriage, or any other conveyance used in carrying out these tours, or for the acts or defaults of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the tour. We cannot accept responsibility for losses or additional expense due to delay, refusal of visa, or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, violent acts, quarantine, acts of God, or any other causes beyond our control. All such losses will have to be borne by the passenger, as our tour rates provide for arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to make such alterations to the itinerary or accommodations as may be deemed necessary for carrying out the tour. The right is reserved to cancel any tour prior to departure, in which case the entire payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part. The right is reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the tour. No refund will be made for the unused portion of any tour. The price of the program is based on tariffs and exchange rates in effect on November 21, 2021, and is subject to adjustment in the event of change in tariffs, taxes or exchange rates. Baggage is at the owner's risk entirely. The acceptance of any service provided as part of tour or any ticket or voucher shall be deemed to be acceptance of, and consent by the tour member to these conditions. Services are subject to the laws of the country where services are provided. For a more detailed Term and Conditions statement from MCDUFFTOURS, please click **HERE**.

Please note that this garden tour requires a considerable amount of walking and since most of the gardens we visit are not wheelchair accessible, participants must be able to walk on paths with steps. Participants must also be able to manage their own luggage.

Included in the Cost

The cost of this tour includes lodging, entrance fees, guides, ground transportation, all breakfasts, bottled water, and several dinners, lunches, and teas outlined in the Itinerary. Also included is the cost of airfare from Washington Dulles Airport to London Heathrow Airport along with the return from Manchester Airport to Dulles. While we attempt to find roommates for single participants, if one is not available, the participant is subject to pay the single supplement fee.

Not included in the Cost

Costs of obtaining passports, visas, excess/overweight baggage charges, items of a purely personal nature such as drinks, laundry, telephone and optional tours are not included. All meals except those included in the tour are not included. Trip insurance is not included as well as tips to driver/guides and any foreign departure taxes. Transportation to and from home to Washington Dulles International Airport is not included.

I understand and accept these terms and conditions.

Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

It is strongly recommended that you purchase Travel Insurance to protect your tour investment against covered unforeseeable circumstances.

Cancellation and Refund Policy: The total deposit is refundable until April 26, 2022. If you must cancel between April 26 and May 25, \$100 of the \$1000 deposit will be retained. After May 25, the \$1000 deposit plus actual expenses incurred in airline and hotel arrangements will be retained and the remainder will be refunded.

MCDUFFTOURS LLC is a travel company founded by Nancy and Robert McDuffie, both former professors at Virginia Tech. Nancy taught in the Department of Music as a vocal coach and instructor. Robert is a Landscape Architect and was Associate Professor in the Department of Horticulture as well as Director of the Hahn Horticulture Garden. After establishing the first group VT Horticulture Study Abroad program 24 years ago, they now take garden lovers of all ages around the world. Over 1400 people have traveled with them to visit gardens in 25 countries on five continents.



Bavaria



REGISTRATION FORM

July 14-28, 2022

Please print – each participant must complete this form

Full Legal Name (as on passport) _____

First name for NAME TAG _____ Phone # _____

Birthdate _____ Email _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Passport # _____ Place of issue _____

Date of issue _____ Date of expiration _____

Emergency contact _____ Phone # _____

Special food requirements or allergies _____

Name of preferred roommate _____

Total Tour Fee is \$6250.00 (double occupancy, per person)

_____ \$1000.00 Deposit due: April 26, 2022

_____ \$5250.00 Final payment of the balance due: May 25, 2022

_____ \$1100.00 Supplemental Fee for Single due: May 25, 2022

\$_____ Total payment enclosed

Questions? Robert McDuffie - 540 818 0154 - mcdufftours@yahoo.com

Please mail your completed reservation form, a signed copy of the Terms and Conditions form, and a deposit check by April 26, 2022 to:

MCDUFFTOURS LLC
4810 Susannah Drive
Blacksburg, VA 24060

Office Use	Received	AMT: _____
		CHK#: _____
		DATE: _____

