

## DAY 1

### *Paris*

Early AM - Arrive at Paris, Charles De Gualle Airport

Bus to Paris Hotel for early check in and light meal at hotel or closeby

Lunch

Early PM - *Jardins de Bagatelle*, Bois de Boulogne, Paris: This park is known for its rose garden and the international rose contest every year in June; you will be surprised to discover its theme gardens, the iris garden, the flowered kitchen garden, the garden of perennials.

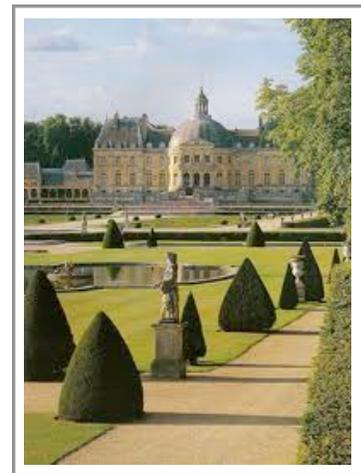


Evening - *Dinner in Paris*

## DAY 2

### *Vaux-le-Vicomte & Courances*

Drive +/-1 hour to *Vaux-le-Vicomte* : This château and the surrounding park were built by Louis XIV's finance minister, Nicolas Fouquet in the late 1650's. It is still recognized today as the epitome of the 18th century pleasure garden. In fact, the King found it so grand that he hired the same architect, Le Nôtre, to design his gardens at Versailles, after having thrown Fouquet into jail, suspicious that such a grand place could only have been financed through criminal deeds.



Visit castle and gardens ; lunch at the café

Mid Afternoon - Drive 30 minutes to *Château de Courances* : The original moated castle dates back to the 16th century; water is still the central design element of its extensive landscape in which the formal complements the naturalistic : pools and fountains are interspersed with spring-fed ponds, lakes and canals ; miles of boxwood hedges and lawn stretch beneath centenary trees



Tour the gardens; tea in the afternoon light opposite the Japanese Garden.

Evening - *Dinner in Paris*

### DAY 3

#### *Paris to Honfleur*

Check out of Paris hotel

AM - *Giverny* : The garden of impressionist painter Claude Monet, in which he found inspiration for his most famous subjects such as the Japanese bridge and the lilly ponds.



*Lunch near Giverny*



PM - *Le Jardin Plume*, Auzouville-sur-Ry : A contemporary private garden combining a formal use of space with an innovative use of plants and sculptural mowing of grasses.

*Les Jardins de Bellevue*, Beaumont-le-Hareng: Plantswoman Martine Lemonnier created this garden about 30 years ago on a hilltop overlooking a valley. It is a series of rooms with beautiful displays of perennials, shrubs and trees.



*Le Jardin Agapanthe*, Grigneuseville : Created by garden designer Alexander Thomas, this is a garden full of surprises, a garden of ideas, where narrow paths and lush plantings make the most of small spaces, inviting the visitor into a world of beauty and serenity.

Evening - Check into hotel in Honfleur

*Dinner in Honfleur*

## DAY 4

### *Varengeville*

AM - *Le Vasterival*, Sainte Marguerite sur Mer : This garden is the life's work of the late Princess Sturdza who started it in 1957. Its renown is based not only on its botanical diversity but also on its brilliant landscaping which offers something of interest for the visitor at every season. Lunch at picturesque local café.



PM - *Le Bois des Moutiers*, Varengeville :  
The house and garden were created by Robert Mallet starting in 1898 with the assistance of Edwin Lutyens and Gertrude Jekyll. The property has been in the Mallet family for more than 100 years and is a rare example of Arts and Crafts design on the continent.



*Le Bois de Morville*, Varengeville : Garden designer Pascal Cribier's experimental garden where he has been trying out his now famous landscaping techniques for the past 40 years. Pascal Cribier redesigned the Tuileries Gardens in Paris in 1990 together with Louis Benech.



*Etretat*, stop on the way back to Honfleur and watch the sunset on the beach, in sight of the famous cliffs pictured by Claude Monet and his followers.

*Dinner in Honfleur*

## DAY 5

### *Gardens around Bayeux*

AM - *Château de Brécy* : Tour with owners who restored the house and gardens to their former 17th century splendor with unfailing attention to historic detail since 1992 when they bought the property.



### *Lunch at Bayeux*



PM - Visit famous *Tapestry of Bayeux*, listed as a “Memory of the World” sight by UNESCO. Seventy meters long, the embroidery celebrates the conquest of England by William, Duke of Normandy. This linen canvas was made after the Battle of Hastings on October 14, 1066, probably in a monastery in the south of

England. Viking ships, Norman and Saxon cavalries illustrated the exploits of William and his opponen Harold, another pretender to the throne of England.

*Jardins de Castillon*, Plantbessin : A private garden started in 1982 around a nursery and featuring several garden rooms of very different styles as well as a collection of cranesbill geraniums, unusual groundcovers and aromatic plants.



*Jardin des Oubliées*, *Balleroy* : A private garden featuring old varieties of roses which the owner has salvaged from old farms in the region and organized in a series of rooms.

### *Dinner in Honfleur*

## DAY 6

### *D-Day Sights*

Early AM

Meet your private guide at the hotel and visit the primary D-Day sights :

*Sainte Mère Eglise, Utah Beach, Point du Hoc, Omaha Beach, and the American National Cemetery.*



Return to Honfleur

*Farewell Dinner in Honfleur*

## DAY 7

### Fly Home

Early AM - Check out & transfer to airport

