



The French & Italian Riviéras: Exemplary Private Villas, Estates & Gardens

Sponsored by the Institute of Classical Architecture & Art

Organized by Pamela Huntington Darling, Exclusive Cultural Travel Programs

Friday, June 3rd to Sunday, June 12th, 2016: 9 days & 9 nights

& Optional extension: Le Muy to Saint-Tropez

Sunday, June 12th to Wednesday, June 15th, 2016: 3 days & 3 nights



We are pleased to present our exclusive discovery of the **treasures of the French & Italian Riviéras** during which we will be received by distinguished owners and members of the cultural elite for exclusive visits of historic estates, offering a rare opportunity to savor unique architecture, art collections and gardens.

Our Expert lecturers

Caroline Holmes is a garden and architectural historian, author of many reference books, including “*Follies of Europe – architectural extravaganzas*” (2008), “*Monet at Giverny*” (2011), “*Impressionists in their Gardens*” (2012) and “*Water Lilies and Bory Latour-Marliac, the genius behind Monet’s Water Lilies*” (2015). Caroline Holmes lectures at Cambridge University’s Institute of Continuing Education, the NADFAS and the Landmark Trust, and is a regular contributor to BBC television and radio. *Caroline Holmes will accompany us during our main program, June 3rd to 12th.*

Mary-Lynn Riley is a specialist in 19th- and 20th-century modern and contemporary art. She completed her Master of Fine Arts at the Maryland Institute College of Art in Baltimore and worked at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC, before moving to France where she teaches art courses and art appreciation workshops for adults at the *Musée Bonnard* in Le Cannet and the *Espace de l’Art Concret* at Mouans-Sartoux. *Mary-Lynn Riley will accompany us during our extension program, June 12th to 15th.*

Itinerary

We highly recommend arrival in Monte Carlo on Thursday, June 2nd, a day prior to the official program.

Day 1: Friday, June 3rd: Monte Carlo

Participants will arrive separately at the 5-star luxury Hotel Metropole, Monte Carlo, member of the *Leading Hotels of the World*, decorated by the renowned interior designer Jacques Garcia, and will be welcomed by Pamela Huntington Darling.

Afternoon Visit to the Serre de la Madone, one of the most impressive public gardens in Menton, renowned for its landscape design and rare plants. From 1924, Lawrence Johnston, an American born in Paris, traveled the world collecting plants to create his winter garden in Menton. Fountains, pools, classical statuary, a Moorish patio, and orangeries embellish this magnificent garden.



Welcome Dinner at the Yacht Club de Monaco, designed by Sir Norman Foster, the newest landmark and the centerpiece of Monaco’s remodeled harbor front.

Celebrating the principality’s spectacular coastline and its nautical heritage, its series of deck-like terraces step up along the harbor to offer unrivalled views of the renowned Formula 1 Grand Prix races and spectacular view of the sea and the inland.

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Day 2: Saturday, June 4th: Capo Mortola, Italy & Menton, France: Exquisite gardens



Private Morning Visit to Les Colombières Villa & Gardens with the owner Michael Likierman. Perched on the hillside of Menton, with stunning sea views, sits one of the most extravagant villas and gardens of the Riviera, classified a French Historical Monument. Designed and built in the 1920's by Ferdinand Bac, architect, garden designer, decorator and writer, for his friends the Ladan-Bockairys, it is considered Bac's greatest undertaking.

The marvelous park of themed gardens and "follies"—a mosaic of antiquity—is a sensorial inspiration of Greece, Spain and Italy. After our visit, our host will invite us for drinks at their Florentine-style Villa, with admirable frescoes, sculptures, intricate busts and stained glass windows, where galas were held for artists and dignitaries, from F. Scott Fitzgerald to Coco Chanel.

Lunch at the Residence of Carolyn Hanbury & Afternoon Visit to the Hanbury Botanic Gardens

Carolyn Hanbury will welcome us for a convivial lunch at her charming residence on the grounds of the Villa Hanbury and accompany us with our expert lecturer during our exceptional discovery of the gardens, acclaimed as the "*crowning glory of gardens in the region*".



Early Evening Private Visit & Drinks with William Waterfield and Judy Pillsbury at the Clos du Peyronnet, an English Arts and Crafts garden, whose terrace with its great wisteria is much seen in Riviera garden books. The house - an imposing Italianate villa - and garden have been in the same family since 1912.

Dinner at the acclaimed Michelin 2-star restaurant Mirazur, member of the Relais & Châteaux, with dramatic views of Menton and the Mediterranean Sea, a gastronomic delight in distinctive 1930's style décor, with its own culinary garden.

Day 3: Sunday, June 5th: Roquebrune Cap Martin

Private Morning Visit to the Villa l'Aumônerie in Roquebrune Cap Martin with captivating gardens and views of the Riviera, former residence of the American fashion photographer **Henry Clarke**, now the private residence of American interior designer, where American friends of our host will warmly welcome us.

Lunch at the charming Restaurant Les Deux Frères, in the center of the medieval village of Roquebrune Cap Martin, offering delicious fresh fare and glorious views of the Riviera, with our hosts of the Villa l'Aumônerie.

Private Visit to the Gardens of a ravishing private, Belle Epoque villa, an exemplary estate, owned by an American collector and philanthropist. Floating dreamily above Cap-Martin, this neo-Romanesque villa with its stunning gardens with "*follies*", designed in 1904 by the architect Lucien Hesse for Ernesta Stern is classified a French Historic Monument.

Welcome Cocktail at the 5-star luxury Grand Hôtel du Cap-Ferrat A Four Seasons Hotel, embodying the classic glamour and timeless chic of the French Riviera, it is considered the Côte d'Azur's most legendary palace hotel – an icon since opening in 1908.

Day 4: Monday, June 6th: Saint-Jean-Cap-Ferrat

Free morning to enjoy the Grand Hôtel du Cap-Ferrat, discover its splendid 15-acre park with hundreds of varieties of Mediterranean plants, designed by the acclaimed landscape architect Jean Mus, enjoy its Day Spa, or its seaside Olympic-size pool with private cabanas.

Enjoy lunch on the terrace of the Grand-Hotel du Cap-Ferrat with superb views of the gardens and the Mediterranean Sea



Special Afternoon Visit with the Chief Curator & Champagne at Villa Ephrussi de Rothschild

The Chief Curator will lead us on a special visit to this glorious seaside *Palazzo*, built between 1905 and 1912 for Baroness Ephrussi de Rothschild. The Baroness filled the mansion with antique furniture, Old Master paintings, sculptures, objets d'art, and rare porcelain. The Villa is surrounded by nine gardens, classified French "*Jardins Remarquables*", each on a different theme. We will enjoy a *behind-the-scenes* visit followed by Champagne on the terrace.

Private Evening Cocktail Reception at the Villa les Trois Caps with a renowned architect and interior designer, an outstanding contemporary private residence overlooking the Riviera. **Dinner free**

Day 5: Tuesday, June 7th: Contes & Saint-Jean-Cap-Ferrat

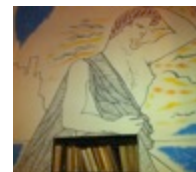
Morning Private Visit & Lunch to be announced.

Afternoon Private Visit at Villa and Botanical Garden "Les Cèdres" in Saint Jean Cap-Ferrat Built in 1830 in the Sardinian style, the Villa was once the property of King Leopold II of Belgium. In 1924 the property was purchased by Alexandre Marnier-Lapostolle, founder of the company Grand Marnier. The estate is still privately owned by the family Marnier-Lapostolle.



Late Afternoon Special Visit with the Chief Curator at the Villa Kerylos and Gardens in Beaulieu-sur-Mer, a luxurious re-creation of an Ancient Greek Villa, built in the early 1900s by French archaeologist Theodore Reinach, entirely furnished and decorated, exemplifying the art of living and refinement of Ancient Greece. The Chief Curator will lead us on a special discovery of this unique site.

Private Cocktail & Dinner at Villa Santo Sospir with the owner, Caroline Weisweiler Jean Cocteau, a friend and regular guest of our hostess' mother, was overcome by the beauty and magic of the Villa Santo Sospir. He sumptuously decorated the Villa with frescoes and paintings, inspired by Greek mythology. Each room is a splendid discovery, and the garden and views of the Mediterranean Sea are exquisite.



Day 6: Wednesday, June 8th: Saint-Paul-de-Vence & Mougins

Morning Private Visit to the Maeght Foundation, welcomed by the Director Considered on par with the leading international museums of modern and contemporary art, created in 1964 by Marguerite and Aimé Maeght, it was the first private foundation in Europe dedicated to modern art, with a collection of the most important 20th century artists, many who created their works in the Foundations ateliers, including monumental sculptures in the exquisite gardens.

Lunch at La Colombe d'Or This renowned "auberge-museum", with a lovely garden and views, is still infused by the presence of the many artists of the Riviera who visited it, housing a fabulous collection of modern paintings and sculptures of artists, including Joan Miro, Georges Braque, Marc Chagall, Alexander Calder, Cesar, Fernand Léger, among others.

Afternoon Visit to the Chapelle du Rosaire in Vence by Henri Matisse, housing murals and stained glass windows, considered by Matisse himself as his "masterpiece", it is one of the greatest religious structures of the 20th century.

Arrival, Welcome Cocktails & Dinner at the 5-star luxury hotel & spa Le Mas Candille, member of the Relais & Châteaux

Day 7: Thursday, June 9th: Excursion to Saint-Honorat Island



Morning Visit to the Abbey de Lérins on the Saint-Honorat Island, a Private Refuge A 15-minute boat ride from Cannes, Saint Honorat Island comprises a Cistercian fortified monastery dating back to the 11th century and an active monastic community founded in the 5th century. Today, the monks cultivate vineyards and produce fine wine and liqueur. Saint Honorat boasts centuries of history, culture, exceptional architecture, and a haven of natural beauty.

Lunch in the gardens of the Monastery's elegant restaurant "La Tonnelle", with marvelous views of the Mediterranean Sea, serving local dishes prepared with fresh produce and fine wines made and elaborated by the monks.

Dinner at the Private Residence of distinguished Art Collectors, in Antibes

Day 8: Friday, June 10th: Grasse

Morning Private Visit & Lunch at the domaine La Mouissone with the owner, Lady Maggie Lockett and her head gardener, Cyril Valhérie, who will welcome us for a special private "perfumer's" visit of the gardens, followed by a convivial lunch. The 'Oliveraie' of La Mouissone is spread over three hectares of the hill slopes. The estate is planted with 250-century-old productive olive trees. A wonderful discovery!



Afternoon Private Visit to the Villa Fort France, classified a French "Jardin Remarquable" with the owners Pierre and Valérie de Courcel. The original owners, Sir John and Lady Winnifred Fortescue, bought the estate in 1935. Lady Fortescue wrote a best-selling account of her struggles to create her garden, *Perfume from Provence*, illustrated by the famous A.A. Milne. The Courcels have added their own skillful touches to create a garden full of color and their impressive artwork.

Afternoon Special Visit to the Fragonard Musée du Parfum, welcomed by the director, and free shopping in Grasse

Dinner at the private residence of a prestigious owner, in Mandelieu-la-Napoule (tbc). This sumptuous Palladian Villa is situated on an idyllic site with 1,600 olive trees dating to 1725.



Day 9: Saturday, June 11th: Grasse, Opio & Mougins

Morning Private Visit to the Domaine Saint Jacques du Couloubrier Garden in Grasse (tbc), a remarkable garden created in 1950 by the internationally renowned landscape architect, Russell Page, at the initiative of Jean Prouvost. This will be a very special visit, indeed!

Lunch at La Bouscarella in Châteauneuf-de-Grasse with the owner Nicole de Chambrun A former olive farm dating from 1844, the estate boasts fifteen themed terraces, with multi-colored varieties of plants and flowers, offering a combination of mineral tones and colors.

Private Visit at the Villa & Artist Studio of acclaimed artist Bruno Romeda, in Opio (tbc)

Bruno Romeda's sculptures, both architectural and geometric, frame his residence and gardens, interacting with the landscape. His works are found in major museums and private collections around the world. We will also admire the works of his partner and renowned artist, the late Robert Courtright.

Farewell Dinner at the Private Residence of distinguished Art Collectors, in Antibes

Day 10: Sunday June 12th: Departure after breakfast

After breakfast we will bid "*Au revoir*" to the guests who will not be joining us for our exceptional extension and look forward to the pleasure of their company during another exclusive cultural travel program in Europe and beyond!

& Optional Extension Le Muy, the Epicenter of Modern & Contemporary Art on the Riviera & Gulf of Saint-Tropez

Sunday, June 12th to Wednesday, June 15th 2016: 3 days & 3 nights

Extension - Day 1: Sunday June 12th: Mougins, Lorgues, Le Thoronet, & Le Muy

Morning Arrival at the 5-star luxury hotel and spa Château de Berne, member of the *Relais & Châteaux*

Private Visit & Lunch at Château de Berne with Bruno Lafourcade, Architect, and his wife Dominique Lafourcade, Landscape Designer, who recreated the marvelous gardens.



Afternoon Visit to the Abbaye Thoronet Nestling in the wooded valleys of the Var countryside, Thoronet, built in the late 12th century, is one of the most noteworthy Cistercian abbeys. The impact of its majestic yet sober architecture, its simplicity yet its monumental size instill calm and tranquility in every visitor.

Evening Private Visit, Cocktails & Dinner at Domaine de Muy, founded in 2014 by the renowned art gallery owner **Jean-Gabriel Mitterrand**, is a sculpture park dedicated to showcasing contemporary artists, whether established or emerging. The Domaine du Muy is nestled at the heart of the idyllic "Bonne Eau" Valley, stretching over hundreds of hectares. Our host will warmly welcome us for a special discovery and convivial evening.

Extension - Day 2: Monday June 13th: Les Arcs-sur-Argens, Vidauban & Le Muy

Morning Private Visit to the Château Sainte Roseline, a remarkable historic estate, one of the award-winning *cru classé* vineyards of the Cotes de Provence, restored by the acclaimed architect Jean-Michel Wilmotte, Member of the French *Académie des Beaux-Arts*

The owners will welcome us for a unique discovery of their estate, built for Pope Jean XXII, including a private visit to their residence in the 12th century abbey to discover their outstanding art collection, followed by a wine tasting at the prestigious winery, also restored by Wilmotte, marrying ancient and contemporary architecture to perfection. Before leaving, we will discover the *Chapelle Sainte Roseline*, a pilgrimage site dating to the 11th century, recently restored and celebrated for its artwork by Chagall, Giacometti, Bazaine, and Ubac.



Private Lunch at historic and admirable Château d'Astros, with the owners Bernard and Bruno Maurel (tbc)



Our hosts will warmly welcome us for a convivial lunch at the *Château d'Astros*, evoking the elegance of Tuscan residences. Their immense property, including a stunning ancient aqueduct, comprises two historic edifices in different architectural style. On the other side of the property stands the *Vieux Château d'Astros*, built in the 12th century. This will make for a wonderful discovery!



Evening Private Visit & Buffet Dinner at the Venet Foundation, with Bernar and Diane Venet French Conceptual Artist Bernar Venet launched his Foundation in 2014. The Foundation includes a sculpture park and galleries housing the artist's creations, as well as emblematic works from his personal 100-piece collection of conceptual and minimal art by 80 artists, including Roy Lichtenstein, Man Ray, Marcel Duchamp, Richard Serra, Andy Warhol, Richard Prince, Jeff Koons, Damien Hirst.

Extension - Day 3: Tuesday June 14th: Cogolin, Gassin & Gulf of Saint-Tropez

Morning Private Visit to the Cogolin Manufacture, a high-end hand-woven rug manufacturer founded in 1924. The Director Sarah Henry, American born, will welcome us and lead us on our visit.



Private Visit, Wine Tasting & Lunch at Château Minuty, Gassin one of the top estates in the region We will be welcomed by the owners, the Matton-Farnet, for a private visit, wine tasting and lunch at this remarkable Château, on the hills of Saint-Tropez, with vineyards overlooking the Mediterranean Sea, and a splendid, ultra-modern winery, with admirable architecture. Even for those who aren't wine lovers, this is a unique experience.

Afternoon Visit with the owners at their Private Residence with a stunning overlooking the Gulf of Saint-Tropez

Farewell Dinner at Château de Berne's "Table du Chef", for a special dinner behind the scenes, in the gastronomic restaurant, l'Orangerie, with refined décor, designed in the tradition of an 18th-century greenhouse, and a superb terrace, with marvelous cuisine and fresh flavors of the South of France.

Extension - Day 4: Wednesday June 15th: Departure after breakfast

After breakfast we bid our guests "*Au revoir*" in the hope that you will join us for another unique discovery in Europe and beyond!

Accommodations

MONTE-CARLO: June 3rd to 5th (2 nights)

Hotel Metropole, a 5-star luxury hotel and spa, member of the *Leading Hotels of the World*, decorated by internationally renowned interior designer Jacques Garcia. The hotel is a haven of contemporary style seamlessly blended with touches of timeless luxury; www.metropole.com



SAINT-JEAN-CAP-FERRAT: June 5th to 8th (3 nights)

Grand Hôtel du Cap-Ferrat, a *Four Seasons* 5-star luxury hotel and spa, with stunning views of the Mediterranean Sea. www.fourseasons.com/capferrat

Included in the Tour Price: Superior Room with Pinewood View

Possible upgrade: Superior Room with Sea View: additional cost (negotiated rate): 340 €/ night x 3 nights: 1,020 € (\$ 1,150)



MOUGINS: June 8th to 12th (4 nights)

Le Mas Candille, a 5-star luxury hotel and spa, member of the *Relais & Châteaux*. Set in a 9-acre park, Le Mas Candille is a provençal style luxury hotel offering high-end guestrooms and suites, two restaurants including a Michelin starred gastronomic restaurant, the Shiseido Spa, and three swimming pools. <http://www.lemascandille.co.uk/>



LORGUES Optional extension: Le Muy to Saint-Tropez: June 12th to 15th (3 nights)

Château de Berne, a 5-star luxury hotel and spa, member of the *Relais & Châteaux*. Château de Berne, a 1,500-acre private estate, is situated in the unspoiled provençal countryside, dating back to the 18th century. <http://www.chateauberne.com>



Tour Price:

- **The French & Italian Rivas: Exemplary Private Villas, Estates & Gardens: June 3rd to 12th, 2016**
\$10,500 per person double occupancy; \$12,500 single occupancy;
+ a fully tax-deductible \$500 contribution to the Institute's Annual Fund.
The tour price is based on 15 participants (maximum 20)
- **Optional extension: Le Muy to Saint-Tropez: June 12th to 15th, 2016**
\$3,750 per person double occupancy; \$4,450 single occupancy
The tour price is based on 10 participants (maximum 15)

To assure availability, please register now. Registration deadline: March 1st, 2016

Tour Price Includes:

The French & Italian Riviera: Exemplary Private Villas, Estates & Gardens: June 3rd to 12th, 2016

9 days of private visits and receptions;
9 nights of lodging accommodations as listed above;
all breakfasts;
6 lunches;
5 dinners;
transportation to and from events;
expert lecturers and accompanists.

Optional extension: Le Muy to Saint-Tropez: June 12th to 15th, 2016

3 days of private visits and receptions;
3 nights of lodging accommodations as listed above;
all breakfasts;
3 lunches;
3 dinners;
transportation to and from events;
expert lecturers and accompanists.

In view of the exceptional nature of our program and the private residences where we will be welcomed by their distinguished owners, if for an unforeseen reason a host is obliged to cancel, we will replace the venue by another of equivalent quality, in which case, participants will be notified.

For more information and to reserve:

Please email Pamela Huntington Darling: pdarling@exclusiveculturaltours.com
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