



Belgium and the Rhine Valley: Tradition and Innovation in Art & Garden Design 2023

7 JUN – 27 JUN 2023

Code: 22320

Tour Leaders **Sandra McMahon, Diane Perelsztejn**

Physical Ratings 

View private gardens by leading Flemish landscape designers including Jacques Wirtz & Chris Ghyselen, Hermannshof directed by Cassian Schmidt, and cruise the UNESCO-listed Rhine Gorge.

Overview

Led by horticulturalist and landscape designer [Sandra McMahon](#), and native French and Flemish speaker, [Diane Perelsztejn](#), this tour is a feast of splendid classic and contemporary private gardens, great museums and natural landscapes of Belgium and the Rhine Valley.

- View the work of leading Flemish landscape architects including [Erik Dhont](#) and [Piet Blanckaert](#); and meet [Chris Ghyselen](#), known for his use of fine grasses and perennials, who will show us a number of his projects including his own garden.
- Explore the private garden of [Jacques Wirtz](#) featured in Monty Don's *Around the World in 80 Gardens*.
- Visit the 10-hectare garden of Sybille de Spoelberch. Formerly the kitchen garden of Château de Wespelaar, it was partly redesigned by Jacques Wirtz.
- Explore Morishof, the private garden of [Marc Moris](#), which includes a vegetable garden, a meadow, natural swimming pool and a flower garden.
- Visit the Domain Hemelrijk, the former home of Robert and Jelena de Belder who designed their private garden with their close friend, Russell Page.
- Explore classic Dutch country gardens including Tielens and Tielens and De Jorissenhoeve owned by garden designer Ineke Lambregts.
- Visit the gardens of the 14th-century Kasteel van Oostkerke, restored with the aid of Mien Ruys.
- View the abundant rose collections in the traditional 'kasteel' gardens of Hex.
- View great Gothic churches, town halls and merchant palaces in Brussels, Bruges, Ghent and Antwerp.
- In Antwerp, Brussels and Bruges visit world-class art collections; we view works by Peter Paul Rubens, Jan van Eyck, Rogier van der Weyden, Hans Memling, Frans Hals, Peter Bruegel, Jan Brueghel the Elder, Anthony van Dyck and René Magritte.
- Explore the Art Deco home of David and Alice van Buuren; the house and studio of Art Nouveau Architect, Victor Horta; and the house and studio of Rubens with a garden inspired by his painting *The Walk in the Garden*.
- Visit Hermannshof one of the finest and most exciting modern gardens in Europe; and [HORTVS](#) with Peter Janke, a rising star in German landscape design.
- Spend two nights in the charming medieval town of Durbuy; walk through the Forest of the Ardennes, and view ancient dolmens and menhirs in the neighbouring village of Wéris.
- Take a cruise from Koblenz to Rudesheim am Rhein; this UNESCO World Heritage listed stretch of the Upper Middle Rhine Valley is dotted with castles, historic towns and vineyards.
- Dine at the 2-star Michelin [Le Chalet de la Forêt](#) and enjoy an aperitif in their vegetable garden designed by Erik Dhont.
- Enjoy a farewell meal at the 17th-century Schloss Vollrads, in the heart of the Rheingau wine region.

Overnight Antwerp (5 nights) • Bruges (3 nights) • Ghent (2 nights) • Brussels (3 nights) • Durbuy (2 nights) • Maastricht (1 night) • Andernach (2 nights) • Oestrich Winkel (2 nights)

Leaders



Sandra McMahon

Horticulturalist, landscape designer and lecturer at the Burnley Horticultural Campus, University of Melbourne. Sandra, who also holds a BA degree majoring in French and German, brings her profound knowledge to ASA garden tours in Belgium, Germany, the UK and Australia.

Sandra graduated with a BA from the University of Melbourne, majoring in and French and German language and literature. She taught both languages for a number of years, and travelled extensively, living in Germany in the late seventies. She is a fluent speaker of German and has a deep interest in German history and culture.

In 1998 she graduated from Burnley Horticultural College. Since then she has operated her own successful and rapidly expanding landscape design business out of Melbourne. She designs in a variety of styles, but a constant theme in all her work is the use of plant material for structure. She has a very broad plant knowledge. Her work has been featured regularly in the print media and on television, and her gardens have been open to the public through various open garden schemes, and in the biennial *Garden Designfest* since its inception.

Sandra lectures in landscape design and plant selection at the Burnley Horticultural Campus of the University of Melbourne, and is currently President of the Friends of Burnley Gardens. She also runs a landscape studio called 'Gardenscape Design' which was established in 1998. Her designs may be viewed at www.gardenscapedesign.com.au



Diane Perelsztejn

Educated in Brussels, Diane is a native French and Flemish speaker. A multi award-winning independent film-maker, she has travelled extensively throughout Europe, Asia and the US to produce documentaries about history, art and music.

Raised in Brussels, Diane, a native French and Flemish speaker, migrated to Melbourne in 1996. She is a multi award-winning independent documentary film-maker, having graduated in 1981 from the Institut des Arts de Diffusion, in Louvain-La-Neuve, Belgium. Diane has been fortunate to travel extensively throughout

Europe, Asia and the US to produce her documentaries about history, art and music. Her films have been widely broadcast and distributed around the world. Her documentary *Kathleen Ferrier* (2012), on the British contralto singer, narrated by Charlotte Rampling, has been released worldwide on Decca. Her latest documentary *The Paper Brigade* (2019) tells the moving story of how a small band of Jewish poets and writers saved priceless collections of books and manuscripts from destruction during the Nazi occupation of Lithuania, and then again during the Sovietisation of the Baltic states.

Diane also pursues a passion for singing. She graduated in 1994 in classical singing from Académie de Musique in Anderlecht, Belgium, and has taught French for singing and French opera at the Victorian College of the Arts, University of Melbourne. Diane has been working with ASA since 2013 and is taking tours throughout Europe.

Combine this tour with

Heritage Cities of the Baltic: Vilnius, Kaunas, Riga, Tartu & Tallinn 2023
27 JUN – 11 JUL 2023

Natural Landscapes & Gardens of Madeira & the Azores 2023
20 MAY – 7 JUN 2023



Itinerary

The following itinerary describes a range of gardens which we plan to visit. Several are accessible to the public, but many require special permission which may only be confirmed closer to the tour's departure. The daily activities described in this itinerary may change or be rotated and/or modified in order to accommodate alterations in opening hours, flight schedules and confirmation of private visits. Participants will receive a final itinerary together with their tour documents prior to departure. The tour includes breakfast daily, lunches & dinners indicated in the detailed itinerary where: B=breakfast, L=lunch and D=dinner.

Antwerp - 5 nights

Day 1: Wednesday 7 June, Arrive Antwerp

- Tour commences at 5pm in the foyer of the Hotel 't Sandt
- Welcome Meeting
- Short Orientation Tour

Meeting Point: Tour commences at 5pm in the foyer of the [Hotel 't Sandt](#) located in the historic centre of Antwerp. We commence the tour with a short welcome meeting followed by a short orientation walk within the vicinity of our hotel. (Overnight Antwerp)

Day 2: Thursday 8 June, Antwerp – Berlaar-Gestel – Lier – Haacht – Antwerp

- 'Morishof': private garden of [Marc Moris](#), Berlaar-Gestel
- 't-Kranske': City garden renovated by Marc Moris, Lier
- [Arboretum Wespelaar](#), Haacht
- The Potager, private garden of Sybille de Spoelberch, Haacht
- Welcome Dinner at the Sir Anthony Van Dijck Restaurant

Flanders was once the leading horticultural nation in Europe. Sixteenth century Antwerp was a centre of the study of botany. In the 18th and 19th centuries dozens of fruit varieties were created and the rarest plants grown and improved. In recent years a remarkable revival of gardening has created beautiful new gardens.

Today we encounter two of Belgium's leading landscape designers, Marc Moris and Jacques Wirtz. Marc designs simple, mature, 'timeless' gardens. His nursery cultivates naturally developing trees and large shrubs which are up to 100 years old. This morning we visit 'Morishof', Marc's private 3 hectare garden which includes a vegetable garden, a meadow, natural swimming pool and a flower garden.

We next visit 't-Kranske, a monastic complex restored by Marc Moris. As part of his renovation, Marc cleared its courtyard to develop a 6000 metre² city garden. The original convent's chapel was also restored. We shall tour the gardens and visit the flower shop of resident artist Raf Verwimp.

This afternoon we visit the Arboretum Wespelaar, in Haacht. Philippe de Spoelberch's house is surrounded by 9 hectares of botanic gardens. An extension to the garden has become the Arboretum Wespelaar, with 2,000 different species and cultivated varieties in the the 20-hectare grounds. The main focus is on trees and shrubs, with many varieties of oaks, maples, magnolias and rhododendrons.

Adjacent to the Arboretum is The Potager, previous kitchen garden of Château de Wespelaar. By special invitation, we visit this 10 hectares private garden of Sybille de Spoelberch. In 1983, the old kitchen garden was partly re-designed by the famous Belgian landscape architect Jacques Wirtz. Hedges of *Carpinus*, *Taxus* and *Buxus* provide structure. Lemon trees in pots decorate both sides of a path and walls are covered with *Ceanothus*, roses and other climbing plants. The site has an Italianate water garden, a Japanese garden and contemporary garden of blue stone rocks. The garden has many perennials, a collection of old roses and choice shrubs, with antique garden ornaments and Baroque decorations. A new woodland garden under the canopy of oak trees holds a collection of remarkable trees and shrubs.

Tonight we enjoy a welcome dinner at the Sir Anthony Van Dijck Restaurant located in the medieval quarter of Antwerp. (Overnight Antwerp) BD

Day 3: Friday 9 June, Antwerp – Schoten – Essen – Antwerp

- Private garden of [Jacques Wirtz](#), Schoten – featured in Monty Don's *Around the World in 80 Gardens*
- Private garden designed by Jacques Wirtz
- Domain Hemelrijk, Essen
- Museum aan de Stroom (exterior only) and Antwerp's historic port

This morning we visit the private garden of the late Jacques Wirtz, the world-renowned Belgian landscape architect who, in his innovative gardens, enhanced his sculptural treatment of boxwood and yew hedges by drawing on his deep knowledge of plants and flowers. Jacques' son, Martin, who is now CEO of Wirtz International, has kindly agreed to show us the family's private garden. Nearby we visit another private garden designed by his father.

We next visit Essen, located just south of the Netherlands border. After lunch at Restaurant Kiekenhoeve we visit the private arboretum and gardens of the De Belder family's Hemelrijk. These private gardens were designed by Jelena and Robert De Belder and the internationally renowned garden designer Russell Page.

On our way back to Antwerp we view the impressive exterior of Museum aan de Stroom (MAS) an extraordinary ultramodern tower, composed of great blocks separated by undulating glass walls. It was

designed by the acclaimed Rotterdam firm Neutelings-Riedijk Architecten. Across from the MAS is Antwerp's new Port House designed by Zaha Hadid Architects, and the Red Star Line Museum designed by New York architects Beyer Blinder Belle. A short visit to the rooftop of the MAS provides panoramic views of the city and its historic port. (Overnight Antwerp) BL

Day 4: Saturday 10 June, Antwerp

- Plantin-Moretus Museum
- Onze-Lieve-Vrouwekathedraal (Cathedral of Our Lady)
- The Royal Museum of Fine Arts Antwerp (KMSKA)

This morning we visit the renovated Plantin-Moretus Museum, a stately town house with period rooms that chronicles 300 years of the process of printing. French printer Christopher Plantin established his famous printing and publishing house in Antwerp in 1555. His successors, the Moretus family, maintained the Officina Plantiniana until the 19th century. The museum displays typographic material, a library, paintings including a Rubens and an impressive graphic collection. It also owns the world's oldest extant printing press (c.1600). The Print Room holds prints and drawings by Antwerp masters from the 16th century to the present including botanical and medicinal works. We spend time in the museum's enclosed garden, an oasis planted according to the 16th-century style. It is the only museum in the world to be UNESCO World Heritage listed.

We also visit the Cathedral of Our Lady. Four of Rubens' most important paintings, including the *Raising of the Cross* and his *Descent from the Cross*, embellish this vast seven-nave UNESCO-listed Gothic cathedral.

In the afternoon we visit recently reopened KMSKA, whose collection of paintings, sculptures and drawings includes work by Jan van Eyck, Rogier van der Weyden, Hans Memling, Frans Hals, Jan Brueghel the Elder, Peter Paul Rubens, and Anthony van Dyck. (Overnight Antwerp) B

Day 5: Sunday 11 June, Antwerp – Hoeven – Schijf – Westerlo – Antwerp

- Tielens and Tielens, Hoeven
- De Jorissenhoeve, Schijf
- Sprookjeshagen, Westerlo

This morning we visit two private Dutch gardens. We first visit the garden of Albert Tielens in Hoeven. A 50-metre long swimming pond is lined with sumptuous mixed borders. Avenues of pear, lime and maple trees divide peaceful lawns, and to the garden's rear is a *vliedberg* – an artificial hill surrounded by a canal. Such man-made hills were climbed to escape rising flood waters.

We next visit De Jorissenhoeve, an historic 19th century farmhouse owned by garden designer Ineke Lambregts. His garden 'flows' between verdant 'rooms': a stunning flower court with scented roses, a herb garden, a heritage vegetable garden, water features, a woodland garden, and a pasture where Lakenvelder cows graze.

We return to West Flanders to visit Sprookjeshagen, *Fairytales Hedges*, in Flemish. In the garden, hand-cut lace-like beech hedges contrast with plantings. Small Mediterranean plants such as thyme, savory, lemon balm, poppy and Alchemilla, are growing between cobblestones, creating a southern atmosphere. (Overnight Antwerp) BL

Bruges - 3 nights

Day 6: Monday 12 June, Antwerp – Damme – Bruges

- Kasteel van Oostkerke, Damme
- Medieval village of Damme
- Bonemhoeve, Damme

Today we drive to Damme and visit Oostkerke Castle. Allison Campbell-Roebling and her husband Baron Joseph Van Der Elst restored ruined Oostkerke Castle, aided by the great Dutch landscape architect Mien Ruys. The result is an idyllic combination of intimate spaces and grandiose avenues. Separate gardens include a private courtyard, a Maria garden and a rose garden. Footpaths run along the foundations of the old ramparts, and the ancient moats have been excavated and planted.

After our visit, there will be time at leisure for lunch and to explore the picturesque medieval village of Damme, its magnificent Gothic Town Hall, impressive Church of Our Lady, and canals lined with poplars.

Then we visit Bonemhoeve. The history of the farm Bonem goes back to the 13th century. Bonemhoeve is located on a mound completely surrounded by water. In 2005 the restoration of the farm, the garden and the surrounding landscape (16 ha) started. Landscape designer Erik Dhont implemented an innovative contemporary vision with respect for the intimacy and history of the farm and the surrounding polder. Since 2012, renovation works have been overseen by the head gardener Gijsbert Smid with whom we visit the farm today. Pools and a pond have been constructed, there is an orchard, a vegetable garden, hay meadows with grassy paths and old roses.

We continue to UNESCO World Heritage listed Bruges, one of a few canal-based northern cities. (Overnight Bruges) B

Day 7: Tuesday 13 June, Bruges – Meulebeke – Bruges

- Private garden designed by landscape architect Piet Blanckaert, Meulebeke
- Onze-Lieve-Vrouwekerk (Church of our Lady), Bruges
- Groeninge Museum, Bruges
- Canal Cruise of Bruges

In the morning, we visit a private garden designed by internationally acclaimed landscape architect Piet Blanckaert. His recent projects include the Flanders Fields Memorial Garden, London.

This afternoon we take a walking tour of Bruges. We first visit the Church of Our Lady, a treasure house of art such as the gilt-bronze tombs of Charles the Bold, last Valois Duke of Burgundy, and his daughter, Mary. The most celebrated treasure of the church is, however, Michelangelo's *Bruges Madonna* (1504).

We shall visit the famous Groeninge Museum with its excellent collection of Flemish masters. A highlight of this museum is Jan Van Eyck's stunning *Madonna with Canon van der Paele* (1436), one of the most important works of the Northern Renaissance.

Until around 1600, Bruges was an important Hanseatic League port city. Canals were dug to facilitate the passage of exports to its harbour at Damme. We conclude the afternoon with a short canal cruise. This evening we dine together at a local restaurant. (Overnight Bruges) BD

Day 8: Wednesday 14 June, Bruges – Zedelgem – Oedelem – Beernem – Bruges

- Private garden designed by André and Wim Van Wassenhove, Zedelgem
- Private garden of landscape designer, [Chris Ghyselen](#), Oedelem
- 'Boereweg' in Beernem: Chris Ghyselen's first garden design

This morning we visit a private garden designed by well-known landscape architect the late André Van Wassenhove, accompanied by his son Wim Van Wassenhove and garden designer Chris Ghyselen. In the rural municipality of Beernem Chris will show us his own private garden with playful hedges, water features, and a double border of high and small perennials. There is also a swimming pond and a flower meadow.

In the afternoon we visit 'Boereweg', Chris's first design project. Chris developed an original farmyard and garden using low hedges to preserve the open character of the farmland. The house has two terraces: one with a pond, the other with a view of a perennial 'room'. Other garden 'rooms' contain an orchard, a nut garden with vegetables and cut flowers, and a meadow with pollarded willows. (Overnight Bruges) BL

Ghent - 2 nights

Day 9: Thursday 15 June, Bruges – Tiegem – Deinze – Ghent

- Private garden designed by Paul Deroose and Erik Dewaele, Tiegem
- [Ooidonk Castle](#), Deinze
- Orientation walk, Ghent
- Time at leisure

Today we travel to Ghent via Tiegem and Deinze. In the morning, we visit a private garden consisting of two parts. The first part was designed in 1986 by Belgian landscape architect [Paul Deroose](#), framed by hedges of hornbeam trees. Rare botanical trees and shrubs were planted on both sides of the garden.

One descends in steps along a number of ponds, fed by many springs, to the second, lower garden, which was designed by Belgian landscape architect Erik De Waele in 1999. At its centre are pillars of yew, reminding of 'Stonehenge' and surrounded by ponds and massifs of camellias, rhododendrons, magnolias, and roses.

Today we travel to Ghent via Ooidonk Castle which stands on a bend of the River Leie. We make a private visit to this medieval fortress, rebuilt in 1595. One of Belgium's finest castles, it is a unique example of Hispano-Flemish Renaissance architecture. Its salons are filled with original paintings, engravings and antiques.

The castle is surrounded by gardens landscaped in the French style. Roses adorn its garden beds, supplemented by orange trees. Red beech and age-old oaks are planted together in groups of five. A bridge leads to a formal English park, laid out around a 19th-century pavilion.

After lunch at leisure, we take an orientation walk through the cobbled streets of Ghent. The Medieval and Renaissance trading city of Ghent was the stronghold of the counts of Flanders. This city was established among numerous islands between the Lieve, Leie and Scheldt rivers and is therefore traversed by picturesque canals. The remain of the day is at leisure. (Overnight Ghent) B

Day 10: Friday 16 June, Ghent – Hooglede – Ename – Ghent

- Private garden designed by landscape architect [Piet Blanckaert](#), Hooglede
- Huis Beaucarne and garden, Ename, with Julien Fornari and Lena Vastesaeger

- Cathedral of St Bavo, Ghent

This morning we are travelling to Hooglede to visit another garden designed by Piet Blanckaert.

Then we travel to the village of Ename, south of Ghent. Huis Beaucarne has been inhabited by the same family, for more than 250 years. Some of its members had important roles within Belgian history. During the French domination, a member of the Beaucarne family served as deputy prefect to Napoleon. The Beaucarne's also participated in the unification of Belgium in 1831. Mid-20th century burgomaster Louis Beaucarne died without direct descendants and so the domain passed on to his nephew Louis Fredericq, Private Secretary to Leopold III, in 1945. A few years ago, his descendants, Julien Fornari and his partner Lena Vastesaegeer, took on the task to restore the family home and its historical gardens. The first garden was designed in the 18th century and took its inspiration from the local tradition of 17th-century French geometric gardens. Later-on, in the 19th century, under influence of English Romanticism, winding paths and mixed borders were added. In the 19th century, the garden was considered as one of the most extraordinary gardens in Flanders. The Beaucarne family were passionate plant collectors. Some of the old plantings brought back from long distant journeys to Asia and the Americas still remain in the gardens today. A genus of flowering plants native to Mexico and Central America, *Beaucarnea*, was named after the Beaucarne family. In the second half of the 20th century, a flower-garden was added to the domain, designed by the renowned Belgian landscape architects Brigitte de Villenfagne and her son Michaël de Villegas.

This afternoon we view the huge 24-panel altarpiece, the *Adoration of the Mystic Lamb* in Ghent's Cathedral of St Bavo. Begun by Hubert van Eyck (c.1390-1426) and completed after his death by Jan van Eyck in 1432, it is the greatest painting of the Northern Renaissance. St Bavo's other treasures include Rubens's *Conversion of St Bavo* (1623). (Overnight Ghent) BL

Brussels - 3 nights

Day 11: Saturday 17 June, Ghent – Lasne – Brussels

- Private garden designed by Erik Dhont, Lasne
- [Parc Reine Verte](#) by Erik Dhont, Schaarbeek
- Brussels: Orientation Walk
- Symfonieorkest Vlaanderen Concert, Bozar

Erik Dhont is an internationally renowned landscape architect known for his historic garden design. His prolific work includes private and public gardens, urban developments, farms and restoration work. He has created a number of spectacular private gardens throughout Belgium and Europe. His numerous large-scale projects including the gardens designed for the Musée Picasso in Paris (2014) and a 55-acre park for fashion designer Dries Van Noten.

Erik Dhont accompanies us today to a very large private property south of Brussels. Among its many features are a rose promenade, camellia promenade, Japanese garden, vegetable garden and aster garden.

After lunch we head for Brussels, where Erik will show us one of his social and urban development projects. The Parc Reine Verte was once a derelict site in a low-income neighbourhood. Dhont designed the site with architect Philippe Serck. It includes an orangerie and terraced retaining walls, newly planted trees that provide a translucent view through the park and a dense and colourful understorey of shrubs such as hazelnuts, lilacs, and rhododendrons.

We spend three nights based in a charming boutique hotel in the historic centre of Brussels. On arrival there will be an optional short orientation walk to Brussels' Grand Place.

Tonight, we assist to a concert performed in the Henry Leboeuf Hall at Bozar (Palais des Beaux-Arts de Bruxelles), designed in an Art Deco style by Victor Horta. The program includes pieces by Smetana, Bartok and Brahms performed by the Symfonieorkest Vlaanderen under the direction of Josef Špaňek. The violin soloist is Jiří Rožeň. (Overnight Brussels) B

Day 12: Sunday 18 June, Brussels

- Musée Victor Horta
- The Royal Museums of Fine Arts of Belgium: Musée Magritte
- Time at leisure

Brussels was the cradle of Art Nouveau. Victor Horta, who developed the style, inspired architects like Hector Guimard, France's most important Art Nouveau architect, who applied Horta's whiplash design in his work for the Paris Métro.

Today, we first visit the Musée Victor Horta, located in Horta's private house and studio (1898 – 1901). Both have utterly exquisite, finely detailed interior decoration that has largely been retained, with the mosaics, stained glass, and wall decorations forming a harmonious and elegant whole.

We next explore the museum dedicated to Brussels' most famous modern artist, the Surrealist painter René Magritte. The Musée René Magritte, displaying some 200 original paintings, drawing and sculptures, is the world's largest collection of his work.

The remainder of the day is at leisure. You may wish to continue exploring Brussels' Royal art collections. Artists represented include Northern Renaissance artists Rogier van der Weyden, Hans Memling, Hieronymus Bosch, Lucas Cranach, and Pieter Brueghel the Elder, whose *Fall of the Rebel Angels* and *The Census at Bethlehem* are highlights. Later artists include Rubens, Anthony van Dyck, Rembrandt, Claude and Tiepolo. (Overnight Brussels) B

Day 13: Monday 19 June, Brussels

- Arboretum Kreftenbroek Foundation
- Chalet de la Forêt: Lunch & [vegetable garden designed by Erik Dhont](#)
- Musée David et Alice van Buuren: House and garden

We begin this morning with a visit to the Arboretum Kreftenbroek. Etienne and Rose-Marie Van Campenhout transformed an old farm and adjacent land into a magnificent series of gardens. The 'natural garden' focuses on a small pond. The classical garden behind the house features a canopied alley of apple trees linking two large Louis XVI urns. Intimate green 'rooms', an alternating serpentine pond and an elegant staircase then lead to the 'Valley Garden' designed by Jacques Wirtz.

We eat lunch at the 2-star Michelin restaurant, Chalet de la Forêt, located at the edge of the Sonian Forest of European beeches and oaks. With Erik Dhont, we take an aperitif in the structured vegetable garden that he designed for chef Pascal Devalkeneer. It features local varieties such as Mirabelle plum and apple trees.

We end with a visit to the extraordinary house of the banker and art patron David van Buuren. Its interior decoration presents a feast of Art Deco by Belgian, French and Dutch designers. He and his wife Alice

Piette collected rare furniture, carpets, stained-glass windows, sculptures and masterpieces of painting from the 15th to the 19th century. The collection includes two Brueghels and works by Fantin-Latour, Ensor, van Gogh, Signac and Max Ernst. Its gardens were initially designed by Jules Buysens, proponent of the Belgian Picturesque Garden movement. His geometrical 'Picturesque Garden' reflected the Art Deco style of the house. It includes a wild garden, water and bog gardens, a rock garden, a walled garden, a fernery and herbaceous border. In 1969 the Brussels designer, René Pechère, added the 'Garden of the Heart' and the 'Labyrinth'. (Overnight Brussels) BL

Durbuy - 2 nights

Day 14: Tuesday 20 June, Brussels – Wépion – Dinant – Durbuy

- Le Sous-Bois, Wépion
- Gardens of Annevoie
- The provincial town of Dinant

We spend the day in the Meuse Valley visiting a private garden, the garden of a beautiful château and the lovely provincial town of Dinant.

Outside Wépion we visit Le Sous-Bois, a private garden designed by owners Philippe Taminiaux and Karine Fonsny. It includes an English garden and over 100 varieties of climbing roses and affords sweeping views of the Meuse Valley. It includes expanses of shade-loving plantings and long, lushly planted mixed borders that lead the visitor deep into the garden. These borders mingle perennials with shrub roses and a huge variety of other colourful shrubs.

Our second visit is to the Jardins d'Annevoie in the Haute-Meuse, a region of forests and rivers. Annevoie's gardens combine the splendour and majesty of the French formal style with English romantic whimsy and Italian refinement. These 250-year-old water gardens comprise cascades and fountains, majestic hundred-year old trees, trimmed hornbeam lanes and false grottoes.

From Annevoie we journey to the pretty, historic riverside town of Dinant, home of Adolphe Sax (inventor of the saxophone) and Renaissance landscape painter Joachim Patinir. There is time at leisure to explore the village, to visit the Collegiate Church of Our Lady and the Citadel, to walk across the Charles de Gaulle Bridge with its giant saxophone sculptures, or to visit the Adolphe Sax House Museum.

From Dinant we travel east into the province of Luxembourg, the southernmost province of Wallonia. About 80% of this sparsely populated province is covered by the densely wooded Forest of Ardennes. (Overnight Durbuy) BLD

Day 15: Wednesday 21 June, Durbuy – Wéris – Durbuy

- Nature walk to view the Wéris megaliths (6kms, 2.5hrs)
- The Maison des Mégalithes, Wéris
- Afternoon at leisure

Durbuy, on the banks of the Ourthe River, is one of Wallonia's most charming medieval towns. It has tiny cobbled streets, timber-frame houses and a castle. It provides an excellent base from which to explore the Ardennes, a mountainous region of extensive forests, rich in fauna and flora, with steep-sided valleys, swift-flowing rivers, and picturesque villages and castles.

We enjoy a guided six-kilometre walk to the village of Wéris, well known for its half-timbered houses of limestone or sandstone, and its megaliths, including dolmens (chambered tombs) and menhirs (standing stones) which date from 3,000 BC. We shall visit the Maison des Mégalithes which traces the history of the region's megalithic sites.

This afternoon is at leisure for you to explore Durbuy. (Overnight Durbuy) B

Maastricht - 1 night

Day 16: Thursday 22 June, Durbuy – Heers – Hasselt – Maastricht

- Kasteel van Heks (Hex Castle) and lunch, Heers
- Private garden of [Alain Dor](#), Hasselt

This morning we visit Hex Castle to view its world-famous rose collection. The 18th century castle was originally a hunting pavilion surrounded by formal gardens including a rose garden, a Chinese garden, and a vegetable garden. A landscape park inspired by Capability Brown was added later. The original formal Renaissance garden includes a Nut Garden and a walled vegetable garden. Its celebrated rose garden contains an exceptional assortment of about 250 varieties. We enjoy lunch in the castle, guests of the Count and Countess d'Ursel.

Then we continue north to the private garden of landscape designer Alain Dor, in Hasselt. Started in the 1990s, around his parents' house, the garden is a succession of rooms of greenery over an area of 2 ha. The plant structures are brightened up with roses and perennials planted to create a natural look. The swimming pool originally built behind the house has been transformed into a greenhouse with a pond and welcomes fragile plants in winter.

In the late afternoon we drive to Maastricht, located on the River Meuse in the Southern Netherlands (Overnight Maastricht) BL

Andernach - 2 nights

Day 17: Friday 23 June, Maastricht – Neusse – Hilden – Andernach

- Museum Insel Hombroich, Neusse
- HORTVS Peter Janke Gartenkonzepte, Hilden

This morning we visit the Museum Insel Hombroich. Art and nature unite in perfect harmony at this beautifully designed private modern art museum set within a large nature park. Landscape designer Bernhard Korte created an arcadian landscape of meadows punctuated by remnant trees and overgrown box plants. The Museum's valuable art collection includes Persian sculptures, Khmer art and Chinese figures dating back to the Han period and works of Franz Arp, Constantin Brancusi, Alexander Calder, Gustav Klimt, Henri Matisse and Kurt Schwitters.

We next drive north to visit HORTVS, the garden and nursery of Peter Janke, a rising star in German landscape design. We visit the garden with Peter Janke, a true plant collector with an excellent design eye. His garden, which contains over 4,000 plant varieties, exudes a very strong sense of structure and rhythm, yet it is in no way a 'formal' planting.

In the late afternoon we drive to the beautiful small town of Andernach located near the UNESCO heritage-listed Middle Rhine. (Overnight Andernach) BLD

Day 18: Saturday 24 June, Andernach – Eltz – Braubach – Andernach

- Eltz Castle
- Medieval town of Braubach
- Marksburg Castle, Braubach
- Time at leisure

This morning we drive through the forest to medieval Eltz Castle, nestled in the hills above the Moselle River. It is still owned by the Eltz family who have lived here since the 12th century. Many of its original furnishings still remain *in situ*. The castle sits on a 70-metre rock spur surrounded on three sides by the Eltzbach River. To reach Eltz Castle, we take a short walk through the Eltz Forest. Victor Hugo wrote enthusiastically about the castle and J.W.M. Turner regularly visited and painted it from many different angles.

We next drive to the beautiful small city of Braubach that nestles below its grand castle. You will have lunchtime at leisure to explore its picturesque streets lined with half-timbered old houses before we drive up to Marksburg Castle on a dramatic high spur above the town. We shall take a guided tour of the castle before returning to Andernach for the night. (Overnight Andernach) B

Oestrich-Winkel - 2 nights

Day 19: Sunday 25 June, Andernach – Rudesheim am Rhein – Oestrich-Winkel – Eltville am Rhein – Oestrich-Winkel

- Cruise along the Rhine Gorge: Koblenz to Rudesheim am Rhein
- Opening Concert Rheingau Music Festival, Kloster Eberbach, Eltville am Rhein

Today we cruise along the Rhine Gorge, a UNESCO World Heritage region, from Koblenz to Rudesheim am Rhein. This 65-kilometre stretch of the Rhine between Koblenz and Bingen with its castles, half-timbered medieval villages and vineyard terraces, graphically illustrates the long history of human life in this dramatic and varied natural landscape.

Arriving mid-afternoon we disembark at Rudesheim am Rhein, the winemaking town with its cobbled streets lined with historic buildings, and head for the nearby town of Oestrich-Winkel.

In this small town at the heart of the Rhine Romanticism, Johann Wolfgang von Goethe and the Brothers Grimm used to spend their summer, walking through the Rheingau vineyard terraces.

In the spectacular Basilica of Kloster Eberbach, located in the vineyards above Oestrich-Winkel, we assist to the Opening Concert of the Rheingau Music Festival. We will hear *Le carnaval romain* by Hector Berlioz, *Symphonie espagnole op. 21* by Édouard Lalo and *Stabat Mater* by Francis Poulenc. The choir MDR-Rundfunkchor and the orchestra hr-Sinfonieorchester are placed under the direction of Alain Altinoglu. The soloist is Guido Sant'Anna, violin. (Overnight Oestrich-Winkel) BL

Day 20: Monday 26 June, Oestrich-Winkel – Weinheim – Rudesheim am Rhein – Oestrich-Winkel

- Sichtungsgarten Hermannshof, Weinheim
- Time at leisure in Rudesheim am Rhein
- Farewell Dinner at Schloss Vollrads

This morning we drive to the charming medieval hilltop town of Weinheim to visit Sichtungsgarten Hermannshof, a renowned experimental botanical garden encompassing centuries-old rolling parkland. It is considered one of the finest and most exciting modern gardens in Europe. The garden contains over 2,500 different types of perennials and a number of notable trees.

This afternoon we return to Rudesheim am Rhein for some time at leisure before we gather for a farewell dinner in the 17th-century Schloss Vollrads overlooking the vineyards and the Rhine Valley. One of the oldest Riesling wineries in Germany, Schloss Vollrads is listed among the 100 World's Best Vineyards in the world. (Overnight Oestrich-Winkel) BD

Day 21: Tuesday 27 June, Oestrich-Winkel – Frankfurt Airport

- Morning at leisure
- Transfer to Frankfurt Airport

After breakfast you will be required to check-out of the hotel. We then transfer to Frankfurt Airport arriving at approximately 12.00pm where the tour will officially conclude. B

Accommodation

ASA has selected 3 and 4-star hotels that are themselves historical buildings and/or are located in historical centres. All hotels provide rooms with en suite bathroom. Further information on hotels will be provided in the 'Tour Hotel List' given to tour members prior to their departure.

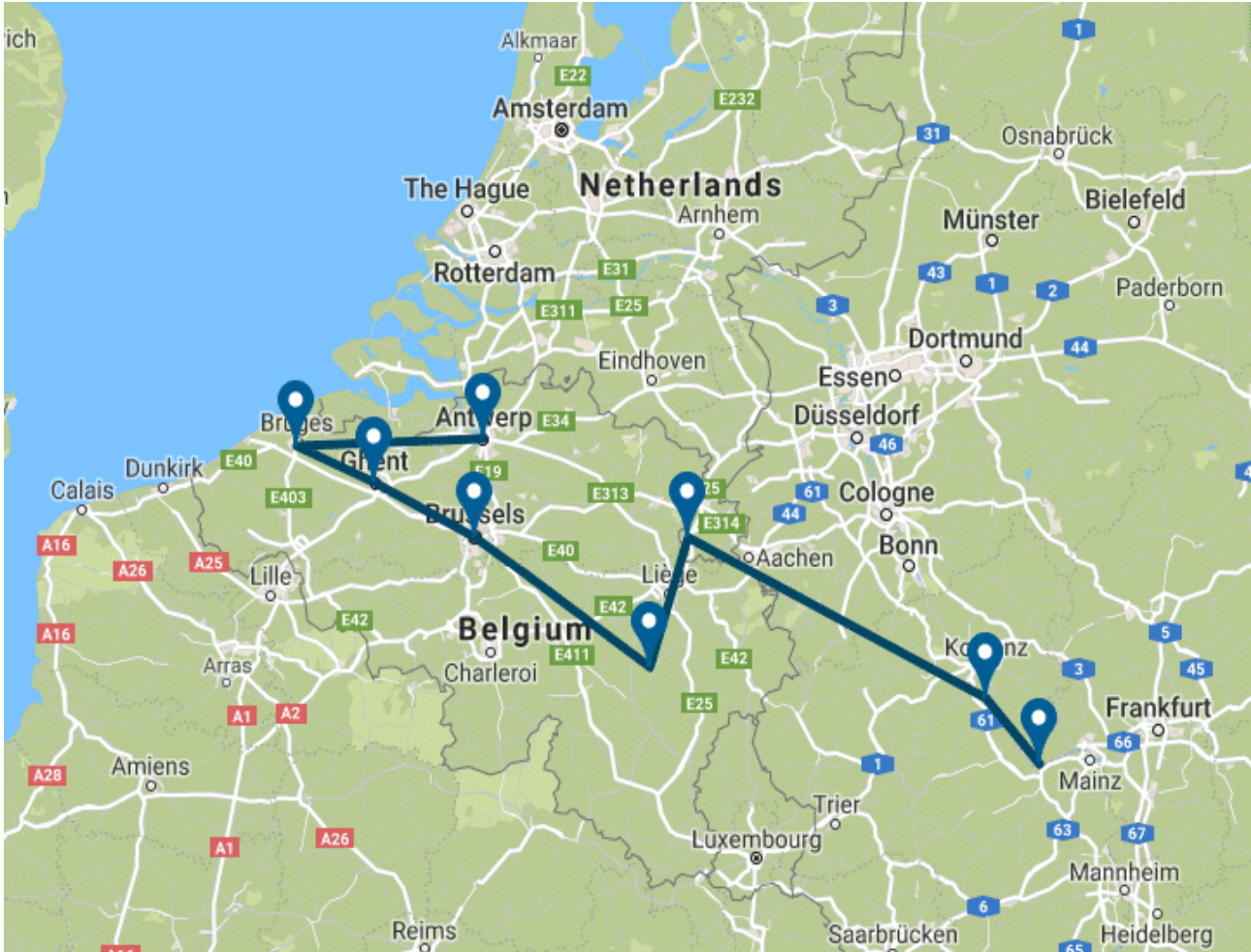
- Antwerp (5 nights): 4-star Hotel 't Sandt – housed in a an elegant 17th-century neo-Rococo mansion located in the historic centre. www.hotel-sandt.be
- Bruges (3 nights): 4-star Grand Hotel Casselbergh – housed in three former 18th-century residences located in the historic centre. www.grandhotelcasselbergh.com
- Ghent (2 nights): 3-star Novotel Ghent Centrum – a modern hotel located in the historic centre, 350m from St Bavo's Cathedral. www.accorhotels.com
- Brussels (3 nights): 4-star Hotel Le Dixseptième – a charming boutique hotel situated in the historic centre, 240m from the Grand Place. www.ledixseptieme.be
- Durbuy (2 nights): 4-star Le Sanglier des Ardennes – situated in the centre of town overlooking the medieval castle. www.sanglier-durbuy.be
- Maastricht (1 night): 4-star Crown Plaza Hotel – a modern hotel overlooking the Meuse River. www.centrumhotelmaastricht.nl
- Andernach (2 nights): 4-star Einstein Hotel am Römerpark– a new modern hotel with panoramic views overlooking the Rhine River www.einsteinhotels.de
- Oestrich-Winkel (2 nights): 4-star Nægler's Fine Lounge Hotel - a modern hotel with a sun terrace overlooking vineyards and the Rhine. www.naeglers-hotel.de

Note: Hotels are subject to change, in which case a hotel of similar standard will be provided.

Single Supplement

Payment of this supplement will ensure accommodation in a double (or twin) room for single occupancy throughout the tour. The number of rooms available for single occupancy is extremely limited. People wishing to take this supplement are therefore advised to book well in advance.

Tour Map



Tour Price & Inclusions

AUD \$12,580.00 Land Content Only – Early-Bird Special: Book before 31 Mar 2022

AUD \$12,780.00 Land Content Only

AUD \$1990.00 Single Supplement

Tour Price (Land Content Only) includes:

- Accommodation in twin-share rooms with private facilities in 3-, 4- and 5-star hotels
- Meals as indicated in the tour itinerary where: B=breakfast, L=lunch & D=dinner
- Drinks at welcome and farewell meals. Other meals may not have drinks included
- Transportation by air-conditioned coach
- Departure transfer to Frankfurt Airport according to the time as outlined in the tour itinerary
- Porterage of one piece of luggage per person at hotels (not at airports and not available in Ghent, Maastricht and Oestrich-Winkel)
- Lecture and site-visit program
- Entrance fees
- Tour Notes
- Use of audio headsets during site visits
- Tips for the coach driver, local guides and restaurants for included meals

Tour Price (Land Content Only) does not include:

- Airfare: Australia-Brussels, Frankfurt-Australia
- Personal spending money
- Arrival airport transfer
- Luggage in excess of 20kg (44lbs)
- Travel insurance
- Visas (if applicable)



Physical Endurance & Practical Information

Physical Ratings 

The number of flags is a guide to the degree of difficulty of ASA tours relative to each other (not to those of other tour companies). It is neither absolute nor literal. One flag is given to the least taxing tours, seven to the most. Flags are allocated, above all, according to the amount of walking and standing each tour involves. Nevertheless, all ASA tours require that participants have a good degree of fitness enabling 2-3 hours walking or 1-1.5 hours standing still on any given site visit or excursion. Many sites are accessed by climbing slopes or steps and have uneven terrain.

This 21-day Garden Tour of Belgium & the Rhine involves:

- A moderate amount of walking mainly during outdoor site visits, often up and down hills and/or flights of stairs, along cobbled streets and uneven terrain. You therefore need to be a good walker and be prepared to stand for some time in front of buildings and artworks.
- Extensive coach travel - often on minor roads, and boat.
- The daily schedule generally involves an early-morning departure (between 8.00-8.30am), concluding in the late afternoon (between 5.30-6.30pm).
- 3-, 4- and 5-star hotels with seven hotel changes.
- You must be able to carry your own hand luggage. Hotel portage only includes 1 piece of luggage per person.

It is important to remember that ASA programs are group tours, and slow walkers affect everyone in the group. As the group must move at the speed of the slowest member, the amount of time spent at a site may be reduced if group members cannot maintain a moderate walking pace. ASA tours should not present any problem for active people who can manage day-to-day walking and stair-climbing. However, if you have any doubts about your ability to manage on a program, please ask your ASA travel consultant whether this is a suitable tour for you.

Please note: it is a condition of travel that all participants agree to accept ASA's directions in relation to their suitability to participate in activities undertaken on the tour, and that ASA retains the sole discretion to direct a tour participant to refrain from a particular activity on part of the tour. For further information please refer to the ASA Reservation Application Form.

Prior to departure, tour members will receive practical notes which include information on visa requirements, health, photography, weather, clothing and what to pack, custom regulations, bank hours, currency regulations, electrical appliances and food. The Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade website has advice for travellers: www.smartraveller.gov.au

Booking Conditions

ASA RESERVATION APPLICATION FORM

Please complete the ASA RESERVATION APPLICATION and send it to Australians Studying Abroad together with your non-refundable deposit of AUD \$500.00 per person payable to Australians Studying Abroad.

Covid-19 Vaccination Certificate

Commencing from November 2021 it will be a condition of travel that all group leaders and ASA travellers are fully vaccinated against Covid-19. All participants must send ASA a copy of their vaccination certificate at the time of submitting their Reservation Application Form. For information on how to obtain either a Covid-19 digital certificate or a certificate in PDF format please view the [Australian Government Services Australia "What types of proof there are"](#) web page.



Reservation Application

TOUR NAME _____

TOUR DATES _____

Please complete **one application, per person in block letters and sign**. Parental signature is required for participants under 18 years of age. Please mail this form with the appropriate deposit to: **P.O. Box 8285, ARMADALE, VICTORIA, 3143**. On receipt of this Reservation Application and deposit, ASA will process your booking and if approved, send you a tour confirmation.

Applicant Details (as in passport)

TITLE Mr Mrs Ms Miss Dr Other _____

FIRST NAME _____ Preferred FIRST NAME _____

MIDDLE NAME _____ SURNAME _____

POSTAL ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ COUNTRY _____ POSTCODE _____

TEL. (AH) () _____ TEL. (BH) () _____ Mobile Tel: _____

EMAIL address _____

Date of birth / / _____ GENDER Male Female

Passport Number _____ Expiry date / / _____ Nationality _____

Colour copy of my current valid passport enclosed I'm renewing my passport ASA has a colour copy of my current passport

Travel Plans

I wish ASA to book my airfare, please contact me to discuss my options. Business Class Economy Class

I plan to leave Australia before the tour commences. Planned departure date / / _____

I will be arranging my airfare independently and taking the Land Content Only option.

Frequent Flyer _____ Name of Airline _____ Airline Seat preference _____
Membership # _____ (please note request only)

Tour Accommodation (rooming preferences)

I/we would like: a twin-bedded room a double-bedded room a room for sole occupancy

I am travelling: on my own with a friend/family member Travel Companion _____

Meals

I do not have any specific dietary requests

Please **X** the box if you **CAN NOT** eat any of the following:

fish poultry red meat dairy products

eggs pork nuts

Other _____

Allergies: Refer to the Medical Information

Correspondence

Your preferred method of correspondence Postal Mail Email Address _____

Emergency Contact Details

Note: this person **MUST** be available by telephone and be present in Australia for the duration of your tour with ASA

Name _____ Relationship to Traveller _____

Address _____

TEL. (AH) () _____ TEL. (BH) () _____ Mobile Tel: _____

EMAIL address _____

The purpose of seeking this information is to assist ASA to determine, where necessary, whether ASA is able to make reasonable adjustments to accommodate your specific needs and whether your health and safety (or that of your fellow travellers) is likely to be compromised given your choice of tour. It will also assist you and ASA if you fall ill or have an accident whilst travelling.

- ASA reserves the right to decline your Reservation Application if this Medical Information section is not completed properly and may reject or cancel your reservation, or terminate your participation on any tour, if ASA subsequently learns that you have failed to make full and proper disclosure.
- ASA is committed to protecting the privacy of your personal information. ASA's privacy policy is available for viewing at www.asatours.com.au
- If ASA has any concerns about the information you have provided, it will contact you to request clarification before considering your Application.
- ASA requires you to consider carefully your limitations in light of ASA's Physical Endurance Star Rating System in ASA's Brochure and Itinerary when choosing your tour.
- If you are not likely to satisfy ASA's Participation Criteria (see below), ASA, in its sole discretion, may reject your Reservation Application.
- It is a condition of your tour that you agree to accept the directions of ASA's Tour Leaders in relation to your suitability to participate in activities planned on tour.
- ASA reserves the right to cancel your participation on a tour if your behaviour is in ASA's opinion causing undue distress or damage to any person or their property.
- If your participation is discontinued during a tour, ASA will assist by arranging your onward travel (if required) at your own cost, but you will not be refunded for forfeited parts of the tour.
- ASA tour groups are not accompanied by a medical practitioner. ASA recommends that you see your doctor for advice about your specific needs while overseas. You may also wish to contact a travel and vaccination clinic for advice. www.traveldoctor.com.au tel: 1300 658 444; www.travelvax.com.au tel: 1300 360 164.
- Travel insurers require you to declare all existing medical conditions.
- Please carry a complete list of medications with you during the ASA tour. Include **generic names** of each medication (consult your local pharmacy for information).

Please mark **X** in the YES or NO box to every question below and provide details where necessary:

Participation Criteria

To participate in an ASA tour, you must be reasonably fit, in good health and able to participate in all activities without assistance from Tour Leaders or other tour members. If you require assistance, a fit and able travel companion must undertake to accompany and assist you with all tasks for the duration of the whole tour. The responsibility of the Tour Leader is to ensure that the larger group enjoys a relaxing and informative journey, and he or she cannot be relied upon to provide ongoing individual assistance to any one guest.

- | | YES | NO |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Can you walk and stand unassisted for at least 2-3 hours a day in hot, humid conditions? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 2. Can you walk unassisted on and over uneven surfaces? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 3. Can you climb at least 3 flights of stairs and/or walk up and down steep slopes unassisted? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 4. Can you walk at a steady pace and no less than 1km every 15 - 20 minutes unassisted? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 5. Can you organise, manage and carry your own luggage? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 6. Can you follow and remember tour instructions and meet punctually at designated times and places? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 7. Can you administer your own medication? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 8. Do you have impaired vision or hearing which may impact your capacity to participate on this tour? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

Mobility and Fitness

As many of ASA's international sites do not provide access to wheelchairs or similar mobility aids, we regret that ASA tours are not suitable for people who require the use of a walking frame, wheeled walker, wheelchair or motorised scooter.

1. Do you suffer from any medical conditions that may compromise your mobility and/or fitness to participate on this program? YES NO

 If yes, please specify

If yes, how will you manage this on tour?

Allergies and/or Food Intolerances

ASA will make reasonable endeavours to organise meals to suit you, provided that you give ASA adequate notice of your specific dietary requirements or allergies. You may be required to research dietary alternatives, as not all destinations may be able to offer suitable food substitutes.

1. Do you have any food allergies or intolerances? YES NO

 If yes, please specify

2. Have you ever had an anaphylactic reaction to anything?
 If yes, please specify

Do you carry an epipen?

3. Do you have any other allergies or reactions to anything, including medical drugs?
 If yes, please specify

Existing Medical Conditions

You alone are responsible for managing any existing medical conditions, your medication and any medical equipment that you may need when on your tour. Please plan for contingencies and take extra medication, dietary supplements and/or fully charged batteries for medical equipment if your health and safety depends on these. You should take into consideration that power sources at some destinations may be unavailable, inadequate, inconvenient or unreliable.

1. Have you any significant medical conditions that may impact your capacity to complete this tour? YES NO

 If yes, please specify

If yes, how will you manage this on tour?

2. Do you require some form of powered medical aid, such as a CPAP machine?

These machines may not be operable on certain international flights, modes of transport, in remote or other areas with inadequate or unreliable power sources without a fully charged independent long life battery or batteries.

Diabetics: You may be travelling and sightseeing for many hours at a time. Insulin dependent diabetics must carry extra supplies of insulin (as this medication cannot be obtained in some destinations), regulators, applicators, storage and refrigeration equipment, as well as any necessary supplements. Accommodation may not provide refrigerators in rooms.

3. Are you diabetic?

Are you insulin dependent?

4. Do you suffer from travel sickness?
 Remember to use an appropriate medication while on tour.

Declaration

I declare that: I have read and understood the ASA Tour Itinerary, Reservation Application and Booking Conditions. I am aware of ASA's terms as relating to refunds, cancellations, responsibility and liability. I understand that ASA relies upon this declaration when considering this Application. I accept the inherent dangers, risks and uncertainties in travel and those beyond ASA's control and understand they may occur before or during any tour. I have made full and complete disclosure and have not knowingly withheld any medical information about myself from ASA. I have completed this Reservation Application honestly and accurately. I warrant that I am able to participate independently in all activities described by ASA in the itinerary without assistance from any person.

I will advise ASA in writing if any aspect of my fitness and or health conditions change materially at any time before my departure date. I understand and accept that the itinerary, accommodation and lecturers scheduled for this tour may change.

I agree and consent that ASA may give my personal information in this Reservation Application to tour service providers and relevant authorities as required by law, but only for the purpose of making bookings with and engaging services associated with the tour. I understand that if I do not consent to the use of my personal information for this purpose, ASA will decline my Reservation Application.

In consideration of ASA's acceptance of my Reservation Application, I irrevocably release and indemnify ASA from all claims that I, or any other party, may have against ASA its employees, invitees, agents and contractors, however arising in respect of any loss, damage, injury, death or expense incurred in the course of booking, preparing for, travelling to, on and from or cancelling any tour.

I release and indemnify ASA with respect to:

1. Every general risk to which I or my personal belongings may be exposed in the course of preparing for, travelling to, on or from any ASA tour;
2. Every special risk, in particular medical risks, to which I may be exposed in the course of preparing for, travelling to, on or from any ASA tour arising from, including, but not limited to:
 - a. intermittent power cycles and/or the temporary or permanent loss of power (beware CPAP or any other medical machine users);
 - b. dietary, food or other allergies (ASA cannot guarantee that traces of items to which you are allergic are not present in food or drink you are served, medication you are administered or other substances with which you may come into contact);
 - c. any event or situation that may compromise the administration of necessary medication or my health, safety and wellbeing generally; and
 - d. any event or happening beyond ASA's control
3. All claims arising as a result of my or ASA's cancellation or termination of any tour, part of a tour or of my continued participation on a tour for any reason (subject to ASA's refund conditions below).

Limitation of Liability

ASA is not a carrier, event or tourist attraction host, accommodation or dining service provider. All bookings made and tickets or coupons issued by ASA for transport, event, accommodation, dining and the like are issued as an agent for various service providers and are subject to the terms and conditions and limitations of liability imposed by each service provider. ASA is not responsible for their products, services, terms and conditions. If a service provider cancels or does not deliver the product or service for which you have contracted, and does not give a refund, your remedy lies with the service provider, not ASA.

ASA will not be liable for any claim (e.g. sickness, injury, death, damage or loss) arising from any change, delay, detention, breakdown, border closures, cancellation, failure, accident, act, omission or negligence of any tour service provider or authority however caused (contingencies). You must take out such travel insurance as is available against such contingencies.

ASA's liability in respect of any tour cancelled or changed will be limited to the partial refund of amounts you have paid, less an administration fee of \$500 and other costs and charges of third party service providers. No compensation will be payable to you by ASA where ASA cancels or changes a tour, or any part of a tour.

ASA reserves the sole discretion to cancel any tour or to modify itineraries in any way it considers appropriate and in the best interests of health, safety and wellbeing of tour participants. Tour costs may be revised, subject to unexpected price increases or exchange rate fluctuations.

Booking Conditions

DEPOSITS

A deposit of \$500.00 AUD per person is required to reserve a place on an ASA tour.

CANCELLATION FEES

If you cancel your booking the following charges apply:

- More than 75 days before departure: \$500*
- 75-46 days prior 25% of total amount due
- 45-31 days prior 50% of total amount due
- 30-15 days prior 75% of total amount due
- 14-0 days prior 100% of total amount due

*This amount may be **credited** to another ASA tour departing within 12 months of the original tour you booked. We regret, in this case early-bird discounts will not apply.

We take the day on which you cancel as being that on which we receive written confirmation of cancellation.

UNUSED PORTIONS OF THE TOUR

We regret that refunds will not be given for any unused portions or services of the tour, such as meals, entry fees, accommodation, flights or transfers.

WILL THE TOUR PRICE OR ITINERARY CHANGE?

If the number of participants on a tour is significantly less than budgeted, or if there is a significant change in exchange rates ASA reserves the right to amend the advertised price. We shall, however, do all in our power to maintain the published price. Occasionally circumstances beyond the control of ASA make it necessary to change airline, hotel or to make amendments to itineraries. We will inform you of any changes in due course.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

ASA requires all participants to obtain comprehensive travel insurance. A copy of your travel insurance certificate and the **reverse charge** emergency contact phone number must be received by ASA no later than 75 days prior to the commencement of the tour.

FINAL PAYMENT

The balance of the tour price will be due 75 days prior to the tour commencement date.

PLEASE READ THE ABOVE CAREFULLY, PRINT AND SIGN BELOW

- I accept the conditions on this booking form I have read the information about the physical requirements of the tour in the detailed itinerary and confirm that I am able to meet these requirements

Applicant's Signature

Print Full Name

Dated

Tour / Course Name

Name of Traveller 1 _____

Name of Traveller 2 _____

I have enclosed a payment to the value of \$ _____ (including CC or bank fee if applicable) for this tour

The above amount is payable for:

- Intention to Travel Tour Deposit
 Balance of Payment Upgrade from Intention to Travel to a Deposit
 Travel Insurance Other (eg. Airfares, Accommodation) _____

International Payments

Welcome to our international travellers! If you are making a payment and do not have an Australian bank account/credit card, we can only accept payment as follows:

- via credit card with the applicable fee - the credit card company/bank will set the exchange rate
- via bank transfer; please give your surname and tour code (eg. Smith 21705) as a reference and ask your bank to allow for all charges.

Bank cheques or personal cheques will not be accepted.

By Cheque (accept Australian cheques only)

Please make cheques payable to *Australians Studying Abroad*

Direct Deposit or Internet Banking

You will need to:

1. Provide your bank with ASA's bank details (see below) and the amount you wish to transfer OR make a direct deposit through any ANZ branch
2. Include any fees levied by the banks
3. Provide a reference number (Mobile or last name recommended).
4. Complete section below, including confirmation no. (given when transaction completed).

Australians Studying Abroad bank details

Bank ANZ
Branch 420 St Kilda Road, Melbourne Vic
Swift Code ANZBAU3M
BSB 013-423
Account No 3472-32759

Bank confirmation No. _____

Reference used: Mobile or last name recommended

Date Money Transferred _____

Credit Card Payment

Credit card fees apply: Mastercard, Visa & American Express 2%

Please debit my: Mastercard Visa American Express

I authorise ASA to debit my credit card for the amount due plus the applicable fee as above

Credit Card Number _____

Expiry Date _____ Security Code (CVC) _____

Bank the Card is linked to (eg. NAB or ANZ) _____

Cardholders Name _____

Cardholders Billing Address _____

Postcode _____

State _____ Country _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Cardholders Signature _____