

Mallorca & Menorca: Gardens, Art and Cuisine

April 14 – 24, 2012

A Pacific Horticulture Tour, escorted by Katherine Greenberg

Join us for a spring tour of Mallorca, where we have invitations to visit spectacular private gardens and art collections. Our tour will take us from the lovely patios of Palma to elegant country estates and charming seaside villages. We will also explore the island of Menorca, a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve with fascinating archeological sites and distinctive architecture. Along the way, we will experience the generous hospitality, regional cuisine, and scenic beauty of the Balearic Islands.



April 14, Saturday: USA – Palma, Mallorca

April 15, Sunday: Palma

Individual arrivals. Check into the **Hotel HM Jaime III** in the center of Palma for a four-night stay. This evening we will meet for a welcome reception of drinks and tapas, and our special guide, Sofia Barroso, will give us an overview of the tour. **(D)**

April 16, Monday: Palma

This morning we will enjoy Palma's architecture, art treasures, and hidden gardens. After visiting the cathedral, with works by Gaudi and contemporary artist Miguel Barcelo, we will visit the Bishop's garden. Then we will stroll through the upper quarter of the old town to see Palma's beautiful patios and some private gardens.

For lunch we are invited to the private home and patio garden of Chantall Jourdain. Her husband Luis will show us his impressive wine cellar and offer us a wine tasting.

After lunch, we will enjoy coffee and dessert next door at Can Joan de S'Aigo, Palma's oldest tea room, famous for its homemade ice creams and "ensaimada" pastries. Then we will walk up Palma Ramblas to the gardens of La Misericordia to see the famous ficus tree, the oldest on the island. The remainder of the afternoon will be free with time for optional visits to the Juan March Foundation and Caixa Foundation. In the evening we will meet for drinks at Ferran Cano Art Gallery, which promotes young artists. Dinner on your own and the possibility of a free concert in one of Palma's patios. **(B, L)**

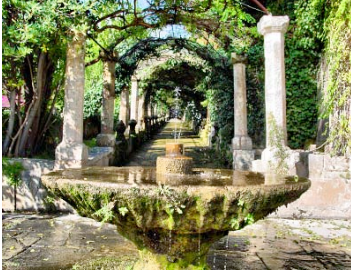
April 17, Tuesday: Palma – Raixa – Alfabia – Soller – Fornalutx

Today we will depart by coach to visit Raixa, a recently restored 18th century Italian-influenced garden that was built by Cardinal Despuig. From there we will drive through Soller Valley, famous for its terraced groves of oranges and lemons, to Soller Botanical Garden, currently short-listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Director Josep Lluís Gradaille and Curator Magdalena Vicenz will give us a guided tour of this outstanding garden and seed collection. Lunch today will be in Fornalutx at Hort del Bisbe (the Bishop's orchard), the private home of artist Francesca Marti and her husband Gunnar Dahl. After lunch we will walk through the garden and see Francesca's studio. On our return to Palma we will stop at Alfabia, Mallorca's oldest country estate and garden dating from the 9th century. In the evening, we will walk to the home of Joan and Teresa Buades in the lower quarter of the old town where we are invited to have drinks and see their art collection. The home has a lovely garden landscaped by Antonio Obrador. Dinner on your own. **(B, L)**

April 18, Wednesday: Palma – Esporlas – Valldemossa

This morning we will drive to Esporlas to visit the country estate of La Granja. We will continue to Valldemossa and see a short film on the spectacular north coast of Mallorca, its history and nature, at the Michael Douglas private museum Costa Nord. Then we will walk through the charming village, famous for its narrow streets decorated by pots of flowers.

We will enjoy a tapas lunch in the private home and garden of artist Monica Areiliza. After lunch will visit the Carthusian Monastery and its gardens, followed by a Chopin concert at the Palace of Rey Sancho. We will also visit the gardens of Miramar Monastery, created by Raymond Lully in the 14th century, and Son Marroig, the late Archduke Luigi Salvatore Habsburg's main residence on the island. Continuing our scenic drive along the coast, we will stop in the village of Deia, home of the late poet and author Robert Graves, for English tea in La Residencia Hotel and gardens. Return to Palma for a free evening. **(B, L)**



April 19, Thursday: Southern Mallorca

This morning we will depart for the Campos area, where we will visit the lovely garden of Son Bernardinet, a rural hotel owned by Francesca Bonet. Coffee will be hosted and we will see the garden, designed by German landscapers Breimann & Bruun. Then we will drive to Es Carritxo to visit an extensive private garden landscaped by Begona Basagoiti. We will continue to Ses Alquerias for lunch in the private home and garden of Asun Gutierrez-Soto, landscaped by Alvaro de la Rosa. After lunch we will visit Son Oliver, the lovely private home and garden of Olivier and Margarita Winckler. The garden has a new addition of citrus trees planted by Olivier. Return to the hotel. Tonight there is an option for a paella dinner at Ca Cranca. **(B, L)**

April 20, Friday: Palma – Port Alcudia – Ciudadella, Menorca

This morning we will depart with our luggage and drive to Alcudia and a visit to the Yannick and Ben Jakober Foundation, with its new sculpture park, rose garden, and private art museum that includes an impressive collection of Old Masters paintings and a contemporary art collection. After a tapas lunch at the Foundation, we will drive to the Port of Alcudia and take the ferry to Ciudadella, Menorca, where we will be staying at the Hotel Patricia for two nights. We'll take an evening walk around the city to see its lovely aristocratic palaces and churches, followed by dinner on your own at the port. **(B, L)**



April 21, Saturday: Ciudadella – Mahon, Menorca

Today we will discover the archeology and nature of this beautiful island. First we will visit the Ciudadella Museum, located in an old fortress, for an introduction to the island.

Then on to the “naveta” burial site of Es Tudons, followed by a visit to the dolmens of Talati del Dalt. Lunch today will be at a country estate, the largest in private hands on Menorca.

The estate has an archeological site on the property and a private beach where we might have time for a swim. After lunch we will drive to Mahon and take a stroll through the city with free time for a coffee in its charming port. Return to Ciudadella with a free evening. **(B, L)**

April 22, Sunday: Ciudadella – Port Pollensa, Mallorca

Morning at leisure to explore Ciudadella. At noon we will have a picnic and hike to Punta Nati light house, located in one of the wildest areas of the island. Here we will see the impressive stone towers that have an unusual ziggurat shape. These towers have been used since ancient times by the shepherds to protect their cattle from the wind. In the late afternoon we will return by ferry to Alcudia and transfer to Port Pollensa, where we will be staying at the Hotel Illa Dor for two nights. Dinner on your own. **(B, L)**

April 23, Monday: Port Pollensa

This morning we have a special visit arranged to Torre de Ariant, the private garden and country estate of Heidi and Enrique Gildemeister. Heidi is a past president of the Mediterranean Garden Society and author of several important books on Mediterranean gardening. She will show us her amazing garden and host a light lunch. In the afternoon we will have free time in the village of Pollensa for shopping and to see the typical Majorcan fabrics. Maior Gallery will host drinks for our group. Our farewell dinner this evening will be at the hotel. **(B, L, D)**

April 24, Tuesday: Pollensa – Palma Airport – USA

Transfer by coach to Palma airport for return flights to the USA.

Food and Wine: Majorcan cuisine makes full use of local almonds, olives, and seasonal fruits and vegetables. Breakfast often includes an *ensaimada*, a delicious spiral yeast bun dusted with sugar. Lunch is the main meal in Mallorca, and typical dishes include *tumbet*, made with vegetables; *fideua*, the local paella made with noodles rather than rice; salt cod and fresh fish. Mallorca is producing some exceptional wines from varieties largely indigenous to this Mediterranean island. The oldest winery, *Hereus de Ribas*, has been in the owner's family since 1711. The picturesque village of Pollensa hosts an annual wine festival in the month of April.

Tour Guide: **Sofia Barroso** was born in London, the daughter of Spanish diplomats, and has a degree in art history from Madrid Universidad Complutense. She is an art collector and has been involved in the Spanish art and museum scene as well as with historic gardens and the new Spanish school of landscape design. Sofia currently lives in Madrid after living in Mallorca for a number of years, and she is a lecturer for Syracuse University in Spain's Menorca program. This is a rare opportunity to travel with Sofia, and she will give us an insider's view of the Balearic Islands.

Tour Escort: Katherine Greenberg, a fifth-generation Californian, is a garden designer with a special interest in Mediterranean-climate gardens. She is a past president of Pacific Horticulture Society, the Friends of the Regional Parks Botanic Garden, and the Mediterranean Garden Society (MGS). Katherine studied Spanish history and art history at the Madrid Universidad Complutense, and she has led a number of tours to Spain with a focus on gardens, culture, and cuisine. During her term as president of the MGS, she started a branch of the Society in Mallorca.

TOUR LAND COST PER GUEST BASED ON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY:

Based on a minimum of 15 paying guests: \$5496.00. Single supplement: \$870.00

COSTS INCLUDE:

- 9 nights select accommodations, all rooms fully en suite
- All hotel taxes and service charges
- 9 breakfasts, 8 lunches, 2 dinners (lunch is the main meal in Spain)
- Deluxe private coaches and top drivers
- Special guide, Sofia Barroso and local guides where obligatory
- All sightseeing and entrances as per the itinerary
- Porterage of 1 main suitcase in/out of all hotels
- Deluxe portfolio of documents
- Escorted by Katherine Greenberg.
- Donation of \$200 to Pacific Horticulture

COSTS DO NOT INCLUDE:

- Airfare and Travel insurance

Prices quoted are based on a minimum number of guests and exchange rates as of May 2011. See Terms and Conditions for full details. Make a reservation at www.sterlingtoursltd.com and click on "Mallorca" or contact:



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